

BIG IDEA

If you will plan like others won't, you can live like others can't.

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

Have you ever collected an item with the intent of selling it for more later? How did it go?

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-11. What are some differences between a cheerful giver and a reluctant one?

Think about a time when you were a cheerful giver. Why were you excited to give? What stands out to you about this experience?

How can planning for generosity enable us to have a cheerful heart?

Reread 2 Corinthians 9:8. According to this passage, what is God's purpose in blessing us? Support your answer.

WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

Read Proverbs 6:6-11. Are planning and saving as instinctive to you as they are to an ant? Why or why not?

Why might the author describe poverty and scarcity as a "thief" and an "armed man"?

Think of a time when you were well-prepared (financially, academically, professionally). How did that make you feel?

What connections are you making between this passage and the big idea?

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-7. According to this passage, what were the financial priorities of the Macedonian church? How can you learn from their example?

What would it look like to plan to give beyond your ability? What could be the Kingdom impact of this kind of decision?

Reread 2 Corinthians 8:7. How is God calling you to excel in the grace of giving? How will you plan to be obedient in this area?

