

Sermon Based Study Questions for 1.18.2015 Sermon  
Generosity: The Tool of Tithing  
Malachi 3:8-10 Luke 6:38

Start talking about money in church and folks tend to get squirmy. The reality is Jesus talked about money more than most anything else. Why? Because our approach to money reveals our hearts. And our Lord wants to develop our hearts. So our Lord uses a tool in this whole matter of money – the tool of tithing.

**BIG IDEA:** Tithing is God's favorite tool to build a generous heart!

Ice Breaker Questions – (choose one to answer/ask)

- Describe a time when you gave generously. How did it make you feel?
- When did you first realize the need to generously give back to the Lord?

Opening Questions

- Is there anything from Sunday's sermon that really stood out, made an impression, challenged or confused you?
- What are some of the places in Scripture where you see God showing us how generous He is?
- What are some ways we can rob God of what's His?
- What is the motivation for giving back to the Lord?
- What is it about the first parts of our labor and lives that the Lord loves?
- If we looked at your financial records and calendar, what would it reveal about what you worship?

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## Bible Study

Read Malachi 3:6-10

- Why is verse 6 both encouraging and frightening?
- What does verse 7 say about how giving can affect our relationship with God?
- Verse 8 is a strong indictment. In what way is not tithing robbing God?
- How do you feel about “testing” God? Does that set right with you?
- What kind of a blessing does God promise if we test Him?

## Application

- Are you tithing and contributing to the Lord the way the Scripture tells you? If not, why not? What needs to change to make that happen?
- Can you think of a way to give generously this year to show Jesus you trust Him to take care of you?

Supporting scriptures – Genesis 28:20-22; Leviticus 27:30-32; Deuteronomy 14:23-29;  
Matthew 6:33; 2 Chronicles 31:5-12

Scripture Memory – Luke 6:38

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