

The Gospel Project for Adults, Summer 2015
Extended Instructional Approaches for Session 12

Intro: *Show a parody video about tithing.*

Watch this video with your class:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PwfMMN71xUw>

Then discuss the following question: Do you think that connecting tithing directly to blessing is the most effective way to help correct people's view on stewardship? Why or why not?

Point 3: *Use a quote for the sake of perspective.*

Read this quote from Martin Luther to your class:

Take a look at your own heart, and you will soon find out what has stuck to it and where your treasure is. It is easy to determine whether hearing the Word of God, living according to it, and achieving such a life gives you as much enjoyment and calls forth as much diligence from you as does accumulating and saving money and property.

Source: Mark Littleton, *Tales of the Neverending* (Chicago: Moody, 1990), 141.

Discuss where the enjoyment comes from in stewardship even though it is much easier to live according to the way of the world.

Conclusion: *Review ten reasons to tithe.*

Read this short article to your class:

“Why Give 10% or More of Your Income to the Lord's Work”
By Brian Kluth

In stewardship speaking engagements across America and on five continents, I have discovered two things:

First: Christians of all income levels have experienced spiritual joy, supernatural grace and divine help through the practice of making a specific commitment to GIVE 10% OR MORE of their resources to the Lord's work.

Second: The vast majority of pastors are reluctant to teach their congregations about money matters and Christian giving.

This list of 10 reasons to give 10% of more to the Lord's work was written to encourage laity and clergy that this subject can be biblically and practically taught and caught! When believers are taught to make it a priority to give to God first, it will ultimately bring greater financial freedom and blessing into their personal lives and to the ministries they support. Why give 10% or more of your income to the Lord's work?

1. It is a tried and proven pattern of giving by godly people throughout the ages (regardless of cultures and income levels). Genesis 14:17-20, 28:16-22; Leviticus 27:30; Proverbs 3:9, 10; Malachi 3:7-15; Matthew 23:23
2. It will help you revere God more in your life. Deuteronomy 14:23
3. It will bring God's wisdom and order to your finances and will help you harness the dragon of materialism. Matthew 6:19-21, 24-34; Luke 12:16-21; 1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19; Ecclesiastes 5:10
4. It will serve as a practical reminder that God is the Owner of everything you have. 1 Chronicles 29:11-18; Psalm 24; 1, 2; Psalm 59:10-12; Haggai 2:8
5. It will allow you to experience God's creative care and provisions in ways you would not otherwise experience. 1 Kings 17; Proverbs 3:9, 10; Malachi 3:7-15; Haggai 1:4-11, 2:15-10; Luke 6:38; Deuteronomy 14:23; Proverbs 3:5, 6; Malachi 3:8-10; Haggai 1:4-11, 2:15-19; 2 Corinthians 8:5

6. It will encourage your spiritual growth and trust in God.
Deuteronomy 14:23; Proverbs 3:5, 6; Malachi 3:8-10; Haggai 1:4-11,
2:15-19; 2 Corinthians 8:5

7. It will ensure you of treasure in heaven. 1 Timothy 6:18, 19;
Matthew 6:19-21; Hebrews 6:10; 3 John 8; 1 Samuel 30:22

8. It will strengthen the ministry, outreach, and stability of your local
church. Acts 2:42-27, 4:32; 2 Corinthians 9:12, 13

9. It will help provide the means to keep your pastor and missionaries
in full-time Christian service. 1 Corinthians 9:9-11, 14; 1 Timothy
5:17, 18; 3 John 5-8; Philippians 4:15-19; Galatians 6:6; Luke 8:3; 2
Kings 4:8-10

10. It will help accomplish needed building projects and renovations.
2 Chronicles 24:4-14; Exodus 35, 36; 2 Kings 12:2-16; 1 Chronicles
29:2-10; Ezekiel 1:4-6

[Source: Brian Kluth, "Why Give 10% or More of Your Income to the
Lord's Work," SermonCentral.com [online], 1997 [31 July 2015].
Available from the Internet: <http://www.sermonsearch.com/sermon-illustrations/2692/why-give-10-or-more-of-your-income-to-the-lords-work/>.]

Discuss with your class how these truths change their opinion about
stewardship.