



**Sermon Series:** Give It All You've Got part 2

**Sermon Title:** How We Give

**Date:** February 20, 2022

Our role is to be managers of what God owns – because the kingdom and everything in it belongs to God. **1 Corinthians 10:26, Psalm 89:11**  
God is generous and allows us to enjoy and live on the resources He gives to us – with the expectation that we use some of those resources for their intended purpose building His kingdom.

**Big Idea: Express Your Obedience To God Through Faithful Stewardship**  
We are looking at 3 areas we manage.

### **TIME**

Wisely managing our time requires a lot more sacrifice than giving your talent and treasure because our time is basically a non-renewable resource. Would God say that you are using it wisely? Because that's what He expects of us. **Ephesians 5:15-17**

Christians must not be reckless or unwise in our lifestyle choices but rather use our time to invest in growing God's kingdom.  
If you are interested being part of that journey and serving at Grace we've made sign up easy for you - text the word "SERVE" to our Grace text number **973-358-0626** and you will receive a link that will show you the different areas to serve and where you can sign up to serve.

### **TALENTS**

One of the benefits of being in the body of Christ is the diversity of gifts the Spirit has given to build up the body. Not every Christian possesses every spiritual gift, but all Christians possess some gifts. Beyond the spiritual gifts, God has given each of us talents and abilities that should be used to benefit the Body of Christ.

Everyone has some talent – some skill that you were designed to use to grow God's kingdom. It's not hard to give of your talent because it involves you engaging in a task you've already mastered and you probably love doing.

Time and talents go hand in hand- layer upon layer building momentum in God's kingdom to reach the next generation.

## **TREASURE**

This one is about your money and possessions and is where many people feel an internal struggle because although God has given us freedom in managing money even if you do it poorly, and with that freedom comes a temptation – the temptation to assume ownership of our possessions.

Even though that's the way it seems, it isn't true. We are told in 1 Corinthians 13 that one day we will be judged according to how we managed God's resources, and that judgment will determine what kind of rewards you get in heaven. Jesus told us where we should invest. **Matthew 6:19-21**

Tithing is an Old Testament concept. The tithe was a requirement of the Jewish Law where the Israelites were to give 10 percent of the crops they grew and the livestock they raised to the temple.

Since the death of Jesus Christ fulfilled the Law, the New Testament does not command or require that Christians submit to a legalistic tithe system. In fact, the New Testament does not state any percentage of income a person should set aside - but only says gifts should be "in keeping with income" (**1 Corinthians 16:2**). Every Christian should diligently pray and seek God's wisdom in the matter of how much to give. All tithes and offerings should be given with pure motives and an attitude of worship to God regardless of how much you give. **2 Corinthians 9:7**

If the financially poor Israelites who lived under the law gave God 10% to show gratitude toward God, how much more gratitude should we have because we live under God's Grace. **The gratitude of God's people should be far greater on this side of Calvary than the other!**

Throughout the Bible, God shows that He will give back to you so that you can give again. God in His grace gives us a principle that when we give to Him, He will replenish our storehouses. **Luke 6:38**

You will do better living God's way with 90% of your money than living *your way* with 100% of your money. **Luke 16:10a**

### **Discussion Questions:**

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Do you believe that God will give back to you when you give to Him? Do you have an example?**
- **In what ways are you giving back to God through your time and talents?**
- **Why is it difficult for many Christians to give financially?**
- **Explain a time when you were blessed by a faithful steward.**
- **Is it acceptable to exchange time for financial giving? Explain.**
- **How would you explain the practice of giving to a person who believes that the church is only interested in getting money?**