



MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE WEEK 2 – POSSESSIONS

²¹*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

²⁴*No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.*

³³*But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

– Matthew 6:21, 24, 33 NIV

BIG IDEA

_____ lose their _____ when _____
becomes your _____

¹*And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ²In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. ⁵And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us. ⁶So we urged Titus, just as he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. ⁷But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.*

⁸*I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. ⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.*

¹⁰*And here is my judgment about what is best for you in this matter. Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. ¹¹Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according*

to your means. ¹²For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.

– 2 Corinthians 8:1-12 NIV

⁶Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

– 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 NIV

FOUR PRINCIPLES OF CHRISTLIKE GIVING

1. _____ – Is your giving _____? Are you a _____ giver?
2. _____ – Do you _____ to give more?
3. _____ – Does your giving drive you to _____ God?
_____ **breeds** _____
4. _____ – Are you a person who finds _____, _____, and _____ through giving?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Why are so many people controlled by what they have...or don't have?
2. Why is it important to be a faithful giver?
3. What thoughts do you have when hear the word generous?
4. How did Jesus show His generosity towards us?
5. How can faithful, consistent giving help you develop the habit of generosity?
6. What does it mean to give sacrificially?
7. How does sacrificial giving reflect Jesus?
8. How can a person have a cheerful attitude about giving?
9. Why do you think God loves when we give cheerfully?
10. How does Christlike giving help us overcome the kingdom of possessions?
11. If you are not currently giving, what is the best way for you to take your first step?