

# Week four

## Joyful giving

### ► Getting started

What is a partner?

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### ■ Bible reading: 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

### ▮ Discussion questions

1. Why does Paul urge the Corinthians to give?
2. How does Paul urge them to give?
3. Who is able to give?
4. What is the purpose of giving?
5. The church in Macedonia is a role model for giving. What are the differences, if any, between this church and the church in Corinth?

	Macedonia	Corinth
Economic situation		
Reasons for giving		
Eagerness to give		
Fulfilment of promises		

6. Which church is most like your own and in what ways is it similar?
7. How is your church currently involved in giving – in terms of time, facilities and money?
8. Do you agree with the following quote? Do you think attitudes have changed since Live Aid (1985) or since this report was written?

“The Live Aid Legacy defines the roles in our relationship with the developing world. We are powerful, benevolent givers; they are grateful receivers. There is no recognition that we in Britain may have something to gain from the relationship.” *Report from UK Charity VSO, 2001*

9. What might we gain from giving? What might we gain from finding out more about the lives of people in developing countries?

## ▶▶ Activity

Kitemu village in rural Uganda has no safe, clean water supply. Women and children collect muddy water from streams used by animals. Waterborne diseases are common and levels of hygiene are very low.

Your leader will introduce an activity about working in partnership with the people of Kitemu to provide clean water and hygiene education.

## † Closing prayer

But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you and we have given you only what comes from your hand. *1 Chronicles 29:14*

## ◆ This week

How do you give your time, resources and money? Write local commitments in the centre circle, national ones in the next circle and international ones in the outer circle. Would you like to make any changes?

