**Generous Gifts, part 1: We’re rich, praise God! Leader’s Notes**

**HOOK**

**1. Have you started your Christmas shopping yet? Is it a big stress for you?**

**2. Have you ever won a draw or lottery? What did you win? How did you feel?**

**3. What’s the most generous gift you’ve ever given or received?**

**BOOK/LOOK**

**Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-15.**

**4. What collection was Paul trying to organize?** (Read 1 Cor. 16:1-4 and Rom. 15:25-27 to help you get the context).

**5. What do we learn about the Macedonian church?** (They were experiencing trials, they were generous)

**6. Do you have to be rich to be generous?** (No, Jesus praised the poor widow as being generous in Luke 21:1-4).

**7. What key giving principle is suggested in 8:5?** (First give yourself to the Lord. God wants that more than money.)

**8. As Paul tries to motivate the Corinthian church to give finances to his Jerusalem poverty project, what key fact does he remind the church of in 8:9?** (Jesus was generous in giving to us; that should motivate us to help others.)

**9. How do we become rich through Christ’s poverty?** (We become children of God (1 John 3:1); citizens of heaven (Phil. 3:20); heirs to every spiritual blessing in Christ (Eph. 1:3); rich in faith (James 2:5); rich in joy (Luke 2:20); rich in purpose (Luke 2:29).)

**10. If Scripture says we’re rich, but we don’t feel rich, what can we do to resolve the tension?** (Remind ourselves of Scripture’s truth; ask God to reveal His truth and riches to us; the promise is for those who believe)

**TOOK**

**10. The pastoral staff wrote a letter this past week celebrating some blessings in our church in the last year. What are you most encouraged about? Does celebration or need motivate you more to give financially?**

**11. The Corinthian church excelled in faith, speech, knowledge and love. What does our church excel at?**

**12. To whom could you pass on a little unconditional love and grace this Christmas season?**

**13. Whom have you invited to the Christmas banquet? How could our home group welcome newcomers on Dec. 17th?**