

Weekly Bible Reading - October 2019

//Oct 6// - Luke 16:1-15

The understanding for this parable comes when we acknowledge that we are the unrighteous servant. The unrighteous servant owns nothing. He is dependent on the master for a place to live and for food to eat. Are we any different?

- vs 9 Use the earthly resources which are not yours, but belong to the master, to benefit others and make friends. Who are the friends?
- vs 11-12 We have a comparison of worldly wealth versus the true riches of Heaven. We also have discussion about handling riches that belong to someone else before we are given something that is ours. How do you handle the material possessions that God has placed in your care?
- vs 13 You and I cannot serve both God and money. Only one can be the most important in your life. Which is it for you? The level of generosity in your life is a measure of which is most important to you.
- vs 14-15 Those things the world honors - fame, fortune, prestige, power - are all detestable to God.

//Oct 13// - Giving Generous Gifts - II Corinthians 8:1-24

- vs 2 - Generosity flows from abundant joy, not how little or how much we have to give. We often ascribe generosity as large gifts, yet Paul says the Macedonians were generous even though they were poor.
- vs 3 - They gave more than they could afford. Have you ever given beyond your ability.
- vs 4 - Have you ever **begged** to be able to give more or do others have to beg you to give.
- vs 7 - Paul wants us to excel in the grace of giving. Are you a generous person who excels in the grace of giving?

//Oct 20// - How Do You Sow? - II Corinthians 9:1-15

This passage is a continuation of the discussion from chapter 8 to help collect funds for the church in Jerusalem. In chapter 8, Paul praised the Macedonians for giving out of their poverty. In chapter 9, he focuses on the willingness of the church in Corinth to give support.

- vs 1-4 - The church in Corinth planned how much they wanted to give. Paul reminds them of their commitment and wants to make sure they follow through.
- vs 5 & 7 - Our gifts need to be given willingly. Efforts to guilt people to give are not in line with God's will. God loves a cheerful giver.
- vs 6 - We have the choice to sow a few seeds or we can plant a generous crop. Do you aim to plant sparingly or do you sow generously? The real key is to understand it is in our hands. We have the teachings, and we have the examples-the choice is ours.
- vs 8-11 - God's promise is that those who are generous will always have resources to continue to be generous. Generous people are conduits for God to accomplish His purpose.

//Oct 27// - Passages About Giving & Generosity

This week we have a group of passages that address giving and generosity. Are you willing to trust God with your money/finances and become a generous giver?

- Proverbs 11:24 & 25
- Proverbs 22:9
- Proverbs 21:13
- Proverbs 28:27
- Malachi 3:8-12
- Luke 6:37 & 38
- I Timothy 6:17-19
- Acts 20:35
- Luke 12:33

The need is great, and God is calling us to act.

