

Cause for Thanks

By Parish Publishing

2 Corinthians 9:12 “This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.”

For all that God in Christ has accomplished for us, it is our duty to give Him thanks and praise and to serve Him by serving those around us. Just as we should give willingly of our financial blessings, so should we be eager to give of our time and abilities to help those in need. Even though we have sinned and disobeyed our Lord, He continues to forgive us and pour out His blessings on us. So we should forgive others as we have been forgiven and continue to share with them out of our abundance. God promises that He will provide so richly for us that we will always be able to be generous with others. There are many results from your selfless service, not the least of which is the joy our Lord gives us as we give of ourselves. It is one of God’s principles of giving that the giver benefits as much as the recipient. Of course, the one on the receiving end benefits as well. After all that’s the purpose of your serving. The Apostle Paul, in our text for this meditation, offers another and perhaps the most important outcome of giving and that is that your act gives cause for thanks and praise to be given back to God who has enabled the whole exchange! He writes that “men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel . . .”(verse 13). What a marvelous God we have who makes all things work for our good and to the praise of His glory!

Our gracious heavenly Father, thank you for all you’ve given us and for the opportunity to serve you as we serve others. Help us to remember our calling; to love and serve and obey you in all we do as you give us grace to do. Through Jesus we pray. Amen