



God's Challenge (2 Corinthians 9:6-15; Malachi 3:7-10)
January 11, 2015 - TABLE GROUP GUIDE

Talk About

What is one lesson about money you can recall learning from your parents?

Trusting God is an interesting concept. It's different than questioning God. Sometimes, we give and then we want details or explicit explanations of exactly how that money is being used. We live in a world that drives that point. We want receipts, we want reports, we want spreadsheets, so that we can stay in control of what we say we're releasing. It's an interesting approach to generosity. But it's not new.

What things stop people from being generous with their money (other possessions, time, etc.)? Come up with as many as possible, then asterisk the ones you think are most significant.

Digging Deeper

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Read through the passage again. List all the phrases that relate to the idea of "abundance" or "increase" or "all." What clue does this give us to the central message of the passage?

What is the basic principle Paul outlines in verse 6. How would you put it in your own words?

How is God described in verses 7-11?

Paul quotes from Psalm 112. What is the righteous man like (verses 5-9)?

From these verses (2 Corinthians 9 and Psalm 112) why should a Christian resist the urge to be a stingy sower?

In verses 7-11, as well as meeting the needs of people, what other impact will the generosity of the Corinthians have? Why is this the case?

What is the connection between the gospel and the generosity of the Corinthians from these verses (see also 2 Corinthians 8:9)?

How is giving contagious?

How do generosity and financial planning and responsibility fit together (verse 7)?

How can God's promise (verse 8) enable us to be more generous?

Do you find it difficult to be generous towards people you do not know? Why/Why not?

What step can you take this week to give more generously?

Moving Forward

Considering this week's teaching and group discussion, what can your group do or pray for you?

If you would like to talk with a minister, please call (270) 765-4994 to set up an appointment or contact:

Stuart Jones stuart@fccetown.com Senior Minister
Chris Kiger chris@fccetown.com Student Minister
Jason Fox jason@fccetown.com Small Group Minister

Doug Mitchell doug@fccetown.com Connections Minister
Tim Hurd tim@fccetown.com Children's Minister
Shannon Smith Shannon@fccetown.com Assistant Children's Director



What are the purposes of a table group? To dig deeper into the Biblical principle(s) presented each Sunday morning during the FCC worship hour, to connect and share with other group members and to support one another as we strive to live out each week's teaching.

What does a table group do? A group discussion guide will be provided in the bulletin each Sunday and will be available on the FCC Facebook page by noon on Monday. The discussion guide will focus the group and challenge each participant to action.

Who establishes and makes up a table group?

1. Husband & Wife
2. Family
3. 2-5 Guys
4. 2-5 Ladies
5. 2-5 Couples

Where do they meet?

1. Kitchen table
2. Coffee table
3. Cafe table
4. Restaurant table
5. Picnic table
6. Work table
7. Round table

How often do they meet? Weekly (day and time is decided by the group)

How long should the weekly meeting last? Varies (decided by the group)

Who leads a table group? Leadership can be shared or a leader can be chosen by the group.

How long does the group stay together? The group should commit to stay together 6-8 weeks. Groups can renew their commitment to meet together for another season (6-8 weeks).

Is a table group an official FCC group? Table groups are not organized by FCC but are provided as opportunities for individuals to connect and become better followers of Jesus. FCC would like to know how this opportunity is being utilized. When your group establishes a place, time, and participants, please report to Doug Mitchell at (270) 765-4994 or doug@fccetown.com.

Can an individual be a part of more than one table group? Yes, but our goal is that every individual attending a worship service be a part of at least one table group.

What happens if the group is too big to meet around a table? No table group should have more than 10 individuals. If a group grows to have more than 10 participants, there are two options:

- 1) Multiply into separate tables (groups of less than 10). Or
- 2) Seek to establish a life group (10-20 participants). To establish a life group, contact Doug Mitchell at (270) 765-4994 or doug@fccetown.com.