



## SDG Discussion Guide

### 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

May 17, 2020

#### Guideline:

Before you begin your discussion and reading of Scripture, pray, and ask God to enlighten you, to show you where he has been at work and present in your previous days through the pandemic situation and people. Pause in your prayer and listen. Then, ask Him to illuminate your discussion and reading. Notice, what may God be bringing to your group for discussion?

#### For starters:

What's one personal highlight or memorable moment you can share from the past week?

With what do you enjoy being generous? Your money? Time? Talent? Certain actions? In what way do you want to be more generous?

Next, as you can in your group, read aloud and slowly **2 Corinthians 8:1-15**.

Please see the following questions that may assist you in your discussion.

1. What do you learn from the Macedonians from their giving? In light of the struggles in Corinth, why would Paul draw their attention to the Macedonian example? What would this test of generosity reveal?
2. Paul refrains from using the word "money." Instead he speaks of "sharing" (v 4), "service" (v 4), "grace" (vv 6-7) and "gift" (v 12). What insights do these words give us into the nature of giving?
3. What principles about giving do you observe?
4. What from Jesus' example (v 9) prompts you to be generous with your money, time, and energy? What inhibits you?
5. What is the primary goal that governs Paul's appeal for gifts (vv 10-12)?
6. How can the equality principle (vv 13-15) help you decide what cause needs your immediate attention?
7. What does this principle say about getting your own needs met?

#### Prayer:

Once again, spend plenty of time to gather the reflections and insights that have come from your study, and turn them into a time of seeking Him for the essential needs of others.

\*The discussion questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).