

The background is a complex, abstract composition. It features a dark, textured base, possibly a close-up of a surface like a book cover or a wall. Overlaid on this are numerous diagonal streaks of light in various colors, including white, yellow, orange, red, and blue. These streaks create a sense of motion and depth. A faint, grid-like pattern is also visible, intersecting with the light streaks.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 8:1–7 CSB

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that was given to the churches of Macedonia: During a severe trial brought about by affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. I can testify that, according to their ability and even beyond their ability, of their own accord, they begged us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in the ministry to the saints, and not just as we had hoped.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 8:1–7 CSB

Instead, they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us by God's will. So we urged Titus that just as he had begun, so he should also complete among you this act of grace.

Now as you excel in everything—in faith, speech, knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love for us—excel also in this act of grace.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

A Barometer of Grace

- The Grace of Giving (1-7)

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 8:2 CSB

During a severe trial brought about by affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 8:8–15 CSB

I am not saying this as a command. Rather, by means of the diligence of others, I am testing the genuineness of your love. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ: Though he was rich, for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 8:8–15 CSB

And in this matter I am giving advice because it is profitable for you, who began last year not only to do something but also to want to do it. Now also finish the task, so that just as there was an eager desire, there may also be a completion, according to what you have. For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 8:8–15 CSB

It is not that there should be relief for others and hardship for you, but it is a question of equality. At the present time your surplus is available for their need, so that their abundance may in turn meet your need, in order that there may be equality. As it is written: The person who had much did not have too much, and the person who had little did not have too little.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

A Barometer of Grace

- The Grace of Giving (1-7)
- The Example of Christ and the Equality of Giving (8-15)

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 8:9 CSB

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ: Though he was rich, for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

Philippians 2:5–8 CSB

Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus, who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited.

Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. And when he had come as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death—even to death on a cross.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

A Barometer of Grace

- The Grace of Giving (1-7)
- The Example of Christ and the Equality of Giving (8-15)

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

James 1:27 CSB

Pure and undefiled religion before God the Father is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 8:16–24 CSB

Thanks be to God, who put the same concern for you into the heart of Titus. For he welcomed our appeal and, being very diligent, went out to you by his own choice. We have sent with him the brother who is praised among all the churches for his gospel ministry. And not only that, but he was also appointed by the churches to accompany us with this gracious gift that we are administering for the glory of the Lord himself and to show our eagerness to help.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 8:16–24 CSB

We are taking this precaution so that no one will criticize us about this large sum that we are administering. Indeed, we are giving careful thought to do what is right, not only before the Lord but also before people. We have also sent with them our brother. We have often tested him in many circumstances and found him to be diligent—and now even more diligent because of his great confidence in you.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 8:16–24 CSB

As for Titus, he is my partner and coworker for you; as for our brothers, they are the messengers of the churches, the glory of Christ. Therefore, show them proof before the churches of your love and of our boasting about you.

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

A Barometer of Grace

- The Grace of Giving (1-7)
- The Example of Christ and the Equality of Giving (8-15)
- The Integrity of Giving (16-24)

IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

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IN REAL LIFE

1 & 2 CORINTHIANS