

Blessed²

To Be Christ-like

To be truly Christ-like is to excel in generosity (2 Corinthians 8:7). Jesus is (and has been) generous beyond what we can imagine. Out of His incredible love for us, He set aside His heavenly place to enter our sinfulness and messiness so that we could know Him and have eternal life (John 3:16; Philippians 2:5-8). Though He was rich, for our sake He became poor, so that by His sacrifice we could become rich (2 Corinthians 8:9). As His followers, we desire to be like Him in heart, character, and action. This is why we are encouraged in Scripture to excel in the grace of giving, to have the same mindset as Jesus, especially in generosity. Because of the generosity of those who gave to Beltway Park in 2023, we as a church were able to serve and bless countless lives within our church family, within our local community and region, and to the ends of earth.

GET THINGS STARTED

In what ways have you been impacted by Beltway – either through a specific ministry or a personal relationship – in the last year? How have you possibly been able to participate in making an impact in our church, community, or beyond through Beltway in the last year? Where and how have you seen God working and moving?

GO DEEPER

1. From 2 Corinthians 8:9, what does it mean that Jesus become *poor* so that we could become *rich*?
2. Paul challenges in 2 Corinthians 8:7 to excel in the grace of giving. In what ways is giving a grace, and how do we excel in this grace?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. In *Counterfeit Gods*, Dr. Timothy Keller wrote that *tithing is a minimum standard for Christian believers. We certainly wouldn't want to be in a position of giving away less of our income than those who had so much less of an understanding of what God did to save them.* Do you personally agree with this statement, and why or why not?
2. What steps do you need to take – both in your heart and in action – to be like Jesus and to excel in the grace of giving?
3. What stood out to you from the annual report that Pastor David presented in his message? What did you find encouraging and/or challenging? What did you learn about Beltway that you possibly did not know before?
4. Why do you think we present an annual report each year? What does it (or should it) accomplish for us as a church family?

PRACTICE IT NOW

Take time as a group to give thanks to God for His amazing generosity towards us as Jesus followers. In an atmosphere of prayer, ask Him to give you a greater heart and desire to be like Him in radical generosity. Ask God to give you vision and capacity to excel in the grace of giving. And ask Him to show you what your next step is towards emulating Him in giving.

For the 2023 Annual Report for Beltway Park, visit: beltway.org/annualreport.