

## Small Group Material

### Giving to enable worship: Exodus 25.1-9

**Welcome** With what are you most generous? Your money? Time? Talents? Possessions? With what are you most stingy?

#### Worship

Say together Psalm 100 - words below

Use this for praise and worship.

Listen to Jesus Christ, I think upon your sacrifice - then sing it through.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebFji3n0cCA>

**Word** Read Exodus 25.1-9

v1-7. Why did God want them to collect these things?

v8-9 Where does God dwell now? What changed?

*For discussion.* Why does God need such riches? Will their offerings secure God's relationship?

Read 2 Cor 8.1-15

*Leader's Note* Look up 1 Cor 16.1-4 (written about a year earlier) and Romans 15.25-27 (written either during or shortly after Paul's visit to Corinth)

v1-5 What is this collection all about? What do we learn about the Macedonians from their giving?

v6-8 In the light of the struggles in Corinth, why would Paul point out the example of the Macedonians?

v9-14 What principles about giving do you observe?

*For discussion* If you were to evaluate your love and zeal for God in the light of your cheque book or bank balance, what would it tell you?

What, from Jesus' example, v9, prompts you to be generous with your money, time and energy?

v13,15 How can the equality principle help you to decide what cause needs your immediate attention?

#### Witness

Pray for the projects we are wanting to do as a church - developing the church building as well as the Hub in town!

Shoe Box - have you sorted a shoe box? See note below.

Baptism by immersion on Nov 25th - see separate email....

Look out for one kind thing you could do for someone practically this coming week and do it. Share next week how God guided you.

**Samaritans Purse shoeboxes.** Bless a child this Christmas and you could be blessing them for life! There are wonderful stories of how a shoebox was the start of a journey of coming to Christ. Here's a link to some.

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/article/god-uses-operation-christmas-child-to-change-a-disabled-boys-life-in-mongolia/>

Pack a box as a Small Group - or even more simply, you can do it on line (scroll to the bottom of this link to do that)

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/pack-a-shoe-box/>

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
Worship the Lord with gladness;  
    come before him with joyful songs.  
Know that the Lord is God.  
    It is he who made us, and we are his;  
    we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.  
Enter his gates with thanksgiving  
    and his courts with praise;  
    give thanks to him and praise his name.  
For the Lord is good and his love endures  
forever;  
    his faithfulness continues through all  
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