

FELLOWSHIP NOTES ~ Sunday, January 24th, 2021



2 Corinthians 9:6-15

For Next Sunday:

Read Section 2 in the companion book, Take God At His Word (available at The Welcome Center)

For Further Study – In Fellowship Café

The Treasure Principle – Randy Alcorn

Master Your Money – Ron Blue

Smart Money Smart Kids – Dave Ramsey

Managing God's Money – Randy Alcorn

Upcoming:

“Freed-Up Financial Living Class” – Wednesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m., February 17th – March 31st

Cost: \$10 (for the workbook); Sign up on your Connection Card or call the church office.

God's Promises to the Generous:

1. Generous givers will receive generous _____ from God (9:6).
2. Generous givers will receive more of _____ (9:7)
3. Generous givers will receive _____ in return (9:8-11a).



225 North Ave., Norwalk, IA. ~ www.fellowshipnorwalk.org

Growth Groups Study Guide

Getting Started

Group Discussion: Share a moment when you experienced or were impressed with the truth of Jesus' words, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

Review the notes from the Sunday morning message about six promises of God to the generous...

- Which one(s) were you most surprised to learn about and why?
- Which one(s) have you already experienced in your life through your generosity?
- Which one(s) do you most identify with and desire to receive from God?

Digging Deeper

Last week we read chapter 1 in the companion book to this study, Take God at His Word. As you look back over the chapter...

1. What was the point of the opening story (pg. 9-10)?
2. On page 10 we're told that to experience God's abundance in our lives, we have to do two things:
 - 1.) See God as the source of every blessing. Read Philippians 4:19.
What does this truth and the Scripture mean to you?

Take a moment and list the top 5 blessings in your life?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Now share these with your group.

- 2.) Take God at His Word because we trust that His Word is true. What does this mean to you?
3. On page 13 it says that a principle on generosity expressed in the Bible is, to trust God to reward true obedience. How is this reflected in the following Scriptures?
Ephesians 6:1-3 _____
Romans 8:28 _____
Hebrews 5:9 _____

"Unfortunately, many Christians act as if this principle applies in all areas of life except in their finances." What is the reason? _____ (Not sure? See bottom of page 13).

How does the enemy use this weapon in our lives to incite us to not trust God, especially in the area of our finances? Why is this such a potent weapon?

"When God asks us to trust Him with our finances, He also promises to reward us. He doesn't always spell out the exact ways He will repay our trust, but He does promise us a rich reward so we can be generous to His purposes on every occasion." (Top of pg. 14)

Read 2 Corinthians 9:11. Now say this verse out loud together since it is our memory verse for this week.

4. What does our memory verse say is one primary reason why God blesses us (fill in the blank)? *"You will be enriched in every way so that..."* _____.

God promises that if we are generous, He will give us the financial capacity to continue to be generous toward God and others. In other words, He wants us, and He enables us to share. This means our material and financial blessings are not just for our own benefit. Rather, they're for the benefit of others, IF we will use them how God wants us to use them. If we don't, if we refuse to live and give generously to God and others, what do you think God will do as a result?

5. The author shares a story that illustrates God's ability to bless us when we are generous to him. Read the story that begins in the middle of page 18 and ends at the top of page 20.

Have you ever experienced something like this in your life? If so, share with your group.

6. What chance do you think exists that God would renege on *any* of the promises He's made in the Bible, circle one: 50% 35% 10% 0%
Why did you circle what you did? Can you back that up with Scripture?

Wrapping Up

"God's Word calls us to have faith in His promises. If we see Him as the Source of our blessings, we won't be afraid of running out of the physical resources we need. God's response to money problems is the same as His answer to health concerns, family concerns, or any difficult circumstances. God wants us to trust HIM, not our job or our bank balance. Jesus said, 'For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.' Since God wants our hearts, He works through our finances. When we learn to trust Him with our money, we will learn to trust Him with anything – even our very lives." (Matthew 6:33)."