

## Marinating in God's Word: 1 Corinthians 16:1-4

You've got mail! A letter sent long ago to someone else, now by the power of the Spirit has been forwarded to you, so that you may grow in Jesus Christ.

For further reflection on your own or in a small group, consider these questions:

- How did you first learn to give? Were your first giving lessons right on for what you now know about giving, or in need of some correction?
- Any new organization has to organize the various facets of its life, and the church is no different. So Paul gave this new church – now about four or five years old – some initial instruction about giving. What specific directions did Paul give about when and how much to give?
- How might we build a bridge from Paul's specific directions, given to a church with a financial system of a bygone era, to our era of varied means of income (like investments, salaries, commissions, and wages), electronic giving, and income tax breaks?
- Some churches talk about money a lot, but we tend not to do so at St. Giles. In that way we're a bit out of synch with Jesus and Paul, who frequently addressed money matters. Why is it so hard for us to talk about money and giving as a part of our discipleship? Can that difficulty be remediated?
- What have you discovered about the benefits of planned and spontaneous giving? How do you decide to whom you will give?

Next week we will focus on 1 Corinthians 1:18-31.