

## Greenforest Community Baptist Church

“Stewardship as an act of Worship” - Malachi 3:8-12

*Teaching on Tuesdays - Dr. Emory Berry, Jr.*

November 9, 2021

### I. What are the 4 T's of stewardship?

1. **Time** – “Teach us to number our days...” – Psalm 90:12
2. **Talent** – “One body, many parts” – I Corinthians 13:20
3. **Temple** – “...Present your body as a living sacrifice...” – Romans 12:1
4. **Treasure** – “Bring all the tithes in the storehouse...” – Malachi 3:10

### II. What wisdom is there about stewardship?

1. Ron Blue - "Stewardship is the use of God-given resources for the accomplishment of God-given goals."
2. Randy Alcorn - "What you do with your resources in this life is your autobiography."
3. Winston Churchill - "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give."
4. J. Vernon McGee - "Don't tell me you're trusting God until you trust Him with your pocketbook."
5. Amy Carmichael - "You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving."

6. Augustine - "Find out how much God has given you and from it take what you need; the remainder is needed by others."
7. James L. Kraft - "The only investment I ever made which has paid consistently increasing dividends is the money I have given to the Lord."
8. Take care of God's house and God will take care of your house.
9. A closed hand does not give or receive.
10. Tithing is just the beginning or a good start.
11. For it is by giving that we receive." -Francis of Assisi
12. We make a living not by what we get but by what we give." - Winston Churchill

### III. What scriptures are there about FINANCIAL stewardship?

1. “Honor the Lord with your substance/wealth and with the first fruit of all of your increase/income” – **Proverbs 3:9**
2. “The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away” – **Job 1:21**
3. “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” – **Matthew 6:21**
4. “To whom much is given, much is required” – **Luke 12:48**

5. “For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son” – **John 3:16**

6. “Don’t give grudgingly or of necessity for the Lord loves a cheerful giver” - **II Corinthians 9:7**

7. “Give and it shall be given to you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over shall men give unto you” – **Luke 6:38**

#### **IV. Are there are biblical stories about FINANCIAL stewardship?**

1. **Widow** at Zarephath – I Kings 17:7-16
2. Little **Boy** who lent his lunch – Mark 14:13-21
3. Parable of Good **Samaritan** – Luke 10:25-37
4. The **Widow’s** mite – Mark 12:41-44
5. Parable of the Hidden talents – Matthew 25:14-30
6. Parable of the **Sower**, seeds, and soil – Matthew 13:3-12
7. Parable of the Prodigal **Son** – Luke 15:11-32

#### **V. Everything we have...**

1. BELONGS to God
2. BROUGHT to us by God
3. Should be tithed BACK to God

#### **VII. God’s...towards us, motivates us to bless Him**

1. Goodness
2. Graciousness

3. Generosity

#### **VIII. When we give to God, we should give...**

1. Willingly – No one should have to make us
2. Lovingly – Give affectionately to God
3. Regularly – Not every now and then
4. Reverently – Giving as an act of worship
5. Cheerfully – With a smile and with joy

#### **IX. Because God is a God of...God wants us to:**

1. Prosper – Thrive and excel more
2. Produce – Create and achieve results more
3. Progress – Advance and move forward more

#### **X. When God...us, we should...others**

1. Blesses > Bless
2. Helps > Help
3. Supports > Support
4. Supplies > Supply
5. Invests > Invest
6. Deposits > Deposit

#### **XI. Give NOT out of... but out of...**

1. Ritual/Routine > Relationship
2. Obligation > Opportunity
3. Commandment > Commitment
4. Legalistic > Love

#### **XII. When we give to God, God ...our blessings**

1. Expands - God will increase the amount
  - a. Scripture – (I Kings 17) Widow at Zarephath
2. Extends - God make things stretch (meal, gas)
  - a. Scripture – (Matthew 14) Feeding the 5k
3. Enlarges - God widens/broadens boundaries
  - a. Scripture – (I Chronicles 4) Prayer of Jabez

### **XIII. When it comes to giving, we should not...**

1. Rob God
2. Restrict God
3. Reason with God

### **XIV. We should bless others and not be...**

1. Stingy or selfish but selfless
2. Reservoir or retention pool but a river

### **XV. Never allow your...get in the way of your giving**

1. Feelings
2. For
3. Failures

### **XVI. Targets when giving**

1. First & frequent in giving
2. Fervor & focused in giving
3. Faithful & fulfilled in giving
4. Fruitful & flourish in giving

5. Festive & friendly in giving
6. Fearless & free in giving

### **XVII. Giving honors God**

- Pt. 1 – LAWS of giving  
 Pt. 2 – LOVE for Giving  
 Pt. 3 - LASTING benefits of giving  
 Pt. 4 - LEGACY of Giving

### **XVIII. What is TITHING (giving 10% of one's treasure) all about?**

1. Tithing is more about one's **faith** than one's **finances**.
2. Tithing is more about one's **commitment** than one's **cash**.
3. Tithing is more about **spiritual maturity** than **secular money**.
4. Tithing is more about developing as a **disciple** than **dollars**.
5. Tithing is more about your **relationship** than **riches**.
6. Tithing is more about God's **will** than our **wealth**.

### **XIX. How should a Christian TITHE?**

1. Practicing Christian disciples ought to give **individually, regularly, sacrificially**, collectively, and **cheerfully** to God through their local church.
2. Christians should give to God **voluntarily, willingly, freely, enthusiastically**, and **relationally**.

## **XX. History of the book of Malachi**

1. Malachi is the last Old Testament book and his name means “messenger”.
2. Malachi prophesied during the time of Ezra & Nehemiah.
3. Malachi addressed Israel’s lax religious and social behavior.

## **XXI. GIVING points from Malachi 3:8-12**

1. We must understand God’s **perspective** and **purpose** for tithing (v.8-10)
  - a. **God has his REASONS for requiring us to tithe.**
2. We must understand God’s penalty and **punishment** when we do not tithe (v.9)
  - a. **God REPRIMANDS and rebukes us when we do not tithe.**
3. 3. We must understand God’s **prosperity** and **protection** for tithing (v.10-12)
  - a. **God REWARDS and replenishes us when we do tithe.**

## **XXII. We miss the FINANCIAL mark when ...**

### **we**

- a) Neglect seeing God as the supplier and source of all our resources.
- b) Fail to have a lifestyle of giving and generosity

- c) Forget that a budget is a moral document and speaks of its values.
- d) Love property and possessions over Christ
- e) Refuse to celebrate tithing and the joy of giving
- f) Dismiss budgeting goals & targets
- g) Do not care for the widow, orphan, elderly, and disenfranchised.
- h) Don’t educate the need for multiple streams of income, investments, and insurances
- i) Abstain from teaching tithing, sacrificial offering, & freewill offering to our families