



*Pastor Sam Devine*  
November 8, 2020  
**Openhanded**

"If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work."

1 Corinthians 3:12-13

When you experience the grace of God in your heart, every part of your life is released to God for the blessing of others.

We are made to be openhanded because we worship a Saviour who opened His heart and hands wide for us.

 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

"In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity." v2

- The source of their joy had not changed.
- They were already full.
- They gave more than they were able.
- They pleaded to be part of the privilege of giving.
- They gave because they had experienced God's grace.

"And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches." v1

Grace says, "You have been fully blessed by God's undeserved and unmerited kindness which releases you to give even if good things never seem to happen to you."

We will only learn to live with openhanded generosity when we humbly receive and live in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

"...they gave themselves first of all to the Lord..." v5

When we give ourselves first to the Lord, our hearts and hands will be joyfully opened to His will and to His service.

What is God asking you to release?

"You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving."  
Amy Carmichael

Only God knows the impact of a life given over to Him to live with openhanded generosity.

- Give yourself fully to Him.
- Ask Him to open your heart and your hands.
- Start to serve others.
- Join the party of God's joy.
- Be a blessing.
- Start where you are.

"Missionary life is simply a chance to die." Amy Carmichael

God calls us to come and die to self so that His grace can flow through us to others who need to experience the love of God.

- What is God asking you to release?
- Have you given yourself first to Him?
- Have you responded to His grace?

It is a choice. Live with closed hands or live with open hands and see what God can do.