



The Growing Christian

Study #6: Tithes and Offerings

Basic Discipleship Course

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TITHES AND OFFERINGS

God wants you to tithe and give offerings, and that you do it with the correct attitude. The Bible has clear and simple principles over this important area in the Christian life. God wants to help you be generous with Him and others. Also, in the book of Acts chapter 2:44-45, we can clearly read that the members of the first church practiced generosity and that they were dedicated to helping one another financially.

1. Before you consider giving your money, be sure that you are willing to give of yourself.

- a. God bought you at a price, His blood, and you belong to Him. Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.
- b. God wants you to present your body as a living sacrifice, not only your material goods. Read Romans 12:1-2.
- c. Have a mind and heart that is available, teachable and committed to serve God. These attitudes should precede your monetary contributions. See 2 Corinthians 8:12.

2. Why do you give tithes and offerings?

- a. When the Christian gives offerings he shows the sincerity of his love for Jesus Christ. Read 2 Corinthians 8:8.
- b. When the Christian gives, he develops an attitude of love and commitment towards the church. In addition, it is not necessary to have any special talent or ability to give, only the desire. Consider the example and the attitude of the church in the city of Corinth:
 - i. They gave with sacrifice, 2 Cor. 8:2-3.
 - ii. They gave supernaturally, v. 8:3.
 - iii. With joy and delight, v. 8:2.
 - iv. With desire and willingness, v. 8:3.
 - v. With diligence, v. 8:4.
 - vi. Surprisingly, v. 8:5.
 - vii. They gave themselves, v. 8:5-6.

- c. When the Christian gives tithes and offerings, he puts his eyes on the eternal things and not only on earthly riches, which in time will vanish. Matthew 6:33.
- d. The person that mostly benefits from giving is you. Malachi 3:8-11.

3. Where should I give my offerings?

According to the Bible the Christian should give at the local church where he/she belongs. In the New Testament the offerings were given in the context of the local church. Read 1 Corinthians 16:1-3.

4. The principles in the New Testament regarding the offering are summarized in 2 Corinthians 9:7:

- a. “Let each one give as he purposes in his heart.” The offering is between you and God.
- b. “Not grudgingly” If you do not give with the correct attitude you will not experience the grace of God.
- c. “Not out of necessity” You are not obligated to tithe or give an offering. Do it out of love for Him who gives you everything.

d. “For God loves a cheerful giver.” Give with a smile.

5. With maturity you will develop the will to offer with sacrifice. When a person gives more than he is capable, he gives with sacrifice. The Christians that give like that are examples of faith and love for all. 2 Corinthians 8:3 and 2 Samuel 24:24.

6. Give according to how God has prospered you. Do not be concerned about giving more than others; only give according to how God has blessed you. 1 Corinthians 16:2.

7. Always remember the law of sowing and reaping. If you sow generously you will reap generously. If you give much you will reap much. 2 Corinthians 9:6 and Galatians 6:7-9.

8. We are called to accumulate treasures in heaven, meaning that we need to administer our resources with a mindset to impact the most people spiritually and to continually advance His kingdom on earth. Matthew 6:19-21.

Review

1. Give three reasons to give from your resources.
2. Why should you give your offerings at your local church?
3. According to Malachi 3:8-10, when do we steal from God?
4. What are the attitudes that God wants us to have?

Verses to memorize:

Ephesians 4:11-12; 1 Corinthians 12:27; 2 Timothy 2:2

Notes

