

December 3 Questions

- 1) Paul now addressed the issue of raising _____ for the impoverished churches in Judea. Paul's comments here contain many principles on giving and good works. *First, the way Paul spoke to the Corinthians about completing their collection teaches us:* (1) Good works are acts of _____, and the desire to do them comes from the working of the _____ in our lives. (2) God's will is for us to _____ the good works which the Spirit has put in our hearts to do. Initial enthusiasm is not a substitute for _____ and determination. (3) An unfinished good work can call our love and sincerity into question, and it can also be an _____ to the cause of Christ. We must never allow _____ or _____ to keep us from completing these acts of grace. *Second, the reasons Paul gave for having a generous spirit teach us:* (1) The basis for giving is the _____ of Jesus Christ. (2) Being able to contribute to the needs of the saints is a _____, for when we give to them, we're really giving to Jesus. (3) Our willingness to give _____ and enthusiastically is more important than the _____ we're able to give. (4) We're free to give whatever we decide in our heart, but we should remember that "whoever sows bountifully will also _____ bountifully" (2 Cor 9:6). *Finally, the comments Paul made on material blessings teach us:* (1) God gives financial resources to us, not so we can focus on pleasing ourselves, but so that we're able to give to _____. (2) There will be times when we have an abundance and times when we're in _____. When we have an abundance, we should rejoice in the opportunity to _____ to those in need, and when we're in need, we should _____ the gifts of others who are blessed by giving to us. (3) The more we're generous toward others, the more God's _____ will abound in our lives!