

W H Y D O I
Give?



HIGHER AIM

Why Do I Give?

Part 1 | *Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38*

INTRODUCTION

Have you ever wondered why we give? Why do you give? What really motivates you to give? Keep in mind I am not just talking about money and resources. I am also talking about your time, energy, and your heart. Why do you give what you have? What motivates you to give to others, if not to God? Have you wondered that about yourself? If so, get ready, because we're going to be answering all of these questions over the next two weeks.

KEY POINTS

1. Do I Give Out Of Guilt?

For many people, the reason they give is they are afraid they will feel guilty if they don't give. They don't want to feel guilty. Therefore, they give because they are afraid that God will get them if they aren't generous.

I have heard people say, "I didn't give a tithe last week and my car broke down. Wouldn't you know it? It cost me the very same amount that I was supposed to give to the Lord. I ended up paying it to the mechanic." God doesn't work like that. He will not zap you. This is a struggle for many people because they think if I don't give, I will get into trouble. That is not the proper motivation.

Giving is a very personal, very private thing. It is between you and the Lord. Whether you give a little or a whole lot, God bless you. If you only give what God is telling you to give, God bless you. The point is that you should be giving out of an act of obedience, not a fear of guilt or punishment.

NOTES

HIGHER AIM

Why Do I Give?

Part 1 | Leviticus 27:30; Malachi 3:10; Luke 6:38

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Do you give out of guilt? If so, where did that guilt originate? If not, what is motivating you to give?
2. Do you have a plan to give to your local church? If so, what's keeping you from creating and living out that plan?
3. What is one thing you can give this week (money, time, effort, resources) to someone in need in order to bless them and show them the love of Jesus?

HIGHER AIM

Why Do I Give?

Part 2 | Leviticus 27:30, Malachi 3:10, Luke 6:38

INTRODUCTION

NOTES

Jesus spoke more about money than anything else while He was here on earth. When you look at the words of Jesus, He continually talks about being a steward. You need to be a man or a woman who honors God with everything that flows through your hands. That's what it means to be a good steward. The Lord allows some people to be stewards over a great deal. With others, He makes them stewards over a little. Regardless of how He blesses you, it is your job to honor Him through your giving. But in order to do that, we need to know the reason why we give. That is the conversation we are going to continue this week.

KEY POINTS

1. Do I Give In Order To Get?

Many people look at Scripture and say, "Jesus said, 'Give and it shall be given unto you.'" They have heard sermons that say, "God wants to get into a giving contest with Him. God wants you to test Him in learning how to tithe."

Because some people are jaded and fleshly driven, they are easily manipulated by individuals who want to tell their stories. They explain how they got a lot of money by playing a game called, "Let's make a deal with God." That is the motivation that some people use when it comes to their giving. They want a lot of money and think they can get it by giving to get. And then they give God a certain amount of time to bless them or they cancel the deal.

The lifestyle of the steward is not to play games with God. The good steward will give regardless of the monetary rewards. Therefore, our motivation should never be manipulated by someone saying that you give to get.

2. Do I Give In Order To Guarantee?

Because there are many people who give in order to guarantee, they want to see the need first before they give. They want to hear if the church has needs, or if someone else has a need in their life. But that's not how we're called to give. We're called to give out of obedience and faith. God will always use our gifts to further His kingdom and to help those who are in need. Therefore, it's not our job to identify the need before we give. It's our job to trust God to fulfill the needs of His people through our faithful and obedient generosity.

HIGHER AIM

Why Do I Give?

Part 2 | Leviticus 27:30, Malachi 3:10, Luke 6:38

3. Do I Give To Glorify?

This should be the greatest motive of your giving. Do you remember what Job said after he lost everything? He never got the answer as to why he lost it all, but he would later find out when he got to heaven. Job said, *“Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face” (Job 13:15).*

That is the mentality we should have, to be men and women who give to glorify God. Regardless of how many zeroes your check may have on it after the figures, give to glorify God!

Over the years, I have had people tell me, “If we don't do this or that, I will withhold my funds.” I respond, “We will surely miss you.” God does not want His leaders to be manipulated by money. We are to give in order to glorify God and to honor Him with everything. Just like Job said, “Yet will I hope in him.”

NOTES

HIGHER AIM

Why Do I Give?

Part 2 | Leviticus 27:30, Malachi 3:10, Luke 6:38

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. Have you ever had the mentality to give so that you can get? Where did this motivation come from?
2. Do you struggle to give when you don't know the need you're giving to? What would it look like for you to give purely out of faith rather than guarantee?
3. What is one way you can give generously this week to glorify God?
