

Lesson 8

2 Corinthians 8:1-24

- **Questions**

1. What did Paul want to make known to the Corinthians (8:1)?
2. What characteristics did the Macedonians possess that made them such generous givers (8:2-5)?
3. Who were the recipients of this contribution (8:4; see also 9:1, 12)?
4. What did Paul want concerning Titus (8:6)?
5. What did Paul want concerning the Corinthians (8:7)?
6. How did Paul encourage the Corinthians to give and what would their giving demonstrate (8:8)?
7. What did the Lord Jesus Christ do to show his grace of giving (8:9)?
8. What did Paul want the Corinthians to complete (8:10-11; see also v. 6)?
9. What was Paul's first principle concerning acceptable giving (8:12)?

10. What did Paul not want to happen when the Corinthians gave (8:13)?
11. What was Paul's second principle concerning acceptable giving (8:14-15)?
12. What was Paul thankful to God for concerning Titus (8:16-17)?
13. How did Paul describe the unnamed brother who traveled with Titus and why did he travel with Titus (8:18-19)?
14. What was Paul trying to avoid concerning the handling of the contribution and what did he do to avoid it (8:20-21)?
15. How did Paul describe the second unnamed brother who traveled with Titus (8:22)?
16. How did Paul describe Titus and the brethren who traveled with Titus (8:23)?
17. What did Paul want the Corinthians to show these brethren (8:24)?

• **Digging Deeper**

1. What was Paul doing on his preaching trips besides preaching the gospel (Acts 24:17; Rom. 15:25-28)?
2. What had Paul already written to the Corinthians concerning the collection for the needy saints (1 Cor. 16:1-2)? What were the Corinthians also to choose (1 Cor. 16:3-

4)? What amount of time (approximately) had transpired between 1 Corinthians 16:1-4 and 2 Corinthians 8-9?

3. What does “grace” refer to in Chapter 8 (see v. 1, 4, 6-7, 9, 19)?

4. What other work was Titus doing with the church at Corinth (8:6; see 2:13; 7:6, 13-14; 12:18)? What was his attitude toward the Corinthians (8:16-17, 23)? What do we know about Titus (Gal. 2:1-3; 2 Tim. 4:10; Tit. 1:4)?

5. What OT scripture is mentioned in 8:15 and how does Paul use it to illustrate equality in giving and receiving?

6. What are the various principles of giving stated by Paul in Chapter 8? (You will add this list to the principles stated in Chapter 9.)

• Applications for Today

1. Generous giving on the part of Christians shows their genuine love (8:1-15; see especially 8:8 and 8:24). What did the widow show at the temple treasury (Mk. 12:43-44)?

2. Funds from the local church treasury are given to needy saints only (8:4). Who were the recipients of local church benevolent help in the NT (Acts 2; 4; 6; 11; Rom. 15; 2 Cor. 8-9; 1 Tim. 5)?

3. Our commitment precedes our contribution. Christians, who first give themselves completely to the Lord, will have no trouble being generous givers (8:5). Who was given to the Lord (1 Sam. 1:11, 28)?

4. Christians should not simply do the bare minimum or be mediocre; they should abound and excel in their service to Christ (8:7). What else should abound in the Christian (Rom. 15:13; Phil. 1:9; 1 Thess. 4:1, 10)?

5. Jesus, who was “rich” in heaven, was willing to become “poor” on earth to save mankind (8:9). What did Jesus give up to save mankind (Phil. 2:6-8)? What did Christ demonstrate by saving mankind (Rom. 5:8-9)?

6. The handling of the Lord’s money needs to be done by men who have been proven to be honest and trustworthy (8:16-24). What did Paul write about honesty (what is good and right) in Romans 12:17 and what did Peter say about it in 1 Peter 2:12?