

Sermon: The Grace of Giving.
Series: Growing in Grace.

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 8:1-15.
Date: January 8, 2023

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about us?

- a) Ten times in this passage Paul refers to grace. Is giving a chore for you? A duty? Or is it grace? Explain your answer.
- b) Read 2 Cor. 8:7. Do you excel at giving?

2. What does this passage teach us about God?

- a) Read Psalm 24:1. What implications does this verse have for our giving?
- b) Read 8:5. Is it possible to give to the church without first giving yourself to the Lord? Is it possible to give yourself to the Lord without giving to the church? Explain.

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

- a) Read 8:8. Why doesn't Paul give a command to give, or how much to give? How is this lack of a command connected to the gospel?
- b) How might the self-giving of Jesus (v.9) motivate our giving? Does this gospel truth motivate your giving? If not, what does? How is this motivation different from the law's motivation or the motivation of the prosperity gospel?

APPLICATION

- a) What is one change of either attitude or practice that you need to make in regards to your giving to the work of the Lord so that you might "excel at giving?"

FIGHTER VERSES: Psalm 119:33-36.

PRAYER

- Thank God for being the owner of all and the giver of all.
- Confess ways that you have failed to give, or give from a cheerful heart (9:7).
- Thank Jesus for becoming poor for you so that you might be rich.
- Ask God to help you give willingly, sacrificially, and joyfully.