

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

Fixing Our Eyes - Part 3

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Introduction

Fixing our eyes on Jesus changes everything, including the way we steward our money, and yet, the majority of Christians do not tithe. Scripture teaches that tithing is an important principal that started even before the Law was given to Moses. It was later articulated in the Mosaic Law and endorsed by Jesus. Why do you think that tithing and giving is so important??

Read 1 Timothy 6:18, Proverbs 3:9-10, Malachi 3:10, Luke 6:38

Discuss

1. What can we learn from the principle of tithing and giving generously?
2. Read the four scriptures above. From these verses, name some of the promises related to faithful giving and tithing. Have you ever experienced a positive outcome when you have been faithful with what God has given to you?
3. Read Deuteronomy 8:10-18. What does it mean that God “gives us the ability to earn wealth”? How is this principle related to tithing?
4. Read 1 Timothy 6:18. According to this verse, what are three things those with plenty of resources are encouraged to do? How does this impact our discipleship?
5. Read Luke 12:27-34. How is the practice of giving generously related to our trust in God to provide? How do you understand the phrase, “treasure in heaven that will never fail” (NIV)?
6. What does giving ‘systematically’ mean, and why is this practice helpful? Have you ever tried to do this?
7. According to 2 Corinthians 9:7, what attitudes should we have when giving? What difference does this make? Why should giving not be done in an attitude of legalism and guilt?

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Respond

The only time God invites us to 'test him' is in the matter of giving faithfully, to see Him provide according to our needs – and sometimes even above and beyond! Ultimately, all that we have belongs to God. We are mere stewards of the material resources He entrusts us to manage; giving is an act of faith and obedience. What can you do to begin or to continue in the path of giving faithfully? Is there a financial need in your group today (e.g. looking for a job, insufficient income for daily or extraordinary needs)? How can the group or church offer support in this situation?