



## God Gets The First Tenth Of Our Income

### MAIN THING

Where Your Treasure Is, There Your Heart Will Be Also

### SCRIPTURE

Leviticus 27:30, Deuteronomy 14:22, Numbers 18:21, Deuteronomy 12:6-7, Job 41:11, Malachi 3:8-12, 1 Samuel 8:14-17, Malachi 1:8, Matthew 6:21, Genesis 4:3-5, 2 Corinthians 9:7

### ICEBREAKER

Which are you better at: gift giving or gift receiving?

### OPENING THOUGHT

Jesus told us plainly, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Where we invest our two most important resources- time and money- shows what we prioritize and value. One of the constant tensions between God and His people is the money issue, and this is nothing new. It's been a tension since Biblical times. Jesus clearly said that the biggest competitor God would have in our hearts was money, and He was right. However, if people truly knew the joy of tithing and generosity, this wouldn't even be an issue.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If a friend were to ask you, 'What was one thing your pastor said in his sermon on Sunday?' what would you say?
2. Dave listed five things under the heading "Giving God What's Rightfully His." They were: 1) Giving Can't Be Haphazard, 2) Giving Makes Your Church Experience Better, 3) Giving Is Worship, 4) Giving Is the Largest Area of Disobedience in the Church, and 5) Giving Should Be Joyful. Which of these is the easiest for you to comprehend? Which is the most difficult?
3. Do you love to give? Why or why not?

### LIFE APPLICATION

This entire series is about putting God first. God gets the first say in every decision, the first day of the week, the first tenth of our income, the first part of our morning, and the best care of His creation. As we've said every week, something or someone is getting all that. Is it God?

Making it specific for this week, who or what is getting the first tenth of your income? Who is getting the tithe? Is it possible for you to change that this year if that someone or something isn't God?

### CHALLENGE

Christianity is relational. Giving is relational. Someone once said, "You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving." Tithing and giving is a concrete example of our love for God. It's literally the fulfillment of "putting your money where your mouth is."

This week's challenge is to put God first- give Him what belongs to Him and watch what He does in response. Test God, as He invites us to do in Malachi, this year and watch what He does in response.