

“Thanks and Giving!”
A Personal and Small Group Experience

As I work through these powerful chapters in 2 Corinthians which are all about “from the top”, generous, sacrificial giving I am taken aback by how the role of thanksgiving is interlaced with giving. Although if you are doing these studies weekly you would have looked at this section last week I am going to lead you there again. There is so much richness here!

2 Corinthians 8:1-15 and 9:1-15

In this section of the letter Paul is encouraging the Corinthian Christians to some courageous faith-filled giving by citing the example set by the Macedonian Christians.

As you read chapter 8:1-15 what is Paul thankful for with regards to the the Macedonian churches and what is Paul “hopeful” for with regards to the Corinthian Christians?

If he were writing this to the average American Christian congregation what kinds of things do you think he would talk about?

Now read through 2 Corinthians 9:1-15

What are a couple of high points from this part of the letter?

He talks quite a lot about “thanksgiving” in this section. What has inspired this “thanksgiving”?

Think back in your life about those people who “gave” in one way or another so you could be blessed spiritually, emotionally, physically financially? Take some time to talk about those that have sacrificed for you and give specific thanks for those people in your life!

They are God’s instruments of sacrifice so you could be blessed!

An Invitation to Greatness!

“Connecting With God” Weekly Guide

This booklet is a resource to help you “Connect with God” this week. He deeply desires ongoing personal connection with you. You are that important to Him.

This Page has some scripture verses for you to meditate on each day this week. Notice the helpful hints section – these are great things to consider when personally engaging with God through His Word.

The Center Pages contain the notes and outline for the message given on Sunday. The message is also available as an audio download from www.pointofgracechurch.org

The Back Page has a study written specifically for a small group of people (or an individual) to drill down deeper into a particular aspect of the week’s theme. Small groups can review memorable points of the week’s message and then work through the study concluding with a time of prayer.

Scripture & Meditation Guide - December 5-10

Helpful Hints:

- 1) Find a quiet place along with 15-20 minutes!
- 2) Focus on God for a few moments asking His Spirit to speak to your heart and offload your heart of stifling, burdens, guilt, worry etc.!
- 3) Listen to Him by reading a section of scripture then rereading it several times, dwelling on “words and phrases” which grab your heart’s attention. As you read and reread keep asking God, “What do You want me to hear?” “Why this word at this time?” “How are You inviting me to respond? Keep talking it over with Him—chew!
- 4) Pray (and journal) everything that is on your heart and mind as you are ready!

Worship Him, Bless Him, Thank Him, Ask Him, Trust Him

Monday:	Psalm 1
Tuesday:	Psalm 103:1-5
Wednesday:	Psalm 100
Thursday:	Psalm 62
Friday:	Psalm 118:1-9
Saturday:	Proverbs 3:3-10