

GROWTHguide

"Giving Versus Generosity"

November 12, 2017



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

Leviticus 27:30-33, Malachi 3:6-10,
2 Corinthians 8:1-15 Mark 6:30-44,
ACTS 20:35, John 3:16

DAY 1

Read [Leviticus 27:30-33](#)

- Take time to look up the word, "tithe" either by Google search or the dictionary. What is the definition of this word?
- Why is the tithe the standard in determining what portion God desires for us to give back to Him out of the gifts He has given to us?
- If you were to make a list of everything that you currently own, what would you do if God said to give him 10%? Would you find this easy to do? Difficult? Why?
- Some say giving a tithe represents creating a priority in our lives. How does giving our "first fruits" to God reflect where we place God in our life's priorities?
- If you are not currently giving God a "tithe" (10%), what is holding you back?

DAY 2

Read [Malachi 3:6-10](#)

A robber is someone who steals something that isn't theirs and keeps for themselves. In all societies, there is a punishment or sentence given for anyone who is caught robbing another.

- In the daily verse, what do you think God means by saying people are robbing Him?

In many ways, giving to God is an outward act of faith and a demonstration of one's spiritual health. Giving is a spiritual act of worship.

- What do you experience when you give back to God?
- Write down some visible examples of how you see God's work being done through the giving of your gifts in worship.

Pastor Bob pointed out Sunday that there is only one place in the Bible where God gives his people permission to "Test" him - Malachi 3:10.

- What is the significance of God inviting His followers to test him?
- Biblically speaking, the storehouse is the local house of worship. If God calls us to joyfully give to his work through the local church, what can you do to increase your level of joy by partnering with God?

DAY 3

Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Pastor Bob spoke about the mindset of scarcity which convinces us no matter what, we just can't give back to God for fear it will take away from our own resources.

- In reading the above Scripture, what thoughts come to mind about the Church of Macedonia?
- How does this text reaffirm that even when we have nothing, there is still a joy in giving to God?

- In what ways can emulate the church of Macedonia and its people?

DAY 4

Read Mark 6:30-44; ACTS 20:35

- What is the significance of the miracle story in Mark?
- Reflect on what actually happened in order for the miracle to occur. What actions were taken? By whom

Having a childlike faith is significant in this story. It took the child to totally see what others couldn't and by his sacrifice and the giving of his food resources, great things happened.

- How can you be like the child in this story that through your giving a miracle can occur?
- Reflect on Jesus' words in ACTS 20:35. How can you live into this teaching?

DAY 5

Read John 3:16

Perhaps the most compelling reason to give back to God is that God first gave to us. God never asks us to do something God hasn't already done. In this text, John reminds us of a truth that many of us as early believers connected with: God gave and so should we.

- How do you process the meaning of this Scripture as a means of why you should also be one who has a giving heart?
- In what ways is your own sacrifice made possible for God's goodness?

DAY 6

Today is a day of reflection and prayer. Take time to think through how you will live into a new mindset of generosity. Thank God for His goodness and sacrifice and ask God to help you to find joy and excitement in partnering with him to do His work here on earth.

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