

## **Datchet Baptist Church- Money Study 4: Giving**

Adapted from 'For Love or Money' Dudley R & Grayson P Christian Aid, 2000

**For a quick study, follow the items with headings in bold type**

### **Aim**

To consider if our giving really is good news.

### **You will need...**

A Bible, paper & pen.

### **Starter**

Recall a few gifts you have made or received.

- What motivates people to make gifts? Make a note of what you think are 'good' and 'suspect' reasons for giving.

### **Prayer**

**Lord Jesus Christ, as we consider giving, help us to acknowledge the gifts we need to receive from you, and the gifts you call us to make.**

### **Pause for thought**

At the time Paul wrote the passage we are looking at in 2 Corinthians, Jerusalem and the region were recovering from failed harvests and famine. Jewish converts to Christianity suffered more than others because they were often left without money or food after leaving homes, families and jobs to escape persecution. This was not the first time that Paul wrote to Christians in Corinth to remind them that Christians in Jerusalem needed help, and to tell of the desperate needs of the Macedonian Christians who were also badly affected by famine and civil war.

Before reading the passage think through what Paul might have said about giving, and make a note of things you might have said.

### **Read [2 Corinthians 8:1-15](#)**

- Did Paul say anything about giving that you could add to your notes above?

**• In a radical statement that may have become over-familiar to us, Paul says that those who give generously receive more than they give – in what ways is that true? You might like to look at 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 for more of Paul's thoughts on giving.**

**• If we took action based on Paul's instructions in this passage, would it require dramatic changes in our lifestyles? What might stop us making those changes?**

### **During the week**

In the light of this study, prayerfully consider the following:

Repair church windows or help Tearfund's HIV campaign? The practical business of Christian giving raises difficult issues. How should we decide how much to give and to whom?