

GUIDELINES FOR GIVING

“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Generously – “whoever sows *generously*...”

Expectantly – “...will also *reap* generously.”

Consistently – “Each man *should give*...”

Thoughtfully – “...what he has *decided*...”

Privately – “...*in his heart* to give...”

Willingly – “...*not* reluctantly or under compulsion...”

Cheerfully – “...for God loves a *cheerful* giver.”

TITHING IN THE BIBLE

There are three kinds of tithes in the Bible:

The Covenant Tithe: Leviticus 27:30-33, Numbers 18:26, Deut.14:22-29, 16:16-17, Malachi 3:8-12

The Legalist Tithe: Matthew 23:23-24, Luke 11:42

The Worship Tithe: Genesis 14:20, 28:22, Hebrews 7:1-10, Proverbs 3:9-10, 1 Cor.16:1-2, 2 Cor. 8-9.

We are not under the Old Covenant or Legalism.

We are called to worship!

THE BIG PICTURE FROM THE BOOK OF PROVERBS TEN WORDS OF WISDOM ON MONEY MANAGEMENT

TRAIN WELL - 22:29

SAVE NEXT - 30:25

PLAN AHEAD - 21:5

INVEST EARLY - 28:20

WORK HARD - 10:4

STAY FREE - 22:7

PLAY FAIR - 10:2

BE CONTENT - 15:16

GIVE FIRST - 3:9-10

TRUST GOD - 28:25

po-ten-tial

adj: able to be and do more

GIVE TEN

Give at least ten percent
of your household income to the Lord

Giving can be hard because:

We need money to provide n_____

We want money to provide l_____

We trust money to provide s_____

Giving is an act of:

W_____

Prov.3:9-10, Matt.6:19-21, Phil.4:14-19

S_____

Psalms 24:1, Mal.3:6-12, 2 Cor.4:7

P_____

Phil 4:14-19, Rom.10:14-15, 1 Tim.5:17-18

Giving is an expression of:

(1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19)

G_____ (6)

C_____ (6-9)

V_____ (10)

H_____ (17a)

D_____ (17b)

B_____ (17c)

O_____ (18a)

G_____ (18b)

G_____ (18c)

E_____ (19)

JESUS ON MONEY

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Matthew 6:19-21, 24

PAUL ON MONEY

Godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their 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 do good, to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

for your Life Group, family times, personal reflections

Q: What sort of messages do we get from the world around us about money and material things?

Q: How do people feel when a church talks about money?

Q: Why is money such a private and touchy subject?

Q: Talk about some of the reasons it is hard to give.

Q: Look up the verses on tithing. Do you think it is a biblical requirement today? If not, what would be reasonable?

Q: Look up Mark 12:41-44. Talk about the way Jesus views the size of the gift versus the size of the sacrifice.

Q: Read Matthew 6:19-24. What are three main lessons Jesus wants people to learn about money?

Q: Look up the verses on giving as worship. Why does the Lord connect worship with giving?

Q: Look up the verses on giving as stewardship. Talk about owner vs manager. Which do we act like with possessions?

Q: Look up the verses on giving as partnership. Talk about risks and rewards of giving to churches and ministries.

Q: Read 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19. Go through the word list provided. Which of those concepts do you find most encouraging? Most challenging? Most new and surprising?
