

## Different Forms of Blessings

### Word

#### Scripture Reference

2 Corinthians 9:8

#### Discussion Questions:

1. What has been the greatest blessing in your life? Share with the group.
2. We often associate blessings with material things, achievements, and awards. However, blessings come in forms other than what we usually think. Read 2 Corinthians 9:8. What does this verse tell you about God's promise to His children who give generously?
3. The Bible teaches us that blessings may come in the form of unpleasant situations (Job 1:20-21; Genesis 50:20). God in His sovereignty allows His children to experience unpleasant situations in order for them to learn how to trust and depend on Him. What unpleasantness did Job experienced in his life? How did Job react to the circumstances God allowed him to experiences? How did the unpleasant situations in Joseph's life turn into blessings? Share an experience you had when everything seemed to be falling apart, but God made it whole again. What have you learned about God when you went through that?
4. Secondly, blessings come in the form of unexpected time (Jonah 1:17). God's timing is perfect. That is a fact seen best if you view blessings through God's lenses. Unexpected time come when you go ahead of God's plan, when you disobey His will, or when you fail to trust His timing. Who was Jonah? How was God's perfect timing manifested in his life despite his disobedience? How difficult is it for you to wait on God's timing? Discuss the consequences when you become impatient and run ahead of God's timing. Share an experience when God did not answer your prayer the way you expected, but you were still blessed by His "No."
5. Third, blessings come in the form of underestimated people (Matthew 27:5; Matthew 26:33-35). There are people in the world who test your patience but God uses them to mold your character.

How did Judas and Peter, both Jesus' disciples, mess up in life? How did they deal with their mistakes? What can you learn from how they reacted when they realized that they each made a huge mistake? Share how someone has been a constant pain to you, and yet God used the situation with this person to develop your character.

6. Lastly, blessings come in the form of unknown sources (Philippians 4:19). Our God owns everything. He knows our needs even before we knew that we need it. How did God provide for Elijah when he needed food to eat? Share with the group about a time the Lord provided for something you needed in a way that surprised you. How can you claim His promises in Philippians 4:19?

### Walk

2 Corinthians 9:8 states that God is able to make all grace abound toward us. These blessings come with a purpose; it is for your abundance for every good work. Blessings will come when your heart is ready to receive it, and blessings are given so that you can in turn be a channel of blessings to others. Ask yourself this question, "The Lord has blessed me in many ways. How can I be a blessing to others?" How can you remind yourself of God's blessings the next time you feel like holding back from giving joyfully?

### Worship & Prayer

*Heavenly Father, thank You. Thank You for daily provisions, for undeserved successes, for family and friends. Thank You for heartbreak, for failure, for missed opportunities, for unwanted relationships. All of these circumstances, good and bad, You allowed because You know it's the best for me. Forgive me for the times I doubted You. Thank You for allowing me to see that You are sovereign and You are good in different circumstances, in different forms. Most of all, thank You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, my Savior, whose sacrifice on the cross is the greatest blessing You could possibly give me. I praise You, Father, in His precious name. Amen.*