

Small Group Material

Harvest and Gift Week 2 Corinthians 8.1-15

Welcome With what are you generous - money, time, talents, possessions? With what are you stingy?

Worship

Use Psalm 145.8-21 to give thanks for God's care and compassion for all he has made. (You could either get people to read it quietly and then pick out a verse turning it into prayer or read the psalm aloud)

This is a beautiful video sung by a blind, autistic boy: Open the eyes of my heart https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-F_W_zl61bl
Worship God together

Word Read 2 Corinthians 8.1-15

Read 1 Corinthians 16.1-4 and Romans 15.25-27 (written either during or shortly after Paul had revisited Corinth)

1. What is this collection all about?
2. What do you learn about the Macedonians from their giving, cf v1,2,3?
3. In the light of the struggles in Corinth, why would Paul draw their attention to the Macedonian example?
4. What would this test of their generosity reveal, v8?
5. What principles about giving do you observe in this passage?

For discussion

1. If you were to evaluate your zeal for God in the light of your bank statement (or your cheque book) what would it tell you about your faith or love for God? (Be as open as you can be)
2. What, from Jesus' example, prompts you to be generous with your money, time and energy, v9?
3. What inhibits you from being generous?

Witness

Pray together for the Building to Serve project and this Gift Week
For God to touch our hearts to be generous
For the whole church family to get behind the project
For people in the surrounding community to get behind the giving for the Branch

If there are any pictures, words from the Lord, verses etc that you'd like to share, please do send them to the church office.

'It's not the portion that we give, it's the proportion.' A quote from a friend of mine!