Small Group Questions

- 1. What are some reasons you've heard people give (or have given yourself) for not attending a church? Do you agree that churches are perceived as "always asking for money?" Why do you think this is?
- 2. What are some of the "causes" you are committed to? Are they worth giving your all to?
- 3. How does giving help you take part in the greatest cause in the world? Share examples.
- 4. What "miracles" have you seen happen through giving?
- 5. Go into dream mode what miracles would you like to see happen through your giving if there was no limit to the amount of money you could give?
- 6. How can and does money serve as an idol to people? To you? Be specific.
- 7. How can and does money unleash God's power in our world?
- 8. What steps is God telling you to take next in regards to giving?

Spend time as a group praying together for God's direction in this area of giving. Ask Him for wisdom and to continue increasing your faith.

"Apology Not Necessary"

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21

But just as you excel in everything...see that you also excel in this grace of giving. 2 Cor. 8:7

1. Giving Means Taking Part in the Greatest Cause in the World!

2 Corinthians 9:12-13 (J.B. Philips)

"For your giving does not end in meeting the needs of your fellow Christians. It also results in an overflowing tide of thanksgiving to God. Moreover, your very giving proves the reality of your faith, and that means that people thank God that you practice the gospel of Christ that you profess to believe in..."

2. Giving Makes Possible Some of the Greatest Miracles in the World!

Luke 8:1-3 (NIV)

After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases...These women were helping to support them out of their own means.

3. Giving Breaks the Power of One of the Greatest Idols in the World!

Matthew 6:19-21, 23-24 (Msg)

"Don't hoard treasure down here where it gets eaten by moths and corroded by rust or – worse! – stolen by burglars. Stockpile treasure in heaven, where it's safe from moth and rust and burglars. It's obvious, isn't it? The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being.

If you live squinty-eyed in greed and distrust, your body is a dank cellar. If you pull the blinds on your windows, what a dark life you will have!

You can't worship two gods at once. Loving one god, you'll end up hating the other. Adoration of one

feeds contempt for the other. You can't worship God and Money both."

So Now What?

Examine your heart

2 Corinthians 8:1-11 & 9:7-8:

- Principle 1
- Principle 2
- Principle 3
- Principle 4
- Principle 5
- o Find some help
- o Take a step of faith

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Crown Ministries http://www.crown.org/