

FEAT IN ACTION

Hard Lessons from **JAMES**

MONEY

TALKS





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⁷ For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land – a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; ⁸ a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; ⁹ a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills. ¹⁰ When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

Deuteronomy 8:7-10 (NIV)

¹⁷ You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." ¹⁸ But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18 (NIV)



Generosity is a paradox.

35 ... the Lord Jesus himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Acts 20:35b (NIV)

"Packed with tips... people will come away from this book believing it was money well spent."

The Economist



HAPPY MONEY

The New Science of
Smarter Spending

ELIZABETH DUNN & MICHAEL NORTON



The fact that we were able to observe the same effect that we'd seen in Canada in places like South Africa and Uganda was probably the biggest surprise of my career. A lot of us think we'll give to charity one day, when we're richer, but actually we see the benefits of giving even among people who are struggling to meet their own basic needs.

Elizabeth W. Dunn
The Wall Street Journal



Generosity is a paradox.
Generosity is an effect of the Gospel.

¹ And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people.

2 Corinthians 8:1-4 (NIV)



Rome

ITALY

Syracuse

Malta

Corinth

ACHAIA

Athens

Crete

Ephesus

GALATIA

Cyprus

Antioch

Damascus

Jerusalem

Alexandria

EGYPT

Mediterranean Sea



¹ And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about **the grace that God** has given the Macedonian churches. ² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their **extreme poverty** welled up in rich generosity. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. **Entirely on their own,** ⁴ they **urgently pleaded with us** for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people.

2 Corinthians 8:1-4 (NIV)

⁵ And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. ⁶ So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this **act of grace** on your part. ⁷ But since you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you – see that you also excel in this **grace of giving**.

2 Corinthians 8:5-7 (NIV)

⁸ I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. ⁹ For you know **the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ**, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:8-9 (NIV)

⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9 (NIV)

⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
that though he was rich, **yet for your sake** he
became poor, so that you through his poverty might
become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9 (NIV)



Generosity is a paradox.
Generosity is an effect of the Gospel.
Generosity is about our hearts.

¹ As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. ² He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. ³ "Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. ⁴ All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

Luke 21:1-4 (NIV)

⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your **heart** to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 (NIV)



Generosity is a paradox.

Generosity is an effect of the Gospel.

Generosity is about our hearts.

Generosity is a result of our spiritual transformation.

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20 (NIV)

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