

Small Groups

The Blessed Life

Session 2: Giving Brings Life

Getting Started

From this week's sermon, what stuck out to you? (Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 8:1-5; 2 Corinthians 9:8)

First Impressions (ask this question to get discussion going among the group)

Do you have a memorable moment or story of when you ran out of something that you needed?

Video Teaching

Play the video teaching and take any notes that might contribute to the group discussion.

Group Discussion from the reading of Chapters 3 & 4

Life Not Law (Chapter 3): key scripture Matthew 6

- We need to acknowledge that we are stewards, not owners.
 - Tithing blesses God; and in return, He blesses the one who tithes, creating an upward cycle of blessing and abundance.
 - True tithing comes from the heart – not from a legalistic mind.
 - Tithing is not law – it is life.
 - The devourer is rebuked!
 - The righteousness of grace always exceeds the righteousness of the law.
1. From the Sermon on the Mount, we see that Jesus uses the Old Testament law to set a higher standard. Instead of “Thou shalt not kill” (Matthew 5:21, KJV), Jesus tells us to not even be angry with someone (see v. 22). How does this principle apply to the tithe?
 2. In 1 Corinthians 13:3, Paul says that even if we give everything we own to the poor but have no love, it profits us nothing. How does this verse relate to the teaching about the importance of the heart of tithing?

The Principle of Multiplication (Chapter 4): key scripture Luke 9:12-17

- Something must be blessed before it can multiply.
 - Only what is given away can multiply.
3. Do you agree that worry is our way of trying to figure out in advance how God is going to provide for us? Is God always absent from the equation when you worry?

Closing Prayer

Go around the room and share any personal prayer requests you'd like the group to pray about. Conclude your session by praying for these requests together.

For Next Session

Read Chapters 5 & 6 in *The Blessed Life*