



# Finish Line

## Part 3

### 2 Corinthians 8:13-15 / 9:6-9

1. Tell about a time that something you did had a much bigger impact than you expected (ex. taking an apple and the whole pile falls onto the floor).
2. Were you surprised that these verses teach those with plenty to provide for those in need? In what ways does this clash with the American way of thinking? How do you see evidence of this teaching in action in our society? In what sense should this teaching overrule our societal way of thinking?
3. What thoughts or feelings were stirred in you as Pastor Mark told the story of Nico from Mali? Most people would acknowledge the needs in Nico's life, but do you think *we* have a *responsibility* to do something about it? What scripture or principle in the Bible do you base your answer on?
4. Nowhere on earth do we see God moving in bigger ways than in China. Why do you think the Church is exploding in China as so many people are coming to faith in Jesus? When we see God at work (regardless of where it is), what should our general response be? Regarding God's movement in China, what opportunities do you see for us to participate in His work there?
5. 2 Corinthians 9:6-9 teach us two principles of giving:
  1. If we sow (give) generously, we will reap (receive) generously - what do these verses indicate we will reap generously when we sow generously (hint: it's not money)? Does that seem like a good deal to you? Why?
  2. God loves a cheerful giver - do you think God cares more about the amount we give or the condition of our heart in giving? Look up Mark 12:41-44 to see Jesus speak about this. Would you say giving is usually a cheerful thing for you or more of a duty?
6. We have been praying the prayer, *God do what ever it takes IN me to accomplish Your will THROUGH me.*
  - How have you sensed God changing you internally as a result of this prayer?
  - How do you think God is asking you to respond to the Harvest Offering on 10/13? Let's get real here and share specifically what God has asked you to do. This will glorify God by acknowledging His work in you and also provide accountability for your follow through.