

GLADNESS AND GENEROSITY: STUDY MATERIAL (2)

Gladness and Generosity

Explore the gladness that the Macedonians had because of the abundant joy and GRACE they experienced during their suffering and trials.

2 Corinthians 8:1-8 & 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15

Try to get the group talking about what they have to be glad about, and what the Macedonians had to be glad about.

- What did the Macedonians have that equipped them to overflow with generosity?
- What did they want us to KNOW about?
- How were their lives overflowing to others?
- How did they do this?
- Do we have this gladness?
- When will people feel most loved by us?

(People will see that our love in God is genuine as it overflows to them during our trials and suffering. The Love of God draws them into it.)

When we understand the GRACE we have received at the CROSS...our hearts can't fail to respond with Gladness.

Stories showing the habit:

This is the time to allow the group, or yourself to introduce some testimonies; times when they have been so glad with what God has done for them that they have seen generosity flow out.

It has been proven by other testimonies that when individuals get together and start to spur each other on, communities are transformed. Not only are needs being met, but new fellowship and unity are being built, and people SEE JESUS at work in their lives.

Ideas for an All Age Service, or Cafe Church

Give everyone a piece of paper to write down what they are GLAD about...How they can see that God has blessed them. (i.e...Jesus, health, spouse, family, friend, creation, home, car, memories, education, clothes, food, possessions, public service people etc)

Design a handout to kick start ideas on who we can be generous to...and how...

The handout needs heading's, and space for people to write names...and ideas for action after they've watched the video (approx 3mins). <https://youtu.be/AFTBBKIX760>

You could also have a box/jar of random SURPRISE IDEAS for people to take one each week to bless someone else with.

Challenge those present to list random acts of kindness they could do, WITHOUT involving MONEY...and without being SEEN...make time to follow up with a feedback session at a later date. * Make some creative messages together to leave in strategic places.

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October 2018*

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