

2 CORINTHIANS - Chapter 8:1-15 (continued)

11. Agree or Disagree: What is more important when discussing financial giving is the condition of the heart than the amount given.
12. What do you think about Paul's encouraging the Corinthians to give by comparing themselves to the Macedonians?
13. What do you think of the practice of some congregations of showing the giving level of all the members without indicating any names?

Verses 10-15:

1. a. In what way is Jesus rich and in what way did Jesus become poor?
b. In what way did Jesus in his poverty make us rich?
c. How does the richness we possess in Jesus' poverty impact our stewardship of finances?
2. Agree or Disagree: Giving is an act of worship.
3. One principle for Christian giving is that one gives in proportion to what one has. What does this mean and which verses indicate such a principle?
4. a. Is Paul saying that in verse 13 that Christians should give among each other so that there is financial equality?
b. How does verse 14 indicate what Paul means by equality?
c. Two possible ways to view verse 14:

Corinthian and other Greek congregations have more _____ now while the Jerusalem Christians may have more in the f_____ to assist the Greek Christians fi_____.

Corinthian and other Greek congregations have more _____ now while the Jerusalem Christians have more sp_____ gifts now to assist the Greek Christians. Those sp_____ gifts include being the training ground for many evangelists and the Jews being the people through whom came the promised Messiah, Jesus.
5. How does Paul use Exodus 16:18 in verse 15 as an illustration for his reasoning for the Greek churches to help the Jewish mother church? (Is there a miracle stated in Exodus 16:18?)
6. How does 1 Chronicles 29:10-15 provide a good overall principle for stewardship of treasure as is echoed by Paul in this chapter.

2 CORINTHIANS - Chapter 8:16-24

verses 16-21

1. What is the gift that was given to Titus regarding his relationship with the Corinthians? Would you say this is a spiritual gift? See Romans 12:6-8
2. What is a neat kind of praise to receive (verse 18)? [The brother may be Luke, Barnabas (Luther) or one from the group in Acts 20:4]. How do we show love for the gospel? How do we show service for the gospel?
3. Paul was receiving the collection for the destitute from various congregations. What did he want to make sure of regarding the collection?
4. Comment: It doesn't matter what people think about my actions, it is only what God thinks that matters.

verses 22-24

1. Why and when is it a very positive situation to have Christians work together to encourage each other? How do we foster substantive Christian fellowship?
2. Why is it crucial that congregation leaders be people of integrity?

2 CORINTHIANS - Chapter 9:1-11

1. Do you think Christian enthusiasm is contagious?
2. Why should the stewardship of giving be such a joyful topic? Why is the topic of stewardship sometimes not a joyful subject?
3. Comment: "We can never out give God."
4. What principle does Proverbs 11:24,25 and 2 Corinthians 9:6 teach?
5. True or False: We should be generous givers because we know God will give us much more in return.
6. What are two basic principles that should guide our stewardship of giving?
7. What is the reason that God blesses us financially in any manner? (see also 9:10-12)
8. From where does St. Paul quote in verse 9 and who is the one who is scattering their gifts?