

Crossover Ministries Scriptures from 3/11/07 Sermon

“7 Laws of Increase – Part IV” Honoring God With My Giving

Giving With the Right Attitudes

- **Give Willingly**

2 Corinthians 9:12

“For if the willingness is there, your gift is acceptable according to what you have, not according to what you don't have.”

2 Corinthians 9:7a

“Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under pressure ...”

- **Give Joyfully**

2 Corinthians 9:7

“... for God loves a cheerful giver!”

- **Give Generously**

2 Corinthians 8:3-4

“They gave as much as they were able, and even **beyond their ability**. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service...”

- **Give Expectantly**

2 Corinthians 9:6

“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly; and whoever sows generously will reap generously.”

Why God Wants Me to Give

2 Corinthians 8:7

“Just as you excel in everything else... in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness... see that you also **excel in the grace of giving.**”

1. Giving Makes Me More Like God

John 3:16

God so **loved** the world that **He gave** his only Son ...”

2. Giving Draws Me Closer to God

Matthew 6:21

“Where your treasure is, there your heart is also.”

3. Giving is the Antidote to Materialism

1 Timothy 6:17-19

“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to **be generous and willing to share**. In this way they may take hold of the life that is truly Life!”

4. Giving Strengthens My Faith

Proverbs 3:5,9

"**Trust in the Lord** with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. Honor the Lord **by giving him the first part of your income**, and he will fill your barns to overflowing."

Luke 6:38

"**Give** and it will be **given** to you ... For with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you."

5. Giving is an Investment in Eternity

1 Timothy 6:18-19

"... Give happily to those in need, and always be ready to share whatever God has given you. By doing this, you will be storing up real treasure for yourselves in heaven - it is the only safe investment for eternity."

6. Giving Blesses Me in Return

Proverbs 22:19

"A generous man himself will be blessed."

Proverbs 11:25

"**A generous man will prosper**; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed."

Psalms 112:5

"Good will come to him who is generous ..."

7. Giving Makes Me Happy

Acts 20:35

(Jesus) "There is more happiness in giving than in receiving."

Why Should I Tithe? 8 Reasons from God's Word

1. Because God Commands It

Leviticus 27:30

"A tenth of all you produce is the Lord's, and it is holy."

2. Because Jesus Commended It

Matthew 23:23

"Yes, you should tithe, and you shouldn't leave the more important things undone either."

3. Tithing Demonstrates That God Has First Place in My Life

Deuteronomy 14:23

"The purpose of tithing is to teach you to always put God in first place in your life."

4. Tithing Reminds Me That Everything Was Given to Me By God!

Deuteronomy 8:18

"Always remember that it is the Lord your God who gives you the ability to produce wealth."

5. Tithing Expresses My Gratitude to God for the Blessing Over My Life

Psalm 116:12

"How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me?"

Deuteronomy 16:17

"Each of you should bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you."

6. God Says That Refusing to Tithe is Stealing From Him

Malachi 3:8-10

"God says 'Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing me!' But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' God says 'In tithes and offerings ... Bring your **whole** tithe to My house.'"

7. Tithing Gives God a Chance to Prove He Exists and Wants to Bless You!

Malachi 3:10

"Bring your whole tithe to My storehouse. **Test me in this**" says the Lord, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out **so much blessing** that you won't have room enough for it! I will prevent pests from devouring your crops and the vines in your fields will be protected from plagues."

8. Tithing Proves That I Really Love God

John 14:15

(Jesus) "If you really love me, do what I command."

2 Corinthians 8:7b-8

"... I want you to be leaders also in the spirit of cheerful giving ... This is one way to prove that your love is real, that it goes beyond mere words."

What Should I Tithe?

The First Part of What I Earn, Not the Leftovers

Proverbs 3:9-10

"Honor the Lord by giving him the **first part** of all your income."

Where Should I Give My Tithe?

Where I Worship!

Malachi 3:10

"Bring your **whole** tithe to My Storehouse (Temple) ..."

Give

Luke 6:38 (NLT)

38 If you give, you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use in giving--large or small--it will be used to measure what is given back to you."

2 Corinthians 9:16-15 (Amplified)

6[Remember] this: he who sows sparingly and grudgingly will also reap sparingly and grudgingly, and he who sows generously [that blessings may come to someone] will also reap generously and with blessings.

7Let each one [give] as he has made up his own mind and purposed in his heart, not reluctantly or sorrowfully or under compulsion, for God loves (He takes pleasure in,

prizes above other things, and is unwilling to abandon or to do without) a cheerful (joyous, "prompt to do it") giver [whose heart is in his giving].

8And God is able to make all grace (every favor and earthly blessing) come to you in abundance, so that you may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation].

9As it is written, He [the benevolent person] scatters abroad; He gives to the poor; His deeds of justice and goodness and kindness and benevolence will go on and endure forever!

10And [God] Who provides seed for the sower and bread for eating will also provide and multiply your [resources for] sowing and increase the fruits of your righteousness [which manifests itself in active goodness, kindness, and charity].

11Thus you will be enriched in all things and in every way, so that you can be generous, and [your generosity as it is] administered by us will bring forth thanksgiving to God.

12For the service that the ministering of this fund renders does not only fully supply what is lacking to the saints (God's people), but it also overflows in many [cries of] thanksgiving to God.

13Because at [your] standing of the test of this ministry, they will glorify God for your loyalty and obedience to the Gospel of Christ which you confess, as well as for your generous-hearted liberality to them and to all [the other needy ones].

14And they yearn for you while they pray for you, because of the surpassing measure of God's grace (His favor and mercy and spiritual blessing which is shown forth) in you.

15Now thanks be to God for His Gift, [precious] beyond telling [His indescribable, inexpressible, free Gift]!