

Growth Track

Module 4: How Do I Make a Difference

Student's Notes

Lesson Three - Giving

Key Takeaway

Generosity is a quality God wants us to demonstrate.

Introduction

1. God is big-hearted and generous!
2. His generosity towards us is shown when He sent His only Son, Jesus to die for our sins. The Bible also tells us that God freely gives us all things.

For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? Romans 8:32

3. As God's children, we are to reflect His generosity by giving to Him and to others.

I. TYPES OF GIVING

Tithes

Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test! Malachi 3:10

General (Freewill) Offerings (Mark 12:41-44)

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Offerings To Meet Special Needs

For you see, the believers in Macedonia and Achaia have eagerly taken up an offering for the poor among the believers in Jerusalem. Romans 15:26

All whose hearts were stirred and whose spirits were moved came and brought their sacred offerings to the Lord . They brought all the materials needed for the Tabernacle, for the performance of its rituals, and for the sacred garments. Both men and women came, all whose hearts were willing. They brought to the Lord their offerings of gold—brooches, earrings, rings from their fingers, and necklaces. They presented gold objects of every kind as a special offering to the Lord. Exodus 35:21-22

1. Missions Faith Pledge (MFP)

MFP is a monthly amount that we pledge in advance that goes towards meeting all the missions needs of the church.

2. Willing Offering

The Willing Offering goes towards meeting the costs of our buildings and facilities.

II. GIVING IS AN ACT OF WORSHIP

Giving is pleasing to God.

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Hebrews 13:16

We have received much from God so we give out of a heart of thankfulness in response.

...freely you have received, freely give. Matthew 10:8 (NASB)

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III. WHAT IS TITHING

Throughout the Old Testament, the patriarchs of faith tithed to God (Genesis 14:18-20). In the New Testament, Jesus taught and referred to the tithe as well (Matthew 23:23).

The tithe is one-tenth of what we earn and receive.

The tithe is to acknowledge God's Sovereignty (Genesis 1:26; 2:15).

God has blessings for those who tithe (Malachi 3:10).

The tithe represents our best (Exodus 23:19).

We give our tithes to the church.

Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. Malachi 3:10.

IV. THE HEART OF GIVING

God looks at the heart of the giver (Mark 12:41-44).

We should seek to reflect generosity in our giving (1 Timothy 6:18).

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Our giving should be motivated by a heart of love and joy.

...For God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

For this is how God loved the world: He gave... John 3:16

Conclusion

1. We are commanded by God to give freely as we have freely received from Him.
2. We are able to give much when we realise that we have been given much.