

GIVING

Listen | Respond | Give

'You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.' (2 Corinthians 9:7)

MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS WHO **GATHER** in friendship & family
GROW in character & gifting
GO in mission & service

What is this worksheet for?

This LIFE Group worksheet is designed to help you explore and discuss what it looks like to be a follower of Jesus who gives cheerfully. This is ideal to use at any time and will be particularly useful in the run up to our Gift Days.

What are Gift Days?

A couple of times a year, on top of regular giving we have what we call gift days. These are opportunities for us all to stretch our faith as we give above and beyond our regular giving. The money from these days always go towards specific things.

When are the gift days?

2nd and 9th July 2017
at all three of our sites.

Where is the money going?

The majority of the money will be going towards **Investing in the future** across all three of our sites at King's. We will also be giving some money away to other churches. More info at:

kingsnorwich.com/giving

Give online

Our website kingsnorwich.com/giving
or use the King's App

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PART 1 - THE GRACE OF GIVING (30 mins)

Start by looking together at 2 Corinthians 8:1-5:

'We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.'

Q: What is Paul talking about in verse 1?

Knowing and receiving God's love in the midst of difficult times empowered the Macedonian churches to love others beyond their means. Receiving God's grace meant that grace overflowed in them, through them and from them.

Q: In this context, what does receiving grace result in?

Q: In what ways do we in our culture receive grace from God?

Examples might be; healing, answers to prayer, a job, regular income, a home

Q: What do you think about the statement "Generosity is a demonstration of gratitude"

Note that Paul is not directly asking for money, he is provoking them with an example of the love of God. He is almost posing the question - "wouldn't you like to be a part of grace like that?"

Q: As we approach the gift days, what attitude should we have? In what ways is the following a provocative statement?

The Macedonian churches were "begging us earnestly for the favour of taking part in the relief of the saints" (2 Cor 8:4)

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PART 2 - GIVING, PROVISION & FAITH (30 mins)

Next, look at 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

“The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 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. As it is written, “He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.” 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. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.”

Q: What jumps out to you in these verses?

Q: What does Paul mean in verse 8?

Q: How does what Paul says stir our faith as we think about giving?

Q: Do you feel you currently give out of faith or out of compulsion? What might help you give out of faith?

Optional question:

Q: What comes first, giving or provision? Ask for stories where God provided resulting in generosity or where faith provoked generosity and then God provided

PART 3 - PRAY!

- Ask God for more grace so that we can make His grace abound to others
- Also ask God for more faith as you continue in this wonderful grace of giving