

Sunday School Lesson, February 22, 2026

Rev. Mark A. Seals, Instructor/Teacher

Mike Moore, Superintendent

Lesson—Values, Money, and Experiences¹

Text: Acts 1:6-8; 2 Corinthians 8:3-9

I. Aim for Change/Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, we will...

1. Explore our mission statement in consideration of Jesus' Great Commission.
2. Nurture and attitude of generosity towards others
3. Fulfill the Great Commission.

Why This Lesson Matters: We have a deep concern for living the most self-fulfilling life possible. How can we live this life in a happy and gratifying way? Acts and 1st Corinthians describe principles for stewardship and mission that prioritize heaven's gains over earthly gains.

Key Verse: *You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9).*

II. Topical Outline of the Lesson

1. Introduction
2. A Call to Mission (Acts 1:6-8)
3. The Call to Stewardship (2 Corinthians 8:3-9)

III. Historical/Biblical Background and Lesson Context

The biblical and theological context for this week's lesson illustrates the relationship between mission and stewardship. The immediate context of Acts 1:6-8 is Luke's expanded account of Jesus' ascension from Bethany. Here, Jesus prepared to depart, giving his disciples final instructions concerning God's Kingdom and directing them to remain in Jerusalem to await the coming of the Holy Spirit (see Acts 1:1-5).

In contrast, while Acts 1 centers on mission, the biblical and theological context of 2 Corinthians 8 centers on stewardship. Paul's overarching purpose in writing 2 Corinthians was to defend the authenticity of his apostleship and ministry, restore his relationship with the Corinthian church, and strengthen their

¹ Outline Content courtesy of the Sunday School Publishing Board Teacher Manual, which should be purchased at www.sspbnbc.com

faith and commitment to the gospel. In this chapter, Paul urged the Corinthian believers to honor their stewardship commitment by giving generously. Their support was especially needed to aid impoverished congregations, notably the Macedonian churches, whose sacrificial generosity was motivated by Christ's self-giving love.

IV. Prominent Character(s) in the Lesson

Jesus: Our Lord confirmed the promise of the coming of the Holy Spirit to empower the church's witness

The Disciples: for sovereignty reasons, Jesus did not answer the disciples' question about Providence.

Paul: this prolific author of biblical books, urged the Saints in Corinth to support the poor people's campaign with monetary donations.

V. Key Terms in the Lesson (KJV)

Authenticity

Power

Restore

Service

Testify

Witness

Food for thought/question for consideration: (What have we learned, Charlie Brown?) Play

The Acts and 2nd Corinthians passages emphasize and provide us an opportunity to explore these passages, reminding us of our individual and collective responsibilities to fulfill these God-given ministries and emphasizing their practical applications as the “nuts and bolts” of God's expectations for the church, Christ's body.

Closing Hymn: *Blessed be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

Sunday School Slogan: *To Sunday School to Sunday School, we all should go; we have classes for all ages, help us to grow.*