

LESSON 8 - 2 Corinthians 8



DAY 1 2 Corinthians 8:1-5

DAY 2 2 Corinthians 8:6-9

DAY 3 2 Corinthians 8:10-14


DAY 4 2 Corinthians 8:15-24

DAY 5 2 Corinthians 8 Review

Teaching Notes

Date: _____

Lined area for taking notes, consisting of multiple horizontal lines.

 One thing that impacted my heart the most from this teaching was:

Lined area for writing a response to the reflection question, consisting of three horizontal lines.

Day 1 *Begin your study with time in prayer. Ask God to show you His truth*

Step 1 Look in God's Word- Read the passage given below from your bible. As you read, highlight or underline a verse that stood out to you the most and write it out in the space below.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

Step 2 Learn the Lesson- What does the verse mean?

Step 3 Listen to His Voice - What does the verse mean to me?

Step 4 Cross Thoughts- Record cross reference verse(s) or other verses that came to mind.

Step 5 Live in Response- How will I respond and what will I do differently?

Theme: _____

Commentary: In chapters 8 and 9 Paul touches on an issue that many believers are uncomfortable discussing, it's the topic of giving financial support. Paul was not asking for support for himself but for the church in Jerusalem, which was facing financial difficulties due to a famine that had severely hit that region. Paul took the opportunity to bond the Gentile believers and the Jewish believers in Jerusalem through this act of loving and supporting each other. The Corinthian church started out with good intentions to be a part of this wonderful opportunity but after a year they had not really done anything. Paul now gently encourages and addresses this issue.

“Christianity isn’t just an intellectual agreement with a set of beliefs; it’s a lifestyle. It impacts every area of a person’s life: the way they establish and maintain relationships, their outlook at work, and their perspective on parenting. It even impacts their finances.

Many Christians may think that the subject of finances should be off limits. But that mindset is a far cry from what God’s Word reveals as it relates to our resources. The Bible doesn’t portray us as owners of anything. Rather, it tells us very clearly that God Himself is the ultimate owner of all things (Psalm 24:1).”¹⁷

1. Under what circumstances was the church in Macedonia willing to give to the church in Jerusalem? (v2)

2. How were they able to give beyond their ability?
 - a. What attitude did they exhibit? (2 Corinthians 9:7)

 - b. Everyone has the ability to give even if not financially- how do you give to the church aside from tithing?

3. Read Matthew 6:19-34 and journal your thoughts. Do you think the church in Macedonia practiced this principle?

4. The church in Macedonia considered their giving to be a privilege. Do you consider your giving (i.e: tithes, offerings) to be a privilege or a duty? Why?

Day 2 Pray for our church, Pastors and their wives

Step 1 Look in God's Word- Read the passage given below from your bible. As you read, highlight or underline a verse that stood out to you the most and write it out in the space below.

2 Corinthians 8:6-9

Step 2 Learn the Lesson- What does the verse mean?

Step 3 Listen to His Voice - What does the verse mean to me?

Step 4 Cross Thoughts- Record cross reference verse(s) or other verses that came to mind.

Step 5 Live in Response- How will I respond and what will I do differently?

Day 3 Pray for our Nation, State and City Officials

Step 1 Look in God's Word- Read the passage given below from your bible. As you read, highlight or underline a verse that stood out to you the most and write it out in the space below.

2 Corinthians 8:10-14

Step 2 Learn the Lesson- What does the verse mean?

Step 3 Listen to His Voice - What does the verse mean to me?

Step 4 Cross Thoughts- Record cross reference verse(s) or other verses that came to mind.

Step 5 Live in Response- How will I respond and what will I do differently?

Theme: _____

Digging Deeper

Commentary: We don't know what sidetracked the Corinthian church but after 1 year they still had not fulfilled what their hearts were, at one time, eager to accomplish. To the best of our ability we should keep the commitments we have made to people but more importantly to God. As mentioned previously, He knows our needs and will be faithful, always. However, use wisdom in that you must provide for the **needs** of your family first. (1 Timothy 5:8). Paul was not asking that the believers burden themselves by giving when they don't have it to give.

Jon Courson: Paul says to the Corinthians "even as the northern believers shared generously, so should you because you don't know when the situation will change unexpectedly. You don't know when you will need their help. This is a principle not only of finances but of life."

1. Who began this idea of giving to the church in Jerusalem? (v10)

2. Why was Paul telling the Corinthians about it in this letter? (v11)

3. How much should be given? (v11b-12)

4. What point was Paul making? (v14) Also read Luke 6:38.

Day 4 Pray for Missionaries

Step 1 Look in God's Word- Read the passage given below from your bible. As you read, highlight or underline a verse that stood out to you the most and write it out in the space below.

2 Corinthians 8:15-24

Step 2 Learn the Lesson- What does the verse mean?

Step 3 Listen to His Voice - What does the verse mean to me?

Step 4 Cross Thoughts- Record cross reference verse(s) or other verses that came to mind.

Step 5 Live in Response- How will I respond and what will I do differently?

Theme: _____

Digging Deeper

Commentary: Paul is making reference to the story found in Exodus 16:16-18. God had provided manna for the Israelites to eat, the only requirement He asked of them was to not gather more than was needed for the day, except for the day before Sabbath. On that day they were allowed to gather enough for two days, since they were not to work at all on the Sabbath day. God was instilling in them the ability to trust Him for everything, and to obey.

The believers in Corinth were reminded by Paul that God has put them on Titus' heart to care for them just like they were on Paul's heart. God sends people like Paul and Titus into our lives to keep us on track or get us back on track when we get derailed from our commitments.

1. How are we to care for one another? (1 Corinthians 12:25)

2. Who has God put on your heart to encourage and care for?, and what can you do to 'act on that' prompting in your heart?

3. What do we learn about giving from the following passages?
 - a. Matthew 6:3-4

 - b. 1 Corinthians 16:2

 - c. 2 Corinthians 9:6, 7

Commentary: A brother whose passion for the gospel was known throughout all of the churches was chosen to accompany Titus, we are not sure who this man was but regardless what a wonderful thing to be known for! Paul was going to ensure accountability and integrity in the handling of the gift that was collected for the church in Jerusalem. We should always ensure the integrity of our ministry and our walk with the Lord so that no one could blame us for inappropriate or questionable conduct.

4. What reason did Paul give for traveling with companions (v20-21)

5. What does Romans 12:17 say and how does that it apply here?

Day 5 Pray for your Bible teacher and small group

Step 1 Look in God's Word- Read the passage given below from your bible. As you read, highlight or underline a verse that stood out to you the most and complete the S.O.A.P method for your study today.

Read chapter of 2 Corinthians 8***Digging Deeper***

We are approaching today's lesson using the S.O.A.P method.

"S.O.A.P. stands for Scripture, Observation, Application, Prayer. It's a great way to delve more deeply into your Bible reading, and record your thoughts, emotions and observations when studying Scripture. S.O.A.P. is meant to be a journal you create with your regular Bible reading, but it can also be an effective tool to help you connect with particular passages."

Scripture: What verse from the entire chapter stood out for you today?

Observation: What did you notice today that you had not seen before?

Application: What do you have to do or change to apply what you learned today?

Pray: Write a prayer of repentance, praise, thanksgiving...whatever the Spirit is leading you to do.