

MATTER OF HONOR

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You cannot serve both God and money." (Matthew 6:24b NIV)

Five keys to Biblical giving...

I. Understand _____ I should give.

1. It is the _____ thing to do.
"Honor the LORD with your wealth..." - Proverbs 3:9-10
"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, "How do we rob you?" "In tithes and offerings." - Malachi 3:8
2. It meets & supplies _____.
"This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God." - 2Cor. 9:12
3. It gives _____ to God.
"Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else." - 2Cor. 9:13
4. It acknowledges _____ ownership, provision & protection.
"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. " - 1Tim. 6:17,18
5. It robs money of its _____.
A man's riches may ransom his life, but a poor man hears no threat. - Proverbs 13:8 (NIV)
6. It advances the _____ of God.
"I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings." - Luke 16:9-12

II. Understand _____ I should give.

1. _____ church: Tithes.
1 Corinthians 9:11-14 & "Instead, I give to the Levites as their inheritance the tithes that the Israelites present as an offering to the Lord." - Numbers 18:24
2. _____ else: Offerings.
"There bring your burnt offerings and sacrifices, your tithes and special gifts, what you have vowed to give and your freewill offerings."- Deuteronomy 12:6 (NIV)

III. Understand _____ I should give.

1. Thank God for the _____!
2. The tithe was introduced _____ the Law.
"Then **Melchizedek** king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, 19 and he blessed Abram, saying, 'Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. 20 And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand.' Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything." - Gen. 14:18
Gen. 28:20 **Jacob** promised to give God a tenth of all he owned.
3. The tithe was confirmed _____ the Law.
"A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD." - Lev. 27:30-32
"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,' says the LORD Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.'" Mal. 3:8-10
4. The tithe was affirmed by _____.
Woe to you Pharisees, because you give God a tenth of your mint, rue and all other kinds of garden herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God. *You should have practiced the latter* without leaving the former undone. - Luke 11:42
5. The tithe was affirmed by _____.
1 Corinthians 9:7-12 & Numbers 18:21
"...And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves *first* to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will." - 2Cor. 8:1-5
6. Regardless, GRACE implies / demands " _____"!

IV. Understand _____ to those who give.

1. To care for your _____.
"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." - Matt. 6:33
2. To give you more ... to _____.
"You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. " - 2 Cor 9:8, 11
3. To entrust you with " _____ riches."
"So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? - Luke 16:11

V. Understand _____ to give.

1. _____ (Get a plan).
"Now about the collection for God's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. 2 On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made." - 1 Cor 16:1-2
2. _____ (Give your firstfruits).
"Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; 10 then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. " - Prov. 3:9-10
3. _____ (Choose your attitude).
"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. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." - 2 Cor 9:6,7,8