

## **Giving**

This month's bible study will focus on kingdom finances. There are clear biblical ways we are called to use our money. Let's look at what ways those are.

### **Week 1**

#### **Tithing**

Tithing means tenth. We are to bring to God a tenth of our earnings. This isn't something that takes faith, it takes obedience

#### **Going Deeper**

Here we look at Malachi 3:8-10 where we are called to bring our whole tithe to the place we get fed (storehouse). The position of your tithe in your budget is the position God holds in your life. Tithing also protects what we have been given and reminds us continually that God is our source.

Tithing is a way of expressing gratitude toward God. It is also a way for us to show our faithfulness.

#### **Talk to God**

This is your opportunity to either ask God for a greater ability to obey him or encounter Him for the first time and ask for His grace and strength to begin tithing.

### **Week 2**

#### **Giving Offerings**

There is a difference between tithing and offering. Offering is a willfully giving to the Lord.

#### **Going Deeper**

When we give, according to Galatians 6:7-10 we reap what we sow. Who wouldn't want to reap finances as we give to the Lord. The truth is that God's economy is not like ours. When we give finances sometimes we get back health. If we give time we may receive relationships. God's economy is not like ours.

The other scripture that comes to mind is Luke 6:38 - Give and it shall be given unto you. Many of us have heard the saying, "you can't out give God. This is as true a saying as any!"

#### **Talk to each other**

Find someone you know gives and ask them to tell you a testimony about a time when they gave.

### **Week 3**

This week are 2 different ways of kingdom giving combined: Alms and Apostolic giving.

Alms giving is simply giving to the needy or poor while apostolic giving is designated giving for the nations to be evangelized/discipled

#### Going Deeper

When we give to the poor it is a mirror of God's concern about the poor and oppressed and gives God an opportunity to give back to us. Again, it doesn't mean we will get back financially. It means He gives back to us in ways that continue to show that He is sovereign and all powerful as the work shows us in Psalm 41: 1-2.

Apostolic giving helps to give structure and strategy to the church Jesus is building. See 1 Corinthians 9:1-14 and Philippians 4:10-19. There Paul give a motivation of individuals and local churches to support the apostolic ministries and ventures.

#### Prayer of Understanding

Lord, as we give our finances to the kingdom and we see the poor and needy have their needs met by Your riches and glory, give us a heart to continue the work that you started in us and through us. All the same, as we give to the nations I pray we will see you move mightily in and around the globe, spreading your word and discipline the nations. Use us oh God!

### **Week 4**

The last week of kingdom living is simply living a generous lifestyle

#### Going Deeper

It is our conviction that believers need to have a lifestyle of generosity. The very nature of the gospel is a generous one!! Think about what God gave up for us, His son!!

John 3:16 is not just any scripture. It is a thread of scripture that shows us the generosity of God in giving us His very best.

We are called to be salt and light. That happens as we bless people without any expectation of receiving anything from them in return.

#### Take Action

Find an opportunity to be generous. Buy a coffee, pay for lunch. Step out in faith to be the generous Christ-Follower