

MORE THAN

Enough

WE ARE GENEROUS
BECAUSE GOD IS GENEROUS

Enough is Enough | More Than Enough

Matthew 6:21

What does God want for us? → He wants OUR hearts to reflect HIS GENEROUS HEART!

Where do we stand in comparison to the rest of the world?

Giving FUELS the mission of the church! → Leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus.

→ WHAT IS REALLY AT STAKE?

Matthew 6:21: "Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be."

We can't be disciples of Jesus, if we won't let him teach us about money. → Jesus talks more about money than Heaven & Hell COMBINED. → Jesus talks about \$\$\$ more than anything else except Kingdom of God. → 500 verses = prayer, faith each < 2k verses on money/possessions → 11/39 parables = \$\$\$ → 1/7 verses in Luke = \$\$\$ → **OUR HEARTS**

- Tithe = FIRST tenth.
- The tithe is a form of training wheels to learn how generosity works!
 - Genesis 4: Genesis 14:19-20: Genesis 28:20-22: Proverbs 3:9-10: Malachi 3:10:
 - Matthew 23:23: Mark 12:41-44: Luke 6:38: Acts 2:44-45: Acts 4:32-35: 1 Timothy 6:10:
- Our response to teaching on finances is a barometer reading of the condition of our heart.

Do I trust God enough to tithe? → How do we do it? → THE PIPES!

- Can God do more with the 90 than we can with the 100? → That is trust!
 1. Taxes = 28%
 2. Giving = Tithe: 10% / Offerings: 2%
 3. Savings = 10%
 4. Lifestyle = 50%
 5. PROBLEM = DEBT! → We begin to rob ourselves, God... & God forbid, the Government!
- We will always have an excuse!

What is my next step? → Tithing is not something you have to pray about! → **CHART: Take your place!**

- Tara and I have practiced this in our our marriage. → Finances is the LAST thing we will ever argue about.
- **Missions / Missionaries supported → AMOUNT TOTAL!**
- Plan. Vision. Dream. → We are going to talk about the plan. But what would it look like to have a vision to give more?
 1. TITHE! - 90 Day Tithe Challenge
 2. Financial Peace Seminar in January → Sign up in the lobby.
 3. Fill out a COMMITMENT CARD.

→ When Jesus has our hearts, enough will be enough. → And ENOUGH changes the world!

TALK ABOUT IT - Questions to GROW through with family, friends, & myself.

1. What does it mean for me to choose "enough" in my life?
2. How does the Biblical pattern of the first fruits or the tithe develop and Scripture? What does the NT pattern reflect?
3. Reflect on Jesus' statement, "Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be." Are my financial priorities aligned with a "heart after God?"
4. How would the financial impact (e.g., paying off the mortgage, supporting missionaries, serving the community) influence our local community and beyond if every believer at Mesa embraced a lifestyle of generosity?
5. **PRAYER:** "Father, change our hearts so that our hearts will reflect you mission, your vision, and your values.

TEACHING NUGGETS:

Israelite Practice of "Tithing"

- 1st Tithe = Bring the priest's due. Then bring the basic tithe = 10% → **Leviticus 27:30**
- 2nd Tithe (another 10%) = to Jerusalem/needs--it could be spent in Jerusalem on the three annual pilgrimages, somewhat of a pilgrimage budget. No go...send the money! → **Deuteronomy 14:22-23**
- Every other year a 3rd tithe = , which went to the poor. So the basic tithing was probably over 22% any given year, possibly 27% → **Deuteronomy 14:28-29**
- DOES NOT INCLUDE: the offerings, the animals that were to be brought to the three festivals. → Various offerings and festival regulations are detailed in the books of **Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy**.
- DOES NOT INCLUDE sin/trespass offerings, which could be high, based on the sin. → Various sin and trespass offerings are detailed in the books of **Leviticus and Numbers**.
- DOES NOT INCLUDE Sabbath year, 1/7th of their income over a 7 year period would be given up. → **Exodus 23:10-11**
- DOES NOT INCLUDE Jubilee: 1/49th of it for Jubilee. → **Leviticus 25:8-17**
- DOES NOT INCLUDE: corners of their fields for the poor to glean; gifts to charity; & care for the widow, orphan, poor & the stranger. → **Leviticus 19:9-10, Deuteronomy 15:7-11, Exodus 22:22-24**
- DOES NOT INCLUDE: free will thank offering--more animals/gifts. So then, if someone today wants to live under the Law of Israel in this respect. → **Leviticus 7:11-18**

EASILY exceeded 40% a year!

VIDEOS:

"The Pipes"



QUOTES / SONGS:

- **Randy Alcorn**: "God prospers me not to raise my standard of living but to raise my standard of giving."
- **John Wesley**: "Earn all you can, save all you can, give all you can."
- **Charles Spurgeon**: "I do not believe that any Christian can afford to be without a systematic benevolence, lest he be found without the bond of charity at the last."
- **Billy Graham**: "God has given us two hands, one to receive with and the other to give with."
- **Oswald Chambers**: "The tithe is the Lord's before it is ours. We should pay it, not because it is a legal duty, but because it is a debt of love."
- **John D. Rockefeller**: "I never would have been able to tithe the first million dollars I ever made if I had not tithed my first salary, which was \$1.50 per week."
- **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**: "Giving does not impoverish us in the service of our Maker, neither does it diminish our wealth; for we bestow on the Giver of all good things, and receive an hundredfold more."
- **C.S. Lewis**: "I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare."
- **Martin Luther**: "There are three conversions necessary: the conversion of the heart, mind, and purse."
- **Martin Luther**: "God doesn't need your good works....but your neighbor does."
- **Wafuca Kapalisa**: "Enough is a choice."
- **Anon**: "You can give without loving, but you can't love without giving."

ARTICLES / BOOKS:

- Ramsey Solutions: Tithes & Offerings: Your Questions Answered: <https://www.ramseysolutions.com/budgeting/daves-advice-on-tithing-and-giving>
- AVERAGE GLOBAL INCOME [2023]: WHAT IS THE MEDIAN INCOME WORLDWIDE?: <https://www.zippia.com/advice/average-income-worldwide/#>
- "The Generosity Factor: Discover the Joy of Giving Your Time, Talent, and Treasure," **Ken Blanchard & S. Truett Cathy**

- "The Blessed Life: Unlocking the Rewards of Generous Living," **Robert Morris**
- "The Generosity Factor: Discover the Joy of Giving Your Time, Talent, and Treasure," **Ken Blanchard and S. Truett Cathy**

SCRIPTURES: New Living Translation unless otherwise noted.

- **Genesis 14:19-20:** *And he blessed him and said, 'Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!' And Abram gave him a tenth of everything."*
- **Genesis 28:20-22:** *"Then Jacob made a vow, saying, 'If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear so that I return safely to my father's household, then the Lord will be my God and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth.'"*
- **Leviticus 27:30:** *"A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord."*
- **Numbers 18:21:** *"To the sons of Levi, behold, I have given all the tithe in Israel for an inheritance, in return for their service that they do, their service in the tent of meeting."*
- **Deuteronomy 14:22-23:** *"Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year. Eat the tithe of your grain, new wine and olive oil, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks in the presence of the Lord your God at the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name, so that you may learn to revere the Lord your God always."*
- **Deuteronomy 15:10:** *"Give generously to the poor, not grudgingly, for the Lord your God will bless you in everything you do."*
- **1 Chronicles 29:14:** *"But who am I, and who are my people, that we could give anything to you? Everything we have has come from you, and we give you only what you first gave us!"*
- **2 Chronicles 31:4-5:** *"Moreover, he commanded the people who lived in Jerusalem to give the portion due to the priests and the Levites, that they might give themselves to the Law of the Lord. As soon as the command was spread abroad, the people of Israel gave in abundance the firstfruits of grain, wine, oil, honey, and of all the produce of the field. And they brought in abundantly the tithe of everything."*
- **Nehemiah 10:35-37:** *"We obligate ourselves to bring the firstfruits of our ground and the firstfruits of all fruit of every tree, year by year, to the house of the Lord; also to bring to the house of our God, to the priests who minister in the house of our God, the firstborn of our sons and of our cattle, as it is written in the Law, and the firstborn of our herds and of our flocks; and to bring the first of our dough, and our contributions, the fruit of every tree, the wine and the oil, to the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God; and to bring to the Levites the tithes from our ground, for it is the Levites who collect the tithes in all our towns where we labor."*
- **Proverbs 3:9-10:** *"Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine."*
- **Proverbs 11:24-25:** *"Give freely and become more wealthy; be stingy and lose everything. The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed."*
- **Proverbs 19:17:** *"If you help the poor, you are lending to the Lord—and he will repay you!"*
- **Proverbs 22:9:** *"Blessed are those who are generous, because they feed the poor."*
- **Proverbs 28:27:** *"Whoever gives to the poor will lack nothing, but those who close their eyes to poverty will be cursed."*
- **Malachi 3:10:** *"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!"*
- **Matthew 6:3-4:** *"But when you give to someone in need, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will reward you."*
- **Matthew 6:21:** *"Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be."*
- **Matthew 23:23:** *"What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—justice, mercy, and faith. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things."*
- **Mark 12:41-44:** *"Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins."*
- **Luke 6:38:** *"Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back."*
- **Acts 2:44-45:** *"All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God's great blessing was upon them all."*
- **Acts 4:32-35:** *"All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God's great blessing was upon them all. There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need."*
- **Acts 20:35:** *"And I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"*

- **2 Corinthians 8:12:** "Whatever you give is acceptable if you give it eagerly. And give according to what you have, not what you don't have."
- **2 Corinthians 9:6-7:** "Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. 'For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.'"
- **2 Corinthians 9:10:** "For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you."
- **Ephesians 3:14-21:** Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen."
- **Philippians 4:10-13:** "10 How I praise the Lord that you are concerned about me again. I know you have always been concerned for me, but you didn't have the chance to help me. 11 Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. 12 I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. 13 For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength."
- **Philippians 4:19:** "And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus."
- **1 Timothy 6:10:** "For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. And some people, craving money, have wandered from the true faith and pierced themselves with many sorrows."
- **1 Timothy 6:17-19:** "Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. By doing this, they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life."
- **Hebrews 13:16:** "And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God."

MESA CHURCH: Mesa Church exists to love people into a closer relationship with Jesus!

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