

LESSON 8
UNTIL IT HURTS!
2 CORINTHIANS 8:1–15



1 Finish this sentence: “I’d give anything to have . . .”

2 What would you have to sacrifice to get what you’d give anything to have?



Read 2 Corinthians 8:1–15 and the following notes:

☐ 8:2–5 ☐ 8:7, 8 ☐ 8:10–15 ☐ 8:12

3 How did the Macedonians give (8:1–5)?

4 What did the Corinthians need to do (8:8–11)?

5 How is Jesus an example of giving (8:9)?

The Macedonian Christians were sacrificial givers. They had little, but they had their priorities straight. They knew that giving was first of all a matter of obedience to God. It was a natural overflow of God's love to want to help others in need. It's easy to think that we'd give "if only we had more" or "if only it didn't cost so much to make ends meet." But God doesn't care about the amount we give. He cares only that the gift is sacrificial. The Macedonian Christians showed us that if we have anything at all, we have something to give to God.



6 How is giving a "gracious ministry" (8:7)?

7 What keeps people from giving sacrificially?

8 Why should we give sacrificially?

9 What's the difference between sacrificial giving and irresponsible giving?



10 Who has been an example of sacrificial giving to you?

11 What have you learned from others about sacrificial giving?

12 What else besides money can you offer to God as a sacrifice?

13 What guidelines should you use to govern your sacrificial giving?



14 Look at your budget and spending pattern. How can you change your spending habits to be more reflective of your commitment to Christ?

15 What is the first step in carrying out this change?

A What is the best motive for giving (8:8)? To whom or to what does this motivate you to give?

B How does God take care of those who give to him (8:13–15)? How has God taken care of you?

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