



January 21st Sermon Questions

A Generosity Community

2 Corinthians 8:16-24

Icebreaker: If you were a color, which would you be and why?

Discussion Questions: Read the scripture verses above.

1. How are you like Anthony and Kate?
2. Why do you think Paul & the Macedonian churches sent a three-man delegation to Corinth? Why would one person have been insufficient for the task?
3. The job of Titus and the two brothers is to ensure that the collection to Jerusalem happens. What do you think each of these three men contribute to the work? [Note: Eric cited Titus 1:5 to talk about Titus' role.]
4. Eric said it was “impossible to reach your potential without others.”
 - How does that make you feel?
 - How have you seen this to be true?
5. Who in your life, whether at Redeemer or somewhere else, sets the bar for being generous with their God-given gifts, talents, and abilities? How does his or her example encourage and inspire you to do likewise?
6. Titus' motivation to be generous with his gifts, talents, and abilities is a supernatural “earnest care” (v.16) for the Corinthian church. Why is love such a powerful stimulation for generosity?

7. What have been some of your favorite ways of serving others? What are some of your unique gifts and passions that could help others?
8. Author Gordon MacDonald has written, “God is the first and most generous giver.” How so? In other words, how does the Gospel - God’s great act of generosity towards us in Jesus - motivate us to be generous with our time and talent?
9. We see in this passage that the Macedonian churches are giving away their best people. How do you think that impacts their local congregation, positively or negatively? Why do you think they would be willing to do that? How would choosing to hoard people, rather than practice corporate generosity, actually be a detriment to a local church?
10. Have you never witnessed a local church be generous with its best people? How did they do this? What impact did it have on you and/or on the kingdom of God?
11. Do you believe that you have something to offer the church? Do you know what it is? Are you currently using it? Why or why not?
12. What excuses do you make for not serving (ex. circumstances, age and stage of life, etc.)? Do you think that's legitimate or just a limiting belief?
13. Are there ways you’d like to start small things with great love?