

Lesson Eight ~ Giving

God has designed a wonderful plan to finance the spread of the truth of the gospel. In order for that to happen, church must be built, missionaries must be sent to other countries, and many other ministries must be financed to get the gospel to a lost and dying world. The way these needs are met is by the giving of tithes and offering by God's people.

God expects every believer to give one-tenth of his total income to Him. By every Christian giving at least one-tenth, God's financial program can be carried out.

God teaches us that our giving ought to be done on Sunday, the first day of the week. Tithing is the spiritual way of giving to God. Every offering is a free-will offering because no one is forced to give. However, every Christian ought to begin to tithe the very first week he or she is saved. Why shouldn't we give our tithes to the Lord? It is God that gave us our jobs and health to work for the money we earn. It is God that has given us our homes and every material thing that we possess.

When we have learned to tithe, we can begin to give an offering which is any amount over and above our regular tithe. Actually, giving is the way we receive the blessing of the joy-filled Christian life (*Luke 6:38*). God definitely teaches us that the way to receive God's blessings is to give. Every Christian should learn to give, for God wants to bless us greatly, and He does this according to our generosity.

In the following questions, notice the biblical basis for giving our tithes and offerings to God.

- 1) How much did Abraham give to God (*Genesis 14:17-20*)?

- 2) Jacob also gave a certain amount to God, How much was it (*Genesis 28:20-22*)?

- 3) Moses commanded Israel to give how much (*Leviticus 27:30-34*)?

- 4) We give our tithes out of _____ for God (*II Corinthians 8:24*).
- 5) The Corinthian church collected their offering on what day of the week (*I Corinthians 16:1-2*)? _____
- 6) How had Israel robbed God in *Malachi 3:8*?

- 7) What did God do to those who would not tithe in *Malachi 3:8-9*?

- 8) The church is God’s New Testament storehouse. What kind of blessing does God promise to those who will tithe (*Malachi 3:10*)? _____
- 9) Write in a few words what you believe *II Corinthians 9:6* means concerning giving?

- 10) What did the church at Macedonia give even before they gave the Lord their tithes and offerings (*2 Corinthians 8:5*)? _____
- 11) Read what God says about giving in *Luke 6:38*.
- 12) One of the greatest privileges God has given you is to be able to give tithes and offerings. Giving is the only way God’s work can continue in this world. How does God want you to give to Him (*II Corinthians 9:7*)?

Key Memory Verses:

Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38; Psalm 12:6, 7; 119:9

Note: Three popular attitudes about the Bible are:

1. The Bible is just another religious book written by men.
2. The Bible can only be understood by the “clergy” or by years of formal education.
3. In order to understand the true meanings of Scripture, you must study Greek and Hebrew.

From the Bible principles taught in this lesson, you should understand that these attitudes are wrong, and why.

Write any questions you may have concerning the subjects in this lesson.