

# Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of September 25 - October 1, 2022

---

## Strength in Weakness Loving In Deed and In Truth 2 Corinthians 8:10-24

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Bible Learning Center classes: *Worship Guitar & Bass* with Pastor Mike, Mondays beginning 9/26/22; *Eschatology* with Pastor Nick, Tuesdays beginning 10/4/22. Sign up in the Commons or online.
- 2) Connection class October 16 at 11:00 in the Conference Room. Sign up online.
- 3) Baptism October 30 after the third service. Sign up online.

### GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Which do you prefer: East coast or west coast; spring or fall; Daylight Savings Time or Standard Time?

### QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

### MAIN POINTS:

*Earnest giving in response to God's grace benefits us, serves others, and brings glory to Christ.*

### DIGGING DEEPER

*Earnest giving...*

1. **Read 2 Corinthians 8:10-15.** The dictionary defines earnest in this way: *Resulting from or showing sincere and intense conviction.* How does what Paul talks about in these verses fit that definition in regards to giving?
  - a. **Read 1 John 3:16-18.** Compare what John says in this verse to what Paul says in 2 Corinthians 8:10-11.
  - b. In 2 Corinthians 8:15, what is Paul referring to from the Old Testament scriptures? **Read Exodus 16:18** and discuss how Paul is using a theological principle to encourage the Corinthians.

*...in response to God's grace...*

2. **Read 2 Corinthians 8:16-19.** In these verses, Paul is using Titus as an example of how God's grace gives us the power to bless others. How does this apply to our lives? How has God's grace given you the power to serve others?

*..benefits us...*

3. **Re-read 2 Corinthians 8:10.** Paul says, “I give my judgment, this benefits you..” How does earnest giving benefit us? **Read 1 Timothy 6:17-19** and discuss the ways we are blessed by our giving.

*...serves others...*

4. **Read 2 Corinthians 8:20-22.** Paul discusses the earnest and honorable men who are being sent in order to protect the integrity of the gift. What is Paul’s intent in making sure the gifts are protected? How does this ensure that the gifts are used as intended?
5. Discuss the ways in which our giving serves others? Why is it important to know that our gifts are used as intended?

*...and bring glory to Christ.*

6. **Read 2 Corinthians 8:23-24.** Paul refers to the men he is sending as “...the glory of Christ..” What do you think he means by this statement?
  - a. What qualities should we possess to be thought of in this way?
  - b. How does our willingness to give earnestly bring glory to Christ?

## TAKING IT HOME

Looking back at this week’s study, what is important for you to remember and why?

## PRAISE & PRAYER REQUESTS

➤

➤

➤

➤

➤