



Where Y'at?

Part 3: A Piece of Leather Filled
with Paper and Plastic

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Scripture teaches that God wants His children to be:

- Informed stewards (Proverbs 27:23-24)
- Diligent earners (Proverbs 21:5)
- Generous givers (Proverbs 11:25)
- Wise savers (Proverbs 21:20)
- Cautious debtors (Proverbs 22:7)
- Prudent consumers (Proverbs 23:23)

Old Testament giving: an act of honor

Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops. - Proverbs 3:9

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. - Malachi 3:10

The biblical principle of tithing means that a follower of God returns one tenth of their income to its rightful owner in an act of _____ and _____ .

New Testament giving: an act of sacrifice

¹And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ²Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints. ⁵And 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. ⁶So we urged Titus, since he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. ⁷But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us, see that you also excel in this grace of giving. - 2 Corinthians 8:1-7

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The Macedonians gave:

- Joyfully (8:2) “their overflowing joy”
- Sacrificially (8:3) “gave as much as they were able”
- Supernaturally (8:3) “beyond their ability”
- Willingly (8:3) “Entirely on their own”
- Eagerly (8:4) “they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing”
- Unexpectedly (8:5) “they did not do as we had expected”
- Personally (8:5-6) “they gave themselves first to the Lord”

The giving style of God:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life – John 3:16

When your eternal life was hanging in the balance, God chose to give ultimately, completely, sacrificially, and freely.

On Your Way Home

Jesus said, “...a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” While acknowledging that “stuff” doesn’t make you rich, make a list of all the things that make you a rich person.

Small Group Discussion Questions



1. When you hear the words “Christian” and “money” in the same sentence, what is the first thing that comes to mind? Go ahead, be honest!
2. Why do you think Jesus taught so much on the topic of finances? Why do you think he emphasized it more than heaven or hell?
3. Read Luke 12:13-21. In this passage, Jesus warns about some predictable money traps. What are the warnings and how do they still apply to people and money in our modern world?
4. Tithing is an act of stewardship and trust. How does giving help a person to trust God more?
5. If you are a person that regularly gives out of obedience to God, share with the rest of the group what your blessing is for honoring God in this way.
6. How can we pray for you tonight?