

STUDY GUIDE

—COMMITMENT SUNDAY—

2 Corinthians 9:6-15, 1 Chronicles 28-29

"Leaning In and His 'Inexpressible Gift"

Pastor Patrick Bowler 11-12-2023

Consult the Scriptures:

2 Corinthians 9:6-15 1 Chronicles 28-29

(Other Scripture referenced: 2 Cor. 8:2, 7-9, 9:5; Deut. 15:10)

Consult the Scholars:

David E. Garland—

"God rewards generosity with material abundance to make it possible for people to be even more generous." (David E. Garland, Christians Standard Commentary: 2 Corinthians [Holman Reference, 2021], p. 459)

David E. Garland—

"Reluctance to sow generously reflects a refusal to trust that God is all-sufficient and all-gracious to supply our needs. It also assumes we can only give when we are prospering and have something extra that we do not need for ourselves. Paul says that since God always provides us with all that we need... we will never experience a time when we cannot be generous." (David E. Garland, Christians Standard Commentary: 2 Corinthians [Holman Reference, 2021], p. 459)

Discuss:

- 1. Reflect over the 5-weeks of *Leaning In* and discuss. What was one of the most significant moments for you? What has God graciously shown you through this series, whether during the teaching or during your time with your community group?
- 2. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-10 and discuss. What does Paul mean by his reference to farming, i.e., sowing and reaping? Why does God those who sow "bountifully?" (see 2 Cor. 9:8-10)
- 3. Read the quotation from Garland (above) and discuss. What stands out to you? Do you agree? Why or why not?
- 4. Read 2 Corinthians 9:11-15 and discuss. From the text, can you identify the kinds of things that generosity produces in the church? In other words, what does a heart of generosity provide for the church?
- 5. Read 1 Chronicles 28-29 and discuss. What was Pastor Patrick's point about the big and little boots? How does that relate to David and Solomon? How does that relate to us today?
- 6. Remember when you were in "little boots?" Who were some of the "big boots" in your life at that time? What are you grateful for?
- 7. What stood out to you during the time of commitment? What did you observe? What did you experience yourself? How did you feel?
- 8. What immediate applications can be made following this week's sermon? What questions do you still have?