

simple
C H U R C H



HIGHER AIM

When Giving Makes Sense

Simple Church | Week 3 | Malachi 3:6-12

Talk to a friend, a parent, a pastor, a mentor – and ask them to teach you more about giving. And if you are a parent, I would encourage you to be intentional about teaching your children to give. It might take some time, but it’s a lesson worth communicating without a doubt.

3. Giving makes sense when it is understood.

As we talked about in the introduction of this message, the Bible has a lot to say about giving and money. More specifically, Jesus had a lot to say about giving and money. Because of this, we have so much information at our fingertips to learn how to understand God’s heart behind asking His children to give tithes and offerings. If you don’t have a great understanding of the concept of giving, dive into God’s Word to learn more. When you begin to understand why He’s asking you to give, your heart will become more aligned with His and giving will become a desire rather than an obligation.

4. Giving makes sense when we understand the punishment for neglect.

Billy Graham said, “One of the greatest sins in America today is the fact that we are robbing God of that which rightly belongs to Him. When we don’t tithe, we shirk from more than just a debt. Actually, we are not giving when we give God one-tenth, for it belongs to Him already. This is a debt we owe. Not until we have given a tenth do we actually begin making an offering to the Lord.”

Jesus gives us quite a paradox when He says, “Give, and it shall be given unto you.” (Luke 6:38) When we give, we will reap the positive consequences of our faithfulness. However, if we don’t give, we will reap the negative consequences of that neglect.

5. Giving makes sense when we count on God’s promises for giving.

At the end of today’s key Scripture passage, God gives us some promises that we can hold onto as we are obedient in giving. One of those promises is that when you give, God provides and reinforces. Verse 10 says that God wants to open up the floodgates of heaven and bless you. Only when you get aligned under the portal of heaven will you see the provision, as well as the reinforcement. When I have given, and God has met a need in my life or in my family’s life, it encourages me to give even more. The same will be true for you as you continue to faithfully give.

NOTES

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Are you giving faithfully right now? If not, what is holding you back from giving?
2. Is there something about giving that doesn't make sense to you? What is one step you can take to get more clarity on this question you have about giving?
3. When was a time you gave to God and He kept His promise to provide for you? How can this experience strengthen your faith and your desire to continue giving?
