

"GIVING AS A WAY OF LIFE"

Series: "Insight for the Journey," part 10 of 16
Saturday, January 2, 2010 at 5:00 pm and
Sunday, January 3, 2010 at 9:00 and 11:00 am

Big Idea: God is a giver by nature, and He wants us to be the same.

Text: 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Bullet: "If a person gets his attitude toward money straight it will help straighten out almost every other area of his life." Billy Graham

2 Corinthians 9:6

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously."

PREP WORK:

The Situation: 2 Corinthians 8 and 9 is basically _____!

* _____.

2 Corinthians 9:7

"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give"

* _____!

* _____.

PRINCIPLES FOR TODAY:

I. MOTIVATION, _____.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

"And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints."

2 Corinthians 8:9

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

2 Corinthians 8:12

"For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have."

II. NOT EQUAL GIFTS, _____.

2 Corinthians 8:13-15

"Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then there will be equality, as it is written: "He who gathered much did not have too much, and he who gathered little did not have too little."

III. EXTRA-MILE _____.

2 Corinthians 8:20-21

"We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift. For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men."

IV. GENEROSITY IS A VITAL MARK OF _____.

2 Corinthians 8:7

"But just as you excel in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us — see that you also excel in this grace of giving."