Study Hints for Thinking Further
International Bible Lessons
2 Corinthians 8:1-15
Sunday, August 31, 2014
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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be the answers to the discussion questions. These indeed are "hints" a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. Why did Paul write about the Macedonians in his letter to the Corinthians?

Paul wrote to them about the Macedonians because the Macedonians were taking up a collection for the church in Jerusalem the same as the Corinthians had been asked to do, and the Macedonians were a good example for the Corinthians to follow. Also, the Macedonians were no better off financially than the Corinthians, probably poorer than the Corinthians, yet they were giving to the collection.

2. Why did the Macedonians give?

The Macedonians gave because the grace of God had been given to them and they understood the real need of the church in Jerusalem that Paul had explained to them.

3. What did the Macedonians give?

The Macedonians first gave themselves to the Lord Jesus Christ, and then to Paul and Titus. They voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means.

4. What did Paul want Titus to do when he visited the church in Corinth?

Paul wanted Titus to encourage them to complete what they had begun a year earlier and take up their collection to send to Jerusalem in time for it to be ready when Paul arrived later to get the collection from them.

5. What did Paul say Jesus Christ had done for them? Why did he remind them of what Jesus Christ had done for them?

Though Christ was rich, for their sakes He became poor so they could become rich. Paul reminded them of what Christ had done for them so they would give generously to help the needy in the church in Jerusalem.

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