

Paul's Second  
Letter to the  
Corinthians

# FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

*<sup>10</sup> He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.*

*--2 Corinthians 9:10*

### Class Time

- Prayer Requests
- Scripture Reading – 2 Corinthians 9:1-15
- Discussion Questions
- Outline & Lesson

## 2 Corinthians



### 2 Corinthians 9 (ESV)

**9** Now it is superfluous for me to write to you about the ministry for the saints, <sup>2</sup> for I know your readiness, of which I boast about you to the people of Macedonia, saying that Achaia has been ready since last year. And your zeal has stirred up most of them. <sup>3</sup> But I am sending the brothers so that our boasting about you may not prove empty in this matter, so that you may be ready, as I said you would be. <sup>4</sup> Otherwise, if some Macedonians come with me and find that you are not ready, we would be humiliated—to say nothing of you—for being so confident. <sup>5</sup> So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for the gift you have promised, so that it may be ready as a willing gift, not as an exaction. <sup>6</sup> The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. <sup>7</sup> Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

## 2 Corinthians

<sup>8</sup> And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

<sup>9</sup> As it is written, “He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.”

<sup>10</sup> He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup> You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. <sup>12</sup> For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. <sup>13</sup> By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others, <sup>14</sup> while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you. <sup>15</sup> Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

## 2 Corinthians

What is the “ministry for the saints” about which Paul says it is superfluous for him to write? See 1 Cor 16:1-4; 2 Cor 8:10; Rom 15:25

1 Corinthians 16:1–4 (ESV)

**16** Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. <sup>2</sup> On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come. <sup>3</sup> And when I arrive, I will send those whom you accredit by letter to carry your gift to Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> If it seems advisable that I should go also, they will accompany me.

Discussion Questions

#1

## 2 Corinthians

2 Corinthians 8:10 (ESV)

<sup>10</sup> And in this matter I give my judgment: this benefits you, who a year ago started not only to do this work but also to desire to do it.

### Discussion Questions

#1

(b)

Romans 15:25 (ESV)

<sup>25</sup> At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints.

**Discussion Questions**

**#1**

(c)



1. The recipients of the offering will obviously benefit from the Corinthians' zealously for generosity, but who else in verse 2 does Paul say benefited? In what way?

### Discussion Questions

#### #2

*<sup>2</sup> for I know your readiness, of which I boast about you to the people of Macedonia, saying that Achaia has been ready since last year. And your zeal has stirred up most of them.*

In verse 8, Paul says that God will give a cheerful giver “all sufficiency in all things at all times,” and in verse 11 that God will enrich the generous giver in every way. Is this an expression of the so-called “prosperity gospel” - give more to get more? Why, or why not? Are these two statements qualified in any way?

See a major result of this sufficiency and enriching in Rom. 15:25-26.

### Discussion Questions

#### #3

<sup>8</sup> And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

### Discussion Questions

**#3**

(b)

<sup>11</sup> You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

Romans 15:25–26 (ESV)

<sup>25</sup> At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints. <sup>26</sup> For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem.

**Discussion Questions**

**#3**

(c)

### Discussion Questions

#### #4

1. In concluding his teaching about giving, Paul thanks God for his inexpressible gift. Many commentators teach that the gift to which Paul refers is that spoken of in the context—namely, that grace given to the Corinthians, or the good effect anticipated from their generosity. Do you agree that this is the gift Paul has in mind? See 2 Cor 8:9.

### Discussion Questions

#4

(b)

2 Corinthians 8:9 (ESV)

<sup>9</sup> For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

### I. Generosity Benefits Others vv1-5

- A. Ministry for the saints v1
- B. Readiness of the Corinthians v2a
- C. Stirring up of the Macedonians v2b
- D. Sending of the brethren vv3-5

### II. Generosity Benefits the Giver vv6-10

- A. Sowing and reaping v6
- B. Cheerful giving v7
- C. Grace abounding v8a
- D. Complete sufficiency v8b
- E. Purposeful results vv8c-10
  - 1. Every good work vv8c 9
  - 2. Harvest of righteousness v10

### III. Generosity Glorifies God vv11-15

- A. Thanksgivings of the saints vv1-12
- B. Confession of the gospel v13
- C. Longing and prayer v14
- D. Inexpressible gift v15