



LESSON 8: GROWING IN GENEROSITY

It is a fact that the spiritual growth of a person is related to his authentic personal relationship with God, the study of His Word, prayer, service to God, and by following the principles that He has established.

Likewise, our love for God can be demonstrated through our generosity.

This topic is as important as any other spiritual subject that is in the Bible. With that in mind, let us seek God's will for our lives with regard to being generous with our money.

Money is important, but it does not bring happiness

- Read Luke 12:15 What must I be careful of?
- Read 1Timothy 6:8 With what must I be content?

Let us trust God with our future

Read Matthew 6:33-34 and respond:

- What should I seek out as most important in my life and what is the outcome of living according to that priority?
- What attitude should I have with respect to my future and material needs?

There are two areas in which we can grow in generosity: offerings and tithes.

Giving is an evidence of my devotion to God

In the Bible we find many examples of people who gave voluntarily:

- Exodus 35:20-21; 29 Who gave an offering and what was their attitude?
- 2 Corinthians 8:1-5 Who participated in giving their offerings and how did they feel upon doing so?

What should my attitude be when I give an offering?

- According to Colossians 3:23 What should be my motivation when I give?
- 2 Corinthians 9:7 What should be my attitude when I give?

Jesus Christ taught us that we must help others

- According to Acts 20:35 What I must do, among other things, with the money that I earn as an income?
- What does God expect me to do when I see someone in need?
- Do you know of some relative, friend or person, who is in need?
Yes No
Write out their name _____
What can you do for that person?
- Read 1 John 3:17-18. Explain this verse in your own words.

The Principle of Tithing

The principle of tithing is different from giving an offering. Tithing is the result of a conviction produced by the Holy Spirit; the believer decides to regularly give a percentage of his earnings to the church.

The word TITHE is linked to the number 10. That is why when we decide to give our tithe, we give at least 10% of our earnings. Before the law was instituted, Jacob tithed voluntarily (Genesis 28:22). Then God made it part of the Law (Deuteronomy 14:22) giving us an example to follow.

According to Proverbs 3:9, what is the practice of tithing?

The principle of tithing to the Lord is an issue of faith.

- Matthew 6:28-34 What does the Lord want us to believe?
- Philippians 4:19 Who is the one who really provides for our needs?

The principle of tithing to the Lord is an issue of love.

- According to Matthew 6:24 - What competes in our hearts for God's love?
- Jesus said "it is more blessed to give than to receive". When you choose to regularly give to the church of God, what things are you joyful of?
 - Joyful to give to His cause.
 - Joyful to contribute to the expenses that the church has in doing God's work.
 - Joyful to see God's kingdom advance in: evangelism, discipleship, counseling, mission trips, etc.
 - Joyful to exercise my faith in trusting God for His provision.
 - All of the above.

How to give your Tithe?

1 Corinthians 16:2 ^(ESV) - *On the first day of every week, each one should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income ...*

In the line, write the part of the verse that describes these 3 characteristics:

- Regularly: _____.
- Decide an amount: _____.
- The basis to determine the amount: _____.

MY COMMITMENT

I have understood what the Bible teaches about the spiritual practice of being generous in giving my offerings and tithes. I acknowledge in my heart that God is guiding me to obey these principles.

As of today, I make the commitment with God to give my offerings and tithes so that His plan for this world will be accomplished through the church.

Signature _____



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