

GOING DEEPER STUDY NOTES (OCTOBER 23, 2022)

FOR PERSONAL OR GROUP STUDY

Many of us have learned as children to love God, to be grateful, to ask for things before taking them, to say please and thank you, as well as to respect and serve people, and to have compassion and be generous with others in need.

Paul is comforted that the Corinthians wanted to reform their lives and ways. He is please not only because of their good resolve but also because of their good actions by which they were correcting their former practice he even said that after he had boasted about the Corinthians to Titus, they had not let him down. Paul offered the Macedonians the highest praise, for even in the poverty they give generously of what they have. They wanted to offer even more than their strength allow by giving themselves wholly to God first, and then to their fellow believers with exceptional generosity of their own free will, with this the Macedonians demonstrated their sincere desire to receive a spirit gift. Paul sent Titus to the Corinthians to encourage them to imitate the Macedonians.

WE SERVE BEST IN MISSION TOGETHER (Why Church?)

SERMON PASSAGE: 2 CORINTHIANS 7:13-8:15

¹ We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ²for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ⁴begging us earnestly for the favor^u of taking part in the relief of the saints— ⁵and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. ⁶Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. ⁷But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you^u—see that you excel in this act of grace also. ⁸I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. ⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

WHAT DOES IT SAY?

1. What was motivating the generosity of the Macedonian churches that we observe in this passage?
2. Why it is important to the Corinthians to serve God together?
3. What is you interpretation to this passage?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

4. Why it is important for you, as an individual Christian to serve and be generous? Who taught you to serve and be generous?
5. What are the areas they and you excelled at?
6. What was Paul saying to motivate the Corinthians? What motivates our church today?

WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO YOU?

7. What does God is saying to you today? What is his invitation to you and others? Would you like to be a missionary and serve God locally or in other parts of the world?
8. Why God wants you to continue living a life of Generosity?
9. How did Jesus become poor so that we can be rich?
10. Why does God want you to build relationships with other Christian missionaries? Do you remember Missionaries who have inspired you to serve God?

Notes: _____

Take the time to read this passage again, ask God to reveal His message and plan to your life, He may want to show you more in His Word. Pray before, during and after you finish reading God's Word, and share it with others and practice what you just have heard and learned from the Lord. Remember that God wants the best for you, and your family. Don't let the things of this world distract you; please keep your eyes on Jesus, and let His will be done.