

Abide⁺

The Importance of Tithing, Giving, and Putting God First

Tithing, giving, and putting God first are foundational principles in the Christian faith. They are not just about finances or material possessions, but they reflect a heart fully surrendered to God. Here are four key reasons why these practices are so important in our spiritual walk.

1. Tithing and Giving Demonstrate Our Trust in God

Proverbs 3:9-10

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."

Tithing and giving are acts of faith. When we give the first portion of our income to God, we acknowledge that everything we have comes from Him.

It's easy to trust God with what's left over, but true faith is shown when we give Him the first and best. This act of giving demonstrates that we trust God to meet our needs.

The promise in Scripture is that when we honor God with our wealth, He will bless us abundantly. This isn't a prosperity gospel message but a reminder that God rewards those who seek Him first.

2. Tithing and Giving Cultivate a Generous Spirit

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Tithing and giving help to break the hold of materialism and selfishness in our lives. By giving, we cultivate a spirit of generosity, which is at the heart of Christian living.

Generosity reflects the nature of God, who is the ultimate giver. When we give cheerfully, we align ourselves with God's character and open ourselves up to His blessings.

Giving isn't about the amount but the attitude. A generous spirit is marked by joy and willingness, understanding that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

3. Tithing and Giving Support the Work of the Kingdom

1 Corinthians 16:1-3 (NIV)

Now about the collection for the Lord's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. 2 On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.

Tithing and giving are essential for the advancement of God's Kingdom on earth. The resources given by believers support the church's mission, outreach, and ministry efforts.

When we tithe, we are directly contributing to the work of the church, ensuring that the gospel is preached, the poor are helped, and God's love is shared.

God promises that as we are faithful in our giving, He will bless us in return. The church is a storehouse where spiritual and physical needs are met, and our tithes and offerings make that possible.

4. Putting God First Aligns Our Priorities

Matthew 6:33

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Tithing, giving, and putting God first are interconnected. When we prioritize God in our finances, we are declaring that He is Lord over every area of our lives.

Putting God first helps to align our priorities with His. It reminds us that our ultimate goal is to seek His kingdom and righteousness above all else. When God is first, everything else falls into its proper place. Our decisions, actions, and even our financial management become a reflection of our commitment to Him.

Tithing, giving, and putting God first are more than religious obligations; they are expressions of our love, trust, and devotion to God. As we faithfully give and prioritize Him, we open the door to His blessings, cultivate a generous spirit, support His work on earth, and align our lives with His divine purpose. Let us commit to honor God with our wealth and put Him first in all things.