TO HONOR THE LORD HIMSELF

2 Corinthians 8:16–9:5

Key Verse: 8:19

1. Review what Paul has already said about Titus (2:13; 7:6,13,14; 8:6). For what is Paul thankful? (8:16) What is his “appeal”? (8:17a,6) What is really motivating Titus to come to Corinth again? (8:17b) What can we learn from him?
2. What does Paul say about the other person he is sending? (8:18) What had the churches done? (19a) Read verse 19b. What does it mean to “honor the Lord himself” with an offering? To show “eagerness to help”? How would Titus and the other brother’s coming contribute to this outcome?
3. What else does Paul say about his sending these men? (20,21) If Paul himself had been solely involved in administering “this liberal gift,” what could the criticisms have been? What can we learn here from Paul?
4. Who else is Paul sending? (22) How does Paul describe Titus and the two other brothers? (23) How can we see people like this? What should the Corinthians do? (24)
5. What does Paul know about the Corinthians? (9:1,2; cf. 8:10) Why was he sending these brothers to Corinth in advance of his own coming? (9:3–5) How else does this illustrate a healthy offering that is an honor to Christ?