

- *Either one or two on these couple of chapters on generosity. Financial giving, concern for the poor, and also a missional concern.*

Introduction

- Bit of an interlude?

Sign of Spiritual Stature (v.8:1-7)

- What a testimony of these poor Macedonians
 - we see the same today in many parts of the developing world

Privilege, not Payment (v.8:8-9, 9:7)

- God loves a cheerful giver...
 - acceptable out of what we have, not out of what we do not have (v.8:12)

Like Jesus (v.8:9)

- Left his own resources, became poor for our sake

For Others (v.8:13-15)

- Relieving need...

With Integrity (v.8:16-21)

- Administration
- Holding to promises made...

Leading to fruitfulness (v.9:6,8)

- Its not a slot machine cause, but a connected reality
 - if we are generous we are likely to be spiritually mature
 - if we are spiritually mature, we will be ready to be used, alert to opportunities, in tune with God's priorities, ready to take risks...
- *Shot through, in other words, with a missional concern*