

FOLLOW THROUGH ON YOUR INTENTIONS

2 Corinthians 8:9-15

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The questions below are designed to be used by Saylorville Church Cell Groups as they meet during the week following the Sunday morning message at Saylorville. The intent is not for groups to answer every question, but for leaders to use the questions as a guide as they tailor the discussion to the needs of their unique group.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- What were you known for in high school or college? Did you have any nicknames? What were you “most likely to be/do”? Pastor Brad said he was called “The Cheap Guy.” Can any of you relate to that?
- Rate and explain your reaction to this statement: *Christians should not be cheap.*
Always False // Usually False // Sometimes True but Sometimes False // Usually True // Always True

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

Intro:

A. Read 2 Corinthians 8:9-15

- B. In his message, Pastor Brad shared **four keys to giving**. What is your one thing from Sunday? What stuck out to you about what you heard (a new idea, an application, a challenge, a question, or a new way of thinking)?

#1 - Grace motivated giving (8:9-10)

- A. In your own words, explain how Christians are made rich by Christ’s poverty.
B. Talk about a time in your life when giving was truly worship - when you felt closer to God.

#2 - Come through on your intentions (8:11)

- A. Share some examples from your life (as a spouse, a parent, a friend, an employee, etc.) when you had good intentions but didn’t fulfill them.
B. How faithful would God be if He fulfilled His intentions to the same extent that you do? How might that impact you personally?

#3 - Give according to what you have (8:12)

- A. Brainstorm with your group: What do you have that could be invested in the lives of others to make a difference in eternity? Now pick just one or two ideas and make a plan to invest this week! (For some ideas, check out the video on our website from Sunday night’s foster care presentation.)
B. Do you see your giving as non-negotiable or does it depend on circumstances of life? What would it take for you to make a commitment to give no matter what?

#4 - Enjoy giving to God (8:13-15)

- A. How is giving actually a benefit to the giver? What specific benefits have you experienced from giving to God? (Note: they may not be financial benefits!)
B. When can you set aside a few minutes this week to pray, talk with your spouse/family, and develop a giving plan based on Proverbs 11:24? (“One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.”)

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that God will open our eyes to opportunities to give, that we will take those opportunities, and that we will worship Him as we invest in the needs of others.

Generosity: God owns everything, so I will invest for eternity what He has given me temporarily.

