Let's Worship God

23rd-28th November 2026
2 Corinthians





Monday - 2 Corinthians 8:1-7 - Charity: Abounding in Charity

Charity is a grace of God. In verse 1 Paul is holding up the Macedonian churches as an example of those who are putting their faith into practice by the exercise of one of the graces God gives - that of charity towards the church. It is a mark of godliness. Being merciful comes from being united to God. It is the fruit of that new life that we have in Jesus Christ. In the case of the church in Macedonia, Paul points out the grace of God that was at work in them. God bestowed on them His love, His mercy, He renewed in them His Spirit, so that they in turn, out of love for God and for the church, poured out this grace that the Lord had given to them and raised an offering for fellow Christians in need. Paul wanted the Corinthians to follow the example of the Macedonians.

Charity is an act of faith. It requires that you trust in God. It does not require your own prosperity. You don't have to have lots of money to give money. The Macedonian church didn't have money. They were in the midst of their own great trial of affliction and deep poverty. But they trusted God. It comes through in the way they dealt with their money. Even though they didn't have much, out of their poverty, they gave to those who were suffering, those who had more need than they had. That's exactly what charity is - this act of faith. The Macedonians had learned that God is the one who gives us this day our daily bread. They understood that in God's providence, through their gifts, they could provide for someone else who was in need. So what about tomorrow? God will provide. Now it's wise and proper to plan for the future, and it's wise and proper for us to provide for our families. But it's tempting for us to look at charity as the thing that we will do when we reach a point of personal prosperity, when we've taken care of everything else. The Macedonians didn't wait when they found out that the church in Jerusalem was experiencing famine and persecution. It says that they freely gave according to their ability and beyond their ability. They sacrificed their own personal comforts, they sacrificed even some of the necessities for the sake of the work of Christ. This has to be the grace of God. Worldly wisdom dictates to look out for yourself first. God granted the Macedonians the faith that they would trust Him to provide for them while they in turn provided for this pressing need. As they saw the work of the kingdom, and they saw themselves as part of that kingdom, they could express their trust in the Lord by giving when that need arose.

Question

1. How is charity an act of faith?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would have a greater faith in God to provide for us.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9

Praise: Psalm 72:8-12 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Tuesday - 2 Corinthians 8:1-7 - Charity: Abounding in Charity (Part Two)

Charity is willing. The charity that the Macedonians brought was freely given. There was no compulsion on them to give to God. There was no compulsion on them to address this specific need. What the Macedonians gave, they gave willingly. Paul says, they implored him with much urgency to receive their gift. They wouldn't be denied this opportunity to give. They wouldn't be denied this opportunity to serve. The world around us teaches us to clutch on to what we have, to cling to those possessions we have as if they were ours and ours alone. Charity flows out of an understanding that God has richly provided. And even if I'm in need, that provision is still there. And with cheer, with happiness, with willingness, I may give to those in need.

Charity is an act of fellowship. The Macedonian church understood how charity reflects that we are indeed a body of believers. What Paul says in his first letter to the Corinthians is that that body is related in such a way that it can't do without members of the body. The Macedonians were putting this into practice in an amazing way. They understood how they were part of that body of Christ in the largest sense. Not just in their own local congregation, but in the church, the kingdom work worldwide. They heard of the need in Jerusalem, and they saw brothers and sisters in Christ that were in need. And as a member of the body was hurting, they hurt as well and came along to help. They understood how their trust in Christ knit them together with other believers, both in the giving and in the receiving of help. The world teaches that when you have a need, just pull yourself up by your own bootstraps. What Christ teaches us is a charity that binds us together in our united profession of faith.

Charity is an act of worship. Paul says they first gave themselves to the Lord and then to us by the will of God. Charity can see how God has worked such a grace in us that we in turn would then offer to Him our very selves. Out of devotion to God, the Macedonians surrendered themselves to the Lord. They worshipped God. They gave themselves first and foremost to the Lord. And then, by God's will, after having sought his face, they offered charity to the church at large.

Question

1. How is charity an act of fellowship?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would show charity like the Macedonians.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9

Praise: Psalm 72:13-16 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Wednesday - 2 Corinthians 8:8-9 - Charity: Though Rich He Became Poor
The fruit of our faith will lead us necessarily to practice charity. It has no need of being commanded. God has made you as Christians to bear fruit. So, Paul says to the Corinthians, I'm not commanding this, this is part of the Christian faith.

Charity must be motivated by love. We are united together, and just like you might rise up in defense of your brother or sister when they're in trouble, so too is the body of Christ. We rise up in defense of those who are hurting, those who are in need. As a church, as brothers and sisters in Christ, the love that we have for each other leads us to be concerned when one is hurting, or one is in need. Love is that decision, that action to be connected, to reach into that situation, to reach in with an arm and a shoulder to cry on, with hands to help out, with finances when those are necessary - because we love.

Charity is also motivated by what Christ has done for us. Paul has already held up the Macedonians as an example of charity, and now he turns to the best example of all, that of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ set aside riches for your sake. Jesus Christ set aside the fellowship that He had with the Father. He set aside the glories of heaven itself. And He became man. And not just any man, but Philippians says a man born in a low condition. Paul says he was made under the law, the lawgiver coming to obey. And he underwent all of the trials of this life - all of the trials that you and I face. It didn't stop there. Jesus Christ submitted Himself to die on the cross in our place. The Son of God, who knew no sin, took your sin on Himself. Why did he humble himself? Why did he become poor? That you, through His poverty, might become rich. For your sakes He became poor. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, sacrificed Himself for you. You know what Christ has done for you. So, you too should be rich in grace towards those around you. You too should follow this example of Jesus Christ in being motivated by love to practice Christian charity.

Question
1. What must motivate our charity?

Prayer Points
1. Pray that we would think more about what Christ has done for us.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse
For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9

Praise: Psalm 55:12-18- See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Thursday - 2 Corinthians 8:10-15 - Charity: Finish What You Start

This is a passage that leads us to see that God prompts us to complete what we have begun. God prompts us to see the good that can be done, to see the pain that is around us, and not only have motivations of love or good intentions to help, but to actually follow through with those good intentions and to act in a way that shows compassion.Many people, many Christians, have good intentions to help those around them. We may even begin by starting to help someone, and not follow through. In this passage Paul exhorts the Corinthians, and the church of every age, that charity is more than just good intentions. Charity is an act of trust in God that will lead us to finish what we began.

Paul teaches us to finish what you start. The Corinthians had been initially eager to help the Jerusalem church. But now it's at least a year later, and Paul naturally wonders about that initial commitment. He encourages the Corinthians to follow through on it. Paul says here that this is not a commandment, that this is not a matter of compulsion. The charity that the Corinthians were offering was something that they had freely determined to give. As there was readiness, now there must be completion of it. A willing heart and a willing mind must be worked out with faithful hands. Finish what you started. Paul has already said that Christ is our example. Jesus Christ finished what He started. And even though the finishing of what He started cost Him His life, He saw that promise all the way through to the very end. We become Christ-like as we pay our vows, as we follow through and keep our word, as we commit to serve, as we commit in charity to help. We are like Christ when we finish what we start.

Question

1. How is Christ an example of finishing what you start?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would follow through in what we say we will do.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9

Praise: Psalm 9:1-5 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Friday - 2 Corinthians 8:10-15 - Charity: Finish What You Start (Part Two)

We finish what we start because we trust in God. Trusting in God frees us from over-commitment. It seems that the Corinthians had come to look down on what they offered as though it were insignificant. Then because of that, they apparently committed to giving more than they had. Paul says that's not necessary. Charity isn't accepted by God based on the amount, or a specific time sacrifice, or a certain giftedness. It's accepted if it comes from a willing heart. Furthermore, Paul says that God will accept the act or the offering based on what one has. Not what he doesn't have. In other words, God is not interested in you pledging beyond your ability. Since we trust in God, we are freed from an attitude of being accepted because of our stuff. We are freed from the temptation of over-commitment, trying to give what we don't have.

Trusting in God frees us from unfounded fears. Paul doesn't intend that the Corinthians should make themselves poor and destitute so that the Jerusalem church could live at ease. God doesn't require a vow of poverty from you. You don't become poor to make someone else rich. Instead, out of the abundance that God has given you, as Paul says in verse 14, you may supply what is lacking in others. If there comes a time when you lack, then out of the abundance of the church, there is an opportunity for your lack to be supplied. Since we trust in God, we are freed from the control that stuff has on our lives. We're freed from the fear of losing our stuff, our bank accounts. We're freed to help relieve those who are suffering.

In the wilderness the Israelites were instructed to go out every day and to gather enough manna for their household for that day. If they gathered more than they would need that day, when they opened their pots the next morning, it was full of worms. God was showing them that their existence depended on God and on God alone. Paul quotes this passage to prove the very same thing in our acts of charity. If my trust has become my money, my manna, then it's become a worthless thing. If I've hoarded for tomorrow, and I've left the needs of those around me unanswered, then I've treated my money like this manna.

Since we trust in God, we commit to help with a serious purpose, understanding what it is that we are committing to do. And then, trusting God, we follow through and finish what we start.

Question

1. What does trusting in God help us do?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would trust in God with the money He has given us.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9

Praise: Psalm 9:6-10- See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Saturday - 2 Corinthians 8:16-24 - Charity: Above Reproach

Paul now sends three missionaries to help collect and administer the charitable offering that the Corinthians were to take up. And from this passage we learn that Christian charity must be carried out so as to be above reproach.

Paul says that Titus would be well known to the Corinthian church. And Titus shows a willingness to be involved. In Christian ministry, that willingness to serve is a valuable characteristic. It shows a vulnerability to cross the road like the Good Samaritan did, and to help out one in need. A willingness to trust in the Lord and a willingness to serve in a mercy ministry speaks to a ministry that is above reproach.

Paul recommends two other missionaries. We're not sure who they are, but they are men of good reputation. The first man Paul describes is well known to the wider church. They had reason to be confident that he would administer the gift in a wise way. He has a maturity that knows and is exercising the Christian gifts in many different ways already. Maturity understands the temptations that Satan will bring, knows that the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Accountability and maturity with money is one of the ways that Christian charity should be above reproach.

Paul recommends a third man whom he identifies, not by name, but by being diligent in many things. When he hears about the Corinthians, Paul says that he was even more eager to be involved. Charity and mercy ministry is often a work that is hard, that calls for involvement in things that are not very nice, and it calls for diligence. Diligence means that the task is in your hands, and you go and you finish it. Paul could trust that the job would be done, that he would not have to chase after that one to make sure that it got done. Diligence is part of the quality of being above reproach.

Why did Paul send three missionaries? That's because of the need for accountability. If there is any temptation, a partner or a team can help keep you accountable. Accountability is part of a ministry that is above reproach.

The final characteristic of Christian charity being above reproach is to avoid even the appearance of evil. Paul wants to make sure that nothing would bring a cloud of shame over the name of Jesus Christ or over His church.

Question

1. What are characteristics of charity being above reproach?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9

Praise: Psalm 1B - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

God tells us that Ezra read from the book of the Law day after day and that the people of God were filled with joy!

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