

CITY LG – November 16 - 17, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Willingly (God Loves a Cheerful Giver) • 2 Corinthians 9:7

Today's Bottom Line: Give with a good attitude.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Every good and perfect gift is from God.* James 1:17a (NIV)

Monthly Virtue: Generosity—Making someone's day by giving something away

WORSHIP

Chasing Me

We are Royals

SLIDE: Theme

Hi, friends! How's everybody feeling today? If you're feeling good, give me a thumbs-up. Now give a friend a high five. (Pause for response.) All right, awesome! I'm so glad you are here today as we talk about generosity.

SLIDE: virtue

Remember, generosity is about **making someone's day by giving something away**.

SLIDE: Theme

Before we go any farther, I have a question for you to talk about. Circle up with your small group and discuss this question: **When have you given a gift to someone and how did it make you feel?** Go ahead and discuss this in your group...

Large group leader should walk around listening to groups as they answer this. Give them a couple of minutes.

Well, the book of 2 Corinthians in the Bible is one of 21 letters in the New Testament. The leaders of the early church wanted to teach Jesus-followers what was true, and what it meant to follow Jesus. And since they couldn't pick up the phone and call or send an email, they communicated in one of the only ways they could. They wrote letters.

The apostle Paul sent several of these letters to the Jesus-followers in the church at Corinth. Paul had visited Corinth to teach people about Jesus, and there had been some problems as the people there learned and grew. A lot of the people had turned from their not-so-good ways and were following Jesus. Let's look at one of the letters Paul wrote to the Jesus-followers in Corinth. We call this letter 2 Corinthians.

In the part of 2nd Corinthians, we are going to focus on today, Paul had a LOT to say about giving. Let's check it out...

VIDEO: Bible Story

It's important to be generous because our giving can go so much farther than we know. With God's help, we can learn to be cheerful givers—because we WANT to, not because we HAVE to.

This is what we need to remember today: Stand up and check out our bottom line.

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

Give with a good attitude.

SLIDE: Theme

If we're honest, sometimes we don't feel like being generous. But God can help us to become more and more like Jesus, who acted with generosity to everyone. Jesus gave us the very best example of generosity with the way He gave love to everyone He met!

When you're tempted to hold onto what you have or to complain about giving, remember that every single thing you have is already a gift from God. Everything we have—our time, our money, our stuff—it all actually belongs to God.

So, what could it look like for you to **give with a good attitude**? Maybe if you get an allowance, you could set aside some of that money so you're ready to be generous toward someone else. Maybe you could give up your time to help your brother or sister clean up their room—not because someone told you to, but because you want to! Or maybe you could ask your parent or grandparent or other adult to bake some cookies with you, just to share with someone else!

Let's pray and ask God to help us give.

Dear God, thank You for being so incredibly generous to us. Thank You for loving us and for providing what we need. Each of us in this room can think of times when someone has given generously to us—not because they had to, but because they wanted to. Please give us the right attitude so we can give cheerfully. Help us to follow Your example and to be generous with our time and our stuff so we can help the people around us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

CHECK THE TIME: There should be 20-25 minutes for small group. If LG is running late, skip the next part and just have kids bring up their money.

OFFERING:

Do you guys remember where our offering is going to? Hope Mobility! They provide wheelchairs to people in Africa who need them. We are raising money for pediatric wheelchairs. Getting a wheelchair can change a child's life! It means they can become mobile and do things they could never have done before, like go to school. Here is a video that some kids from Kenya made after being given wheelchairs from Hope Mobility.

VIDEO: Psalm 139

Our focus will be raising money for wheelchairs for kids. Each pediatric wheelchair costs \$275 and we will see how many wheelchairs we can purchase to help kids in Africa!

SLIDE: Theme