

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Open your group with a prayer. Use this sheet as a guide; select the points you want to discuss.

GETTING STARTED

1. What is your definition of financial generosity?
2. What example of generosity have you seen recently?

DIGGING DEEPER

3. Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-3. What had God given to the Macedonian Christians? Why is this significant?
4. Out of what circumstances did the Macedonian Christians give?
5. In verses 3-4, what attitude did the Macedonians have in their giving?
6. In verses 3-5, what 3 things did the Macedonians do that impressed Paul?
7. What surprised Paul about the Macedonians' giving? (v. 5)
8. Read Proverbs 11:24-25. Relate this to the Macedonian attitude.
9. Read v. 7. What does it imply that giving is

added to the list of other spiritual attributes?

10. Read v.8. Paul maintained a careful balance not to "command" NT giving like the OT Law did. Instead, giving is a "grace" to be developed. What are the advantages/disadvantages of "grace giving?"

LIVING IT OUT

11. How can joy lead to generosity even when a person lives in poverty?
12. How does Christ's example motivate you to give?
13. What prevents people from generously giving their money to the church?
14. How are you challenged by Paul's discussion of generosity?
15. Some disparage church budgets and giving campaigns as unspiritual or manipulative. How would Paul respond based on 2Cor 8:1-7?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"...see that you also excel in this grace of giving."

- 2Corinthians 8:7b

2/4/2018

