

**SHARING THE FAITH: WEEKLY EMAIL DEVOTION  
FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 28, 2010**

**Readings for March 24, 2010, Lenten Wednesday Evening:**

**2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15**

6 The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. <sup>7</sup>Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. <sup>9</sup>As it is written, 'He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever.'

<sup>10</sup>He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup>You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; <sup>12</sup>for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. <sup>13</sup>Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, <sup>14</sup>while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. <sup>15</sup>Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

**MARK 12:41-44**

41 He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup>Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup>For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.'

**Note:** *Real Faith for Real Life* is a book by Michael W. Foss that discusses "Living the Six Marks of Discipleship." Join Pastor Becky each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. during Lent to delve more deeply into these six marks. Each week during Lent, Trinity's *Sharing the Faith* devotions, along with the Wednesday Lenten worship, and Becky's class will focus on one of the six marks discussed in the book. This week's focus is on **generosity**.

**Faith Questions:**

1. "The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." Have you ever experienced this with your own giving? That you gave little and got little in return, or gave abundantly and got much in return? What was that experience like?

2. Imagine that you are the poor widow in Mark's gospel. What great purpose do you think moved her to give all she had to the church? Have you ever felt this way about giving? Why or why not?
3. "To tithe" means to give 10% of your income to charitable giving and supporting the ministry of God. How does tithing fit into your commitment to Jesus? In what way might tithing be a gift for the giver?
4. "God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance." What blessings has God provided you with today? Take some time and be grateful for all God has given you.
5. How are faith and giving risky when practiced in the manner Jesus describes in the above text from Mark?

**Let us pray:**

"We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee." -William W. How

*For whom else, and for what else, shall we pray? (Insert your own prayer here)*  
Amen.

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Devotion prepared by staff at Trinity Lutheran Church, Lansdale, Pennsylvania, under the direction of Rebecca Kolowé, Diaconal Minister.

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