

## **2 Corinthians**

### **Lesson #13, Chapter 8:1-9:15**

Read Chapters 8 and 9. Take some time to ask the Lord for His help as you study His Word.

1. What does Paul want the Corinthians to know (8:1)?
2. Describe the churches of Macedonia from 8:1-5.
3. Why didn't Paul expect the churches of Macedonia to give (8:1-5)?
4. How does giving yourself first to the Lord make you a better giver?
5. What had the Corinthians started that they needed to finish? See 8:6 and following; see also 9:1-5.
6. Why is giving proof of the sincerity of our love (8:8, 24)?
7. Christ is shown as an example of giving. What is said about Christ that would help the believers give (8:9)?

8. What is the principle of equality that Paul discusses in 8:11-15?
  
9. What safeguards for financial accountability does Paul submit himself to in 8:16-22? Why is that so necessary in the ministry?
  
10. Nothing humbles us more than when we take an account of ourselves in the areas of prayer and giving. Most people feel that they don't do enough of either. What keeps you from giving generously? What are some ways you can cultivate a generous spirit?
  
11. In Chapters 8 and 9, specifically 9:1-5, note Paul's diplomatic skills as he brings up this matter of the Corinthians completing their giving. How does he encourage, yet still deal with the issue at hand? What principles can you glean from his example of discreet diplomacy?
  
12. Why is it important to be prepared to give (9:5-15)?
  
13. Explain how one might give grudgingly or under compulsion (9:7).
  
14. What is the personal result of liberal giving? See 9:10, 11.
  
15. What are the results of the Corinthians' giving in verses 12-15?

16. Why are you to give to the body of Christ? What are some specific ways you can give to the saints?
  
17. Think of someone you consider generous. Write down the ways they have ministered to you and to others. What do you learn from their example?
  
18. Throughout this study we have seen that doctrine precedes practice. How does what you know of God and Christ's example move you toward generosity?

I wish the whole church of Christ would realize that her greatest victories have usually been accomplished by those who did not seem, from the human standpoint, competent for the task.  
– Charles Spurgeon

When the world calls us fanatics we are nearing the point of ardour which is our Lord's due.  
– Spurgeon