

## **Scripture Reference**

2 Corinthians 8:16-9:5

*New International Version (NIV)*

### **Titus Sent to Receive the Collection**

<sup>16</sup> Thanks be to God, who put into the heart of Titus the same concern I have for you. <sup>17</sup> For Titus not only welcomed our appeal, but he is coming to you with much enthusiasm and on his own initiative. <sup>18</sup> And we are sending along with him the brother who is praised by all the churches for his service to the gospel. <sup>19</sup> What is more, he was chosen by the churches to accompany us as we carry the offering, which we administer in order to honor the Lord himself and to show our eagerness to help. <sup>20</sup> We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift. <sup>21</sup> For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man.

<sup>22</sup> In addition, we are sending with them our brother who has often proved to us in many ways that he is zealous, and now even more so because of his great confidence in you. <sup>23</sup> As for Titus, he is my partner and co-worker among you; as for our brothers, they are representatives of the churches and an honor to Christ. <sup>24</sup> Therefore show these men the proof of your love and the reason for our pride in you, so that the churches can see it.

### **2 Corinthians 9**

<sup>1</sup> There is no need for me to write to you about this service to the Lord's people. <sup>2</sup> For I know your eagerness to help, and I have been boasting about it to the Macedonians, telling them that since last year you in Achaia were ready to give; and your enthusiasm has stirred most of them to action. <sup>3</sup> But I am sending the brothers in order that our boasting about you in this matter should not prove hollow, but that you may be ready, as I said you would be. <sup>4</sup> For if any Macedonians come with me and find you unprepared, we—not to say anything about you—would be ashamed of having been so confident. <sup>5</sup> So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to visit you in advance and finish the arrangements for the generous gift you had promised. Then it will be ready as a generous gift, not as one grudgingly given.

### **Gospel Application For Discussion**

- How can you be like Titus and the brothers by enthusiastically responding to God and His leading?
- Are you acting as a good steward of the gifts God has given you (talents, financial, time, etc.)?
  - If this is an area of struggle, what are some things you can do this week to move towards a more gospel-centered view on stewardship?