

SERMON NOTES

October 21 & 22, 2023

The Generous Life: Basic Training Malachi 3:7-12

1. What exactly is tithing? **Malachi 3:7-12**

2. What does the Bible say about tithing? **Leviticus 27:30 | 2 Chronicles 31:5-6 | Malachi 3:10a**

3. What if I can't afford to tithe? **Proverbs 3:9-10 | Exodus 23:19; 34:19**

4. Do I tithe on the net or the gross? **Deuteronomy 15:10; 4:3-5a | Matthew 23:23b | 1 Corinthians 15:20**

5. What happens if I tithe? **Malachi 3:10**

6. What happens if I don't tithe? **Malachi 3:9**

7. What if I hear all this stuff but the honest truth is I'm scared, stressed, doubtful, and freaked out by the whole idea of tithing? **Malachi 3:10**

Life Steps

The Generous Life: Basic Training | October 21 & 22, 2023

Monday

Matthew 6:19-21

Reflect: Evaluate what you did with your money in the past 30 days. What does it reveal about your heart and ultimate life commitments? Are you storing up more treasures on earth or in heaven?

Prayer: Generous God, forgive me when, how I spend my money, does not confirm what my mouth affirms.

Tuesday

Malachi 3:10

Reflect: What did the word tithe mean to you before hearing the weekend message? If you are not tithing, what prevents you from testing God as he commanded? If you are tithing, how have you experienced the blessing of God?

Prayer: Generous God, give me the courage to trust you with my money and finances.

Wednesday

Leviticus 27:30 | 2 Chronicles 31:5b-6 | Malachi 3:10

Reflect: What is God's expectations regarding the tithe? What is the significance of the tithe being "brought" versus "given?"

Prayer: Generous God, all I am and all I have belongs to you. Thank you for your generosity

Thursday

Genesis 4:2-5

Reflect: What is the difference between the two offerings? Why did God look with favor on Abel? How do you think God looks upon your offering? Prayerfully consider accepting the Tithe Challenge.

Prayer: Generous God, train me in the way of making you first in my life, especially in my money and treasures.

Friday

Exodus 23:9-10 | Exodus 34:19 | Proverbs 3:9-10

Reflect: What is a first fruit? Money is never about money. Money is always about trust. It takes no trust to give God our leftovers. What is the spiritual significance of the first fruit? Are you more of a first fruit or leftover giver?

Prayer: Generous God, forgive me, for sometimes being a leftover giver.

Saturday

Matthew 23:23

Reflect: What context does Jesus give regarding the Tithe? What importance does Jesus attribute towards the Tithe? What is your next step when it comes to living the generous life?

Prayer: Generous God, help me to trust you more than I trust anything or anyone else.

Sunday

John 3:16-17 | 1 Corinthians 15:20

Reflect: Who is God's first fruit? What is God saying to you in these two passages in the context of living the generous life?

Prayer: Generous God, you are the potter I am the clay, mold me into someone who is living the generous life.