

Investing Wisely

Sermon 2 – Investing Finances Pastor Kevin **January 29, 2023**

MAIN SCRIPTURE: 2 Corinthians 8:1-9 (NLT)

¹ Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, [a] what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. ² They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity. ³ For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will. ⁴ They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem. [1] 5 They even did more than we had hoped, for their first action was to give themselves to the Lord and to us, just as God wanted them to do. ⁶ So we have urged Titus, who encouraged your giving in the first place, to return to you and encourage you to finish this ministry of giving. ⁷ Since you excel in so many ways—in your faith, your gifted speakers, your knowledge, your enthusiasm, and your love from us[5]—I want you to excel also in this gracious act of giving. 8 I am not commanding you to do this. But I am testing how genuine your love is by comparing it with the eagerness of the other churches. ⁹ You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.

Opening Discussion

 What thoughts, feelings, or impressions do you have about the sermon this week?

(Below you will find the main points of this week's sermon along with discussion questions. Feel free to use, reword, or omit questions depending on the needs of your

group and the time needed for prayer, care, and fellowship. Thank you for your leadership.)

<u>Thought #1</u> – There is great hope in what God desires to do through His church!

Verses: 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

- If you were to compare and contrast what would characterize God's desires vs. human desires, what similarities and differences can be observed?
- In what ways have you seen College Church or others churches display the generosity of God to those inside and outside of the church?
- When the church is generous, especially to the community, what are we communicating about Jesus?
- What needs (opportunities for generosity) do you see in our/your community?

Thought #2 — Let's talk about the church in Macedonia.

Verses: 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

- What differences do we see between the church in Macedonia and College Church?
- The church in Macedonia begged for opportunities to give. What do you think informed the begging?
- Pastor Kevin said that our giving is a gracious response to the grace we have been shown. Describe the grace that Jesus has shown you/us.
- Is your giving a gracious response to His grace? In what ways?

<u>Thought #3</u> – Give from what you have, not from what you don't have.

Verses: 2 Corinthians 8:1-9, 12

- Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-9, 12 how would you characterize the giving of the Macedonia church further?
- What does it mean to give "eagerly"?
 What heart change would have to take place inside of a person that might lead to "eager" giving?
- Tell of time in your life when you knew of a need and were eager to give? What was the need? What compelled your giving? Explain the eagerness that you had to help.

Closing Discussion

 Ask each group member how the group can be praying for them this week. Close in prayer.

Questions for Pastor Todd Keller or Julie Burch regarding your REMIX group?

• Email: Todd <u>tkeller@collegechurch.com</u>
Julie <u>groups@collegechurch.com</u>

***Remember to record your attendance for the week. Thank you.

How can we pray for each other this week?	