

Group Discussion Guide: 1 Corinthians 16:1-4 | March 5, 2023

Open with prayer and Scripture (10 minutes).

Take a few minutes to acknowledge God's presence as you begin your group time. Ask Him to help your group have a good discussion and to help you internalize the Scriptures.

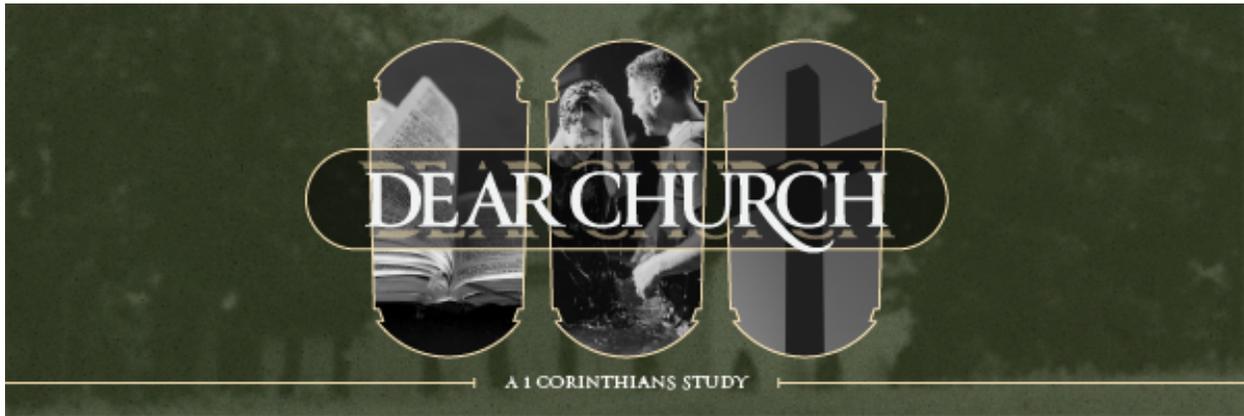
When finished with prayer, open up **1 Corinthians 16:1-4** and read it aloud for your group. Allow the Scriptures to pour over you.

When finished, take some time to debrief the sermon and what you just read.

Read Scripture and debrief the sermon (30 minutes).

As always, feel free to pick the questions that resonate most with where you believe the Lord is leading or even create some of your own. Discern where your groups is at and use these as a help, not as a checklist to work through.

- What is one cause or organization that you would empty your bank account for? Why?
- As you think about generosity and the church, what feelings and questions does that bring up for you?
- In his sermon, Dan mentioned six principles about generosity from these four verses: (1) Giving flows from a life transformed by the gospel; (2) Giving should be practiced by every Christian; (3) Giving should be proportional to your income; (4) Giving should be strategically planned and implemented; (5) Giving should be entrusted to your church; and (6) Giving should be handled with the utmost integrity. Which one of these principles resonated with you most? Why?
- In **chapter 15**, Paul writes to the Corinthians about two main topics: (1) gospel and (2) resurrection. Then, in **chapter 16** Paul begins talking about generosity. In light of this, how does God's generosity *to us* impact our generosity *to others*? Or to the church?
- What's one way that God has been generous to you throughout your life? Or even recently?
- In his sermon, Dan mentioned two reasons why we should be giving to our local church: (1) worship and (2) formation. What did he mean by these two reasons? And which of these motivating factors is closest to your own?



- Look again at **1 Corinthians 16:1-4**. What's one thing you learned about giving to the church from this passage? What are Paul's instructions about giving according to **verse 2**?
- What is the Holy Spirit's invitation to you after hearing and reflecting on this past weekend's message?

Break into gendered accountability groups (35 minutes).

- How was your week?
- What has been consuming your thoughts? What have you been feeling?
- **Read 1 John 3:16-18; Acts 20:35; Matthew 6:19-21; Malachi 3:10-12.** What do these verses say about giving? How do they challenge you to be more generous?
- In what ways have you been generous lately? In what ways have you been stingy or greedy?
- What *internal* barriers exist that keep you from giving (or giving joyfully) 10% of your income to the Lord? What *external* barriers exist that keep you from giving (or giving joyfully) 10% of your income to the Lord?
- What would becoming 1% more generous to your church look like?

Come back together as a large group and finish with intercessory prayer (10 minutes).

Like each week, finish your group session with prayer. You might designate someone in your group to write down everyone's prayer requests and then send them to the whole group for everyone to be praying about through the week.

- What is on your heart that you need prayer for?
- Who in your life needs prayer?

Have someone close your time together by interceding for the requests that were shared.