

## Small Group Discussion Questions

### *Spirit and Truth: Rediscovering Christian Worship*

*These questions are designed to invite group reflection on today's Bible passage and life application of the themes introduced in today's sermon.*

#### **Week 9: *The Indescribable Gift***

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

1. Recall the last time you heard a sermon about giving? What do you remember about it? How did it make you feel about giving to church in general; and your own pattern of giving in particular?
2. What is *not* the primary purpose of Christian giving? How would we give if it was?
3. When we consider giving as part of *worship*, what do we conclude that it is?
4. According to Leviticus 1-7, what was the main component of worship in the Old Testament? When God says, "I will judge the gods of Egypt" (Ex. 12:12), what specific things is He talking about? Based on their experience in Egypt, what false god might the Israelites be tempted to worship? What is one episode from Israel's history that illustrates this temptation? With this in mind, why do you think it was important for sacrifice and offering to play such a key role in Israel's worship? What were they saying about God when they gave their offerings?
5. What key component of Old Testament worship does Jesus eliminate? What key component has continued in the worship of the Christian church?
6. What income percentage were the Israelites commanded to give? Do Christians have a prescribed giving percentage?
7. What is the first thing Jesus teaches about money? What amount does Jesus expect the Rich Young Man and Levi to give up in order to follow Him? Does Jesus give Zacchaeus the same rule? What does the story of Zacchaeus illustrate about the guiding principle for Christian giving?
8. What are the two ways Paul instructs the church in Corinth to give? What is the relationship between God's love and cheerful giving?
9. According to Paul's teaching, what are the three reasons Christians give?
10. How are we blessed when we give?
11. How are others blessed by our giving?
12. What two ways is God blessed when Christians give?
13. What do you think Paul means by "the indescribable gift"?

*Pray:* For God to give you confidence that He will give you more than you need; for God to inspire your generosity and guide you in how (and how much) to give; that through your giving you will be blessed, you will be a blessing, and God will be blessed.