

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Why I Tithe
Stand-Alone Sermon

ICEBREAKER: If there were no animals in our world, what would we be missing?

OVERVIEW: Tithing is an awkward subject for many Christians. Most Christians do not tithe, and many do not give to the church at all. When the preacher talks about money, they skip church, or they accuse the pastor of greed and leave the church altogether. Many Christians know they should tithe, and they want to tithe, but their tithing track-record is sporadic at best. Sermons about money make them feel overwhelmed with guilt and shame. But tithing does not have to be such a difficult issue. In fact, God created tithing to be a huge blessing both spiritually and financially. In this study we will go deeper with everything you need to know to become a committed, consistent tither.

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Read Leviticus 27:30. Does the Bible command tithing? What are some other Biblical commands regarding money and possessions?
3. Some Christians believe that tithing is an Old Testament command that no longer applies to Christians. Why do they believe this? Do you agree? Explain.
4. Read Psalm 24:1-2. How much of your money belongs to God? How does this passage make tithing easier?

5. Read John 14:15. What is the relationship between tithing and loving God? How can you increase your love for God?
6. Read Matthew 10:28. What is the fear of the Lord? How does fearing God relate to tithing? How can you grow in the fear of the Lord?
7. Read Malachi 3:10-12. What is the promise in this verse? What is the condition? Should your motivation for tithing be to receive blessings from God? Explain.
8. God uses tithing to fund the local church. If God is infinitely wealthy, then why does He need us to fund His church? Why does the church need money anyway (see 1 Timothy 5:17-18)?
9. Deuteronomy 14:23 (TLB) says, "The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives." How does tithing teach us to put God first?
10. What is your history with tithing? How has God used tithing to bless you?

The Last Word: God has not truly captured your heart until He has captured your wallet.