

## Christ Church sermon questions 24 March 2019

### **Faith to give - 2 Corinthians 8:1-9**

Warm up question: Which requires greater faith, to give sacrificially or to pray for a miracle? Which would you rather do?

Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-9

1. Cross-reference 1 Corinthians 16:1-3. What do you think about this as a guideline for giving? What else have you been taught about giving over your Christian life?
2. Look at the four occurrences of the word 'grace'. In what ways is it used? What does it mean in these contexts? Is the definition God's Riches At Christ's Expense sufficient? In what way is giving an 'act of grace'?
3. Is the power of example greater than direct instruction? Are there implications for how we might talk about God to our family, friends, neighbours and work colleagues?
4. Look at the adjectives and adverbs that describe the Macedonians' living situation and compare them to the adjectives and adverbs that describe their giving. What do you notice? What do you learn?
5. What motivations for giving to the work of God do you see in this passage and from the sermon? Which one has the greatest impact on you?
6. What, if anything, does our level of giving or our attitude to giving say about our love or devotion to God?
7. What questions about giving do you have but are embarrassed to ask?
8. Is there anything that you need to do as a result of this passage (on your own?)