

Life Group Notes 24th Oct

2 Cor 8

In the chapter, Paul encourages the Corinthians to 'excel in this gift of grace' (giving), just as the Macedonians have done

- Why was their giving so surprising to Paul?
 - They were extremely poor
 - The money given benefitted a different church
 - They begged him for the privilege to give
 - They gave beyond their means
- Have these reasons ever been a barrier to your giving? (IE – our bank balance too low, or money going to outside CCH, or seen as an obligation, or I already give enough)
- Why does Paul list 'giving themselves first to the Lord' as an explanation for their generosity?
- Read the story of the alabaster jar – see Judas's comments. How should we view our gifts to Jesus' in light of this?
- Paul refers to the exodus story in verse 15. Read it out. What principles are there here about giving? There are many?
- Do we make time to prayerfully reflect on how much we give to the church?

Spend time in prayer for any issues that have come up – as was mentioned on Sunday – it can be thorny!