

Absurdity of Generosity

Decide in Your Heart

Tithing is only understood when you tithe (Malachi 3:7-12). Tithing – giving 10% of our income to God – is an act of obedience that unlocks truth and freedom in our lives. It allows us to know God in better and more complete ways, and it positions us to receive blessing and breakthrough from God. He actually commands us to *test* Him in tithing, because He desires to show us that He is trustworthy, and He wants our hearts in a place where He can pour out tremendous blessing and favor.

GETTING STARTED

What are some things that must be experienced to fully understand (e.g. driving, eating sushi, the Grand Canyon, etc.)? Why do you think giving, and particularly tithing, falls into this category? What is your reaction to the notion that you can financially live better on 90% than 100% when the first 10% goes to God?

GO DEEPER

1. From Matthew 23:23, what was wrong with the Pharisees tithing on the spices they were given, according to Jesus? What should the Pharisees have done, and why is that important to us?
2. According to Malachi 3:7-12, how were the Jewish people robbing God, and what was the consequence? Why does God allow us to test Him in bringing the *whole tithe into the storehouse*? How can giving financially reap breakthrough in other non-financial areas?

MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. What has been your experience with tithing? Do you agree with the concept of tithing, and what possibly makes it difficult for you? How would you rate your heart and level of trust in God (and the church) with your finances?
2. What blessing or breakthrough have you experienced from tithing or giving?

PRACTICE IT NOW

Take time as a group to pray for a new or fresh perspective on tithing and giving. Ask God to give you the right heart towards tithing, and a greater willingness to *test* Him in it. Ask Him to increase your trust in Him with your finances, and invite Him to show you what your next step is when it comes to tithing and giving.

PODCAST

As an additional source of encouragement and insight, check out our weekly podcast, Beyond Sundays, at anchor.fm/beyondsundays.