

Sunday School Lesson for the Month of November 2021

Foundation for Stewardship

(2 Corinthians 8:7-9)

(Sunday, November 7, 2021)

Our society is tremendously influenced by heroes who provide models for us. For this reason, advertising firms pay enormous sums of money to movie stars, athletes, and popular singers to market certain products. Many Americans will be influenced to use products that their heroes use.

Jesus is far more than just another hero. He is the perfect model of what God's people should be. The Apostle Paul exhorted the Corinthian Christians to follow Jesus' example in their attitude toward Christian Stewardship.

Paul informed the church at Corinth that giving is in concert with other Christian virtues. He says in verse 7, ***“But just as you excel in everything, in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us – see that you also excel in this grace of giving. (NIV)”*** Because of the spiritual virtues, they possessed, Paul exhorted the Corinthians to also excel in their giving. God's Grace had produced those virtues in them, and the Apostle wanted it to flow through their giving. He reminds the Corinthian Church in verse 8, that giving is proof of love. He emphasizes the fundamental principle that giving to the church is voluntary! Freewill giving proves the sincerity of your love!

I. Jesus was Rich! (vs. 9)

When Paul refers to the wealth of Jesus in the preincarnation state, he is talking of wealth beyond description. All the attendant circumstances of being God were his. The glorious riches of being face to face with the Father are beyond our comprehension. The richest people on earth are paupers when their holdings are compared to the riches of the preincarnate Son.

(Sunday, November 14, 2021)

II. Jesus became Poor! (vs. 9)

“Though He was rich, yet He became poor,” is a very restrained way to speak of the voluntary impoverishment of Jesus. Paul says in Philippians 2:7, He “emptied Himself,” and the expression suggest that Jesus chose to surrender the riches that were attendant to His deity.

However, Jesus did more than simply renounce heavenly treasures for He divested Himself of everything on earth as He went to the cross. He gave up all possession including His very clothes, His support group and the fellowship of His followers when He gave His life at Calvary.

(Sunday, November 21, 2021)

III. His Motivation was that we might be Rich!

The reason Jesus left deity and came to earth to know total impoverishment was, He knew of our bankruptcy and wanted us to share in His wealth. When we become partakers of the Grace of Jesus Christ, we become heirs of the riches of the Father. Without Jesus as our Savior, we are absolutely and spiritually bankrupt.

If you are a disciple of Jesus Christ, you will seek to be like Him. His relationship with us is characterized by giving – a giving that is almost incomprehensible. His example of selflessness and stewardship compels us to be faithful in our own stewardship – Can you be miserly in sharing material blessings for God’s service when Jesus left Heaven for you?

Commitment to Christ brings you into special relationship with the world’s greatest giver.

Go imitate your Savior!