

The logo for 'UNSTRAPPED' is displayed in a bold, green, sans-serif font. The letter 'S' is replaced by a green dollar sign. The text is set against a background of crumpled, light-colored paper.

Sermon Prep Guide

March 24, 2019

Reading God's Word

Matthew 6:19-24; 2 Corinthians 8:1-5; 9:6-8

Discussing God's Word

1. What phrase is repeated in verses 19-20? What does Jesus instruct those listening not to do? By contrast, what does He tell them to do instead?
2. We have discussed verse 21 in previous weeks. Where are our hearts, according to Jesus? What analogy does He give in verses 22-23?
3. Who does Jesus list that we cannot serve in verse 24?
4. In 2 Corinthians 8, who does Paul share about? What does he describe them doing? To whom did these people first give themselves?
5. Similar to Jesus, Paul gives two contrasts in 2 Corinthians 9:6 – what are they? How should one give?

Applying God's Word

1. What things come to mind that you have really enjoyed but moth and rust have now destroyed or someone stole?
2. Scripture tells us that we cannot serve both God and money, but how do we try to serve both?
3. How do we know that this passage isn't teaching that Christians cannot be wealthy?
4. Paul makes it clear that God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9:7). What is cheerful about giving? If we don't have joy in our hearts to give how can we create that joy?
5. What is the reasoning for God's sufficiency (look at the end verse 8)? How does knowing the character of our God encourage your heart toward generous living?

Praying The Word

- » Father, remove idolatry in our hearts and replace it with love and devotion in our service to You.
- » Challenge us, Lord, in ways that we may continue to overflow with a wealth of generosity to meet the needs of others in our families, our neighborhoods, and our workplaces.
- » Enable us through Your Spirit to cheerfully and bountifully give to others.
- » We thank You, God, for Your plentiful provision and for Your ability and sufficiency to meet our every need so that we may have an abundance for every good deed You have prepared in advance for us to walk in.