

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 - CHOOSE OPTION #1 OR #2 (10-15 MINUTES)

- Turn this sheet over and look at the pictures. Which emoji best illustrates how you feel when the offering plate is passed around on Sunday mornings? Why do you think that's true?
- If you were asked the same question six months from now, which emoji do you hope to choose? What needs to change for you to get there in six months?

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)**Intro:**

- A. **Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 in the New International Version of the Bible**
- B. In his message, Pastor Pat shared **three laws of the harvest and their implications on our 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 - The first law: You reap WHAT you sow

- A. God loves a cheerful (literally, a "hilarious") giver. When have you been the most "giddy" about your giving? Share a specific story to inspire the group and yourself!
- B. Talk about a time in your life when God provided exactly what you needed like He did in Pastor Pat's story.

#2 - The second law: You reap MORE than you sow

- A. Our Core Value of Generosity states: *God owns everything, so I will invest for eternity what He has given me temporarily*. What "eternal" things would you invest in if you had unlimited funds? What not start to do that now?
- B. Think about your personal budget. How might you budget differently if you believed that you can never out give God?

#3 - The third law: You reap LATER than when you sow

- A. Why do you think this law is the reason people ignore the first two laws?
- B. Ultimately, Jesus is our reward when we give (see 2 Corinthians 8:9). When you give back to God (through money, time, or serving through your abilities), what are you expecting as a return on your investment?

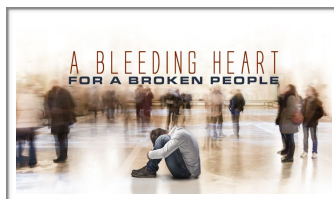
#4 - Giving should be...

- A. Pick a different person from your group to give a brief personal response to each of these statements:
 1. Universal (vs. 7a) - *Each of us should give at least 10% of our income in the church offering.*
 2. Personal (vs. 7a) - *We should not base our giving on what someone else is giving.*
 3. Guilt Free (vs. 7b) - *We give out of guilt when our giving is rooted in pain or pressure to give.*
 4. Cheerful (vs. 7c) - *Christians should give until it hurts.*
 5. Believing (vs. 8) - *There are few areas that challenge our faith like the area of giving.*
 6. Compassionate (vs. 9-10) - *Saylorville Church must balance giving to local AND global mission.*
 7. Ongoing (vs. 11) - *A lack of generosity calls into question whether or not one has truly received God's grace.*
 8. Christ Exalting (vs. 12-15) - *We give as a response to God's greatest gift to us - His Son, Jesus Christ.*
 9. Compensated (vs. 10-11) - *When we give financially, we should expect that God will bless us financially.*

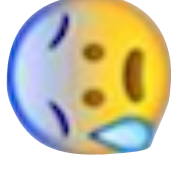
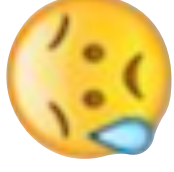
PRAY FOR EACH OTHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- Pray that the Lord will cause us to be Christ-followers who reinvest what God has given us into eternal things.

Your money flows most effortlessly toward your heart's greatest love.



Which emoji best illustrates how you feel when the offering plate is passed around on Sunday mornings?



Why do you think that's true?