

## GETTING STARTED

Kings David gave 110 tons of gold, 260 tons of silver toward the building of the temple. The "Leaders" gave 190 tons of gold, 375 tons of silver, 675 tons of bronze, 3750 tons of iron plus stone and wood. Using today's standard, the total amount given by David and the leaders would have been in excess of \$140 billion.

- Discuss your reaction to the *attitude* and *amount* that King David, the leaders of families, the officers of the tribes of Israel, the commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, and the officials in charge of the king's work gave toward the work on the temple. (1 Chronicles 29:1-9)
- What would have motivated these people to give in such a generous way? How does your *personal giving attitude* compare with what you read about in this account?

## DISCUSSION

Read 1 Chronicles 28:1 – 29:20

- Why did God not allow David to build the temple?
- What impressed you most about David's strategy for raising the funds to build the temple?
- What is so significant about the following words in this account ... *rejoice, willing, freely, wholeheartedly, generously*?
- Share your observations on David's prayer in verses 10-19. What aspects would be useful for us to incorporate into our prayers?
- What do we learn from 29:11, 14, and 16? How does this align with Pastor Lee's recent message from Luke 16?
- What is the difference between these two questions concerning your giving?
  - *How much of my money will I give to God?*
  - *How much of God's money will I keep for myself to live on?*

For those who might say this is an Old Testament story, we don't have a temple anymore, we don't have a king, so these thoughts related to giving are not applicable to us today ... Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-15.

- Discuss what we can learn about the grace of giving (verse 7) from the Macedonian church and the example of the Lord Jesus?

## PRAYER

- Write your own prayer as you look back over the past year and reflect on the work of God and how you have given personally and how we have given as a church? What is your prayer for the coming year? In what ways would you ask God to test you?

*(Our weekly General Fund giving target is \$44,712. Average weekly giving for the first month our fiscal year (July) was \$39,965 and expenses were \$38,313.)*