Treasure, Tithes & Tips

Selected Passages from the New Testament

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What is church offering? And why?

What about the "tithe" thing?
(Gen. 14:18-20, 28:12-22; Lv. 27; Num.18; Deut. 14; 2 Chron. 31:5; Mal. 3:8-12)

What are some biblical principles?

Mark 12:41-44

Mark 10:17-22

Matthew 6:1-4

1 Corinthians 16:1-4

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

1 Timothy 6:8-11

What is the big picture?

COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

Reflective Questions for You and Your Small Group

ICEBREAKER: What would you do if you won a million dollars? How would you spend the money?

1. It has been said that there are three levels of giving: (1) you have to (law); (2) you ought to (obligation), and (3) you want to (grace). Discuss the differences of these and the importance of each.
2. Read 2 Corinthians 8 -9. What does it teach us about giving?
3. According to Malachi 3:6-12 the nation of Israel were guilty of not bringing the entire tithe into the storehouse and God was reprimanding them for it. What blessings, however, did he promise if they would respond in faith and give generously to him? Does "robbing God" in Malachi 3:8 apply to us today? What principle can we learn from this? Compare 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 and Galatians 6:9-10.
4. What practice does Proverbs 3:9-10 outline for us? How could you implement it in your own life? Why might it be important to give of the first of our earnings to God?
5. Summarize the principle in Proverbs 11:24-25. Have you ever seen instances of God working in this way?
6. In Matthew 6:2-4 Jesus explains how God will deal with people who give in a hypocritical fashion. How will they be treated by God? Why? What untruth do they probably believe about God that underlies their hypocritical desires?
7. How does 1 John 2:15-17 straighten us out regarding how we are to view the world and its riches? A wrong view of the world can have disastrous consequences for Christians. NOTE: Here, John portrays the world from the point of view of its wordly anti-God stance and sinfulness. He, of course, is not referring to the world in the sense of God's wonderful creation which is good, but the world in its fallenness and rebellion. Relate 1 John 2:15-17 to the idea of giving.