Sunday Sermon Notes					

THE BIG IDEA

What is the main truth The Lord showed you in this passage?



The Importance of Giving

Philippians 4:14-17

14 Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction.

15 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.

16 For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity.

17 Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

Even though Paul learned to be content in any and every circumstance, he knew that his needs were often supplied by the Lord through the giving of other Christians. He offers here his sincere thanks for their gift to him. In doing so he points out their motive of sharing in the afflictions of Paul their spiritual mentor. Paul reviews their faithful giving in multiple difficult situations. But Paul was not the only beneficiary, he truly desires to see the reality of the spiritual fruit and rewards which will be credited to the Philippians account.

Part 1 – Well Done

Read Philippians 2: 25, 30; Philippians 4:10, 14; Galatians 6:6

- 1) How did circumstances affect the Philippians' giving/ministering to Paul, and How did they navigate these circumstances?
- 2) According to Galatians 6:6 why was the sharing (communication) of the Philippians commended as "well done"?
- 3) Why do you think "giving" to the ministry is worth it?

Part 2—Sharing With Paul

Read Philippians 4:14-16; Romans 15:26-27

- 1) What multiple things were shared (communicated) between Paul and the Philippians?
- 2) According to Romans 15 what motivated the Macedonian Gentile Christians (Philippians) to give to the poor Jewish Christians in Jerusalem?
- 3) What does your giving to the gospel ministry convey to God and others?

Part 3—Giving and Receiving

Read Philippians 4:15-16; 2 Corinthians 11:7-10

- 1) What references to the timing of the giving and receiving is mentioned here?
- 2) According to 2 Corinthians 11 what did the giving of the church at Philippi allow Paul to do?
- 3) What does your *regular* giving to the ministry enable?

Part 4—Spiritual Fruit

Read Philippians 4:17; Acts 20: 32-35

- 1) What did Paul desire for the Philippians? Explain.
- 2) How does Acts 20 show Paul's sincere desire for others? How does his willingness to work a "2nd job" support this desire?
- 3) How can you display your passion for spiritual fruit is greater than your passion for material gifts?

Don't forget the Big Idea!