

Dollars & Sense—Attitude
Study Questions
2 Corinthians 9:6-10, Ephesians 4:21-24

Warm-up

1) Describe one of the gifts that gave you the most joy to give, receive, or even just witness. What is so special about the giving of the gift that you decided to share it?

A little deeper

2) [2 Corinthians 9:6] In order to reap generously, one must have sown generously. Galatians 6:7 reminds us that a person reaps what they sow, while Hosea 10:12-14 gives examples of what we might sow and reap besides just money. **What can make some gifts more/less fruitful than others? Give practical examples, perhaps involving needs or gifts encountered in your own recent experience.**

3) [2 Corinthians 9:7] Like hard work, quality time, well-chosen words, or prayer, money is something you can use to have some influence toward a desired result. **What are some reasons that people give without expectation of repayment? What are some unintended side-effects that can happen when someone gives freely and cheerfully? What are some unintended side-effects that can happen when someone gives reluctantly or out of obligation?**

4) [2 Corinthians 9:8-10] God is the source of all we have available to give. **Looking at God as a generous giver, where would He most want to spread His gifts?**

Put in another way, if you were a gardener watering your garden, which would you shower the most water on...?

- a) The plants that collect all the water they can, and store it for when there's a severe drought
- b) The plants that deflect the water haphazardly all around
- c) The plants that collect only as much water as they need and channel the excess toward their neighbors

5) [Ephesians 4:21-24] **What attitudes does our culture expect us to have toward our money and our possessions? In contrast, what does a Christ-like attitude look like?**

Bringing it home

6) In what ways has God blessed you abundantly? In what ways do cheerfully give out of that abundance? In what ways could you cheerfully give that you don't currently?

7) Are there ways in which you are giving, but failing to give cheerfully and whole-heartedly? If you gave less in the area where you are reluctant, would it free you up to give more generously in other areas?