

MOOREBANK – HAMMONDVILLE ANGLICAN CHURCHES

SERMON OUTLINE –30 October 2016

Mark these people ~ Generosity – 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

A few things to get out of the way...

1. Grace from God leads to grace to others (2 Corinthians 8:1-8)

2. Jesus Christ – God’s grace to us (2 Corinthians 8:9)

3. Practical generosity

- What does a generous person do?
- Know where your money goes
- Watch what you are feeding your heart
- Give God your best not your leftovers

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." John Wesley

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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION OR REFLECTION
Generosity - 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

1. Do you think God is generous? Why / Why not? Is a generous character an attractive quality in a person? Why do you think this is so?

What did the Macedonians have...

2. The Macedonians contributed to a collection that brought economic help to the believers in Jerusalem (Rom 15:25-26, 31; 2 Cor 8:4, 13-15, 19-20; 9:1, 12-13). The Macedonians were not wealthy but what did they have in abundance? Why? (1 Thess 1:6-8)
3. What does Paul say about their generosity in v1 - 5?
4. Why is generosity described here as giving themselves 'first to the Lord and then to us' (v5)? In what way is their giving evidence of the 'grace of God' at work amongst them (v1, 7; see also 9:8, 14)?
5. Only the grace of God in the gospel of Jesus Christ brings such joy. What effect did it produce? What does Paul want the Corinthians to do and with what motivation (v7-8)?
6. 'The reality of your spirituality will be seen in your giving'. Discuss.

The most generous one of all...

7. Look at 2 Corinthians 8:9. In what sense was Jesus rich but became poor? In what sense were we poor but became rich? Why is Jesus Christ our model for giving?
8. So many appeals to give are based on the 'give in order to get' principle. How is this different to giving because of what God has *already* done for us in Christ? Where can you see God's goodness and generosity towards you? What would help you become more of a 'give because given to' type person?
9. Should we enjoy giving? Why / Why not? (2 Cor 9:23, Acts 20:35)