

## FOR CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSIONS AND FAMILY BIBLE STUDY TIMES



**HOME** – (a family that wants you to grow):

Register on ChurchSuite for our Wednesday Midweek services, as well as our upcoming Sunday services starting the 13<sup>th</sup> of September. We are excited to see you there!



**UP** – (let's worship God first):

**Pray** - Open up in a prayer of gratitude. What are you thankful for? (*Thankfulness towards God, cultivates a lifestyle of worship.*)



**BACK** – (let's reflect on last week):

**Testimonies** - Any testimonies for what you are thankful for? How did last week's lesson impact your life? Have you applied it in your life or shared it with someone else last week? (*Testimonies builds our faith and accountability cultivates a lifestyle of obedience.*)



**IN** – (together discover new truths):

**Discover** – What new truths can we learn from the following verses? (*Word based convictions, cultivates a lifestyle of truth and faith.*)

Ask someone in the group to read **2 Corinthians 9:6-13**. Maybe ask someone else to read it again in a different translation before you proceed.

1. The nature of the Seed and the Sower.

**2 Corinthians 9:6-7.** *The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

- The Bible makes quite a few mentions about this principle of sowing and reaping. Every time it does, the seed is defined as something else. (e.g. Proverbs 22:8 and Gal 6:7). In this scripture the seed is defined as money. Financial generosity.
- According to this scripture, how is the sower defined?
- Does this definition accurately describe your giving? If not, why?
- The posture of the sower – why should we give?
  - Do you give in the hope of receiving back materially or financially?

- This form of giving is actually not what this scripture refers to, but rather a form of investment.
- Do you give with the hope of winning God's favour?
  - This is also not what this scripture defines as generosity, it is rather a form of manipulation that tries to buy from God that which cannot be bought.
- Do you give because you desire a harvest of righteousness that would glorify God, edify the church and evangelize the world?
  - Now we are being generous as according to the scripture. We have now become fellow workers of God in Christ.

## 2. The ability to sow or be generous.

- **2 Corinthians 9:8-11a.** *And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way,*

- Who enables us to be generous?
- What does God do to enable us to be generous?
- According to this scripture what should be the extent of our generosity?
- What is the end goal with our generosity?

## 3. The nature of the harvest.

- **2 Corinthians 9:11b-13.** *which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God. By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others,*
- According to this scripture, describe the different ways our generosity could have an impact.



**OUT** – (let's apply what we have just learned):

**Application** – Reflecting on today's scripture discoveries, what convicts you? What do you feel the Holy Spirit is asking you to do?

Take some time and commit to allow these truths to transform you. End off praying for lost people.

We can see through these scripture discoveries that serving is part of who we are as followers of Jesus. We want to encourage you to look for opportunities to serve someone else this week. It might just open up a door to share the Gospel with them.