LIFE GROUP PARTICIPANTS GUIDE – NOVEMBER 15, 2026

The Practice of Generosity

2 Corinthians 8:10-15

Part 1: Opening Questions

1. Think about a time when you had every intention of following through on something important but stalled before finishing. What eventually moved you forward, or what kept you from finishing?

Part 2: Study Questions (Engaging the Text)

SECTION A: FAITHFULNESS FINISHES WHAT WILLINGNESS BEGINS (VV. 10–12)

2. The sermon noted that Paul's imperative in the chapter is "finish the work." Why do you think Paul puts so much weight on completion rather than simply on the act of beginning?

3. Compare 1 Chronicles 29:10-17 with verse 12, where Paul says that giving is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have. How does this reframe the way you think about your own capacity to be generous?

4. In verse 13, Paul anticipates the objection that giving generously would burden the Corinthians while easing others. How does Paul's response shape our own generosity?

SECTION B: GENEROSITY SHARES WHAT GOD SUPPLIES (vv. 13–15)

5. The manna story from Exodus 16 is at the heart of verse 15. How does returning to that story challenge the way we tend to think about financial security?

6. Read 1 Chronicles 29:6-9. What does the freewill offerings given by the people reveal about their relationship with God?

7. In verse 12, Paul explains that a gift is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what they do not have. Compare this with Mark 12:41-44. How does this passage challenge the assumption that we need more money, time, or resources before we can be generous?

Part 3: Application Questions

8. The sermon closed with this distinction: when we believe everything ultimately belongs to us, generosity feels like loss. When we believe everything comes from God, generosity becomes participation in His provision. Which of those two postures more honestly describes where you are right now?

9. The sermon noted that, "Sometimes caution is wisdom. But sometimes caution becomes a respectable cover for a closed hand." How do you personally discern the difference between wise caution and a closed hand dressed up as caution?

Closing Prayer Guide

Faithful God, You call Your people not only to desire generosity but to practice it with willingness and integrity. I confess that good intentions often fade and that I sometimes delay obedience when You invite me to act contrary to the world. Thank You for providing all I need so that I may steward Your gifts with faithfulness and joy. Strengthen my resolve to follow through on what You have placed on my heart, trusting that You supply both the desire and the ability to obey. Make my giving a reflection of Your fairness, kindness, and care for Your people.