

TITHE, OFFERING, *and* INVESTMENT *into the* KINGDOM *of* GOD

A Practical Apostolic Pentecostal Guide to
**GIVING, STEWARDSHIP, and
KINGDOM MULTIPLICATION**

Malachi 3:10
Leviticus 27:30
Genesis 14:20
Genesis 28:22
2 Corinthians 9:7
(ESV)



HONOR GOD
WITH YOUR
FIRSTFRUITS



GIVE
CHEERFULLY
& JOYFULLY



INVEST
IN WHAT
LASTS



MULTIPLY
THE
KINGDOM

— WRITTEN BY —

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Scripture readings: Malachi 3:10; Leviticus 27:30;
Genesis 14:20; Genesis 28:22; 2 Corinthians 9:7 (ESV)

Opening

Brothers and sisters, grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ. Today we turn to a subject that touches our wallets, our calendars, and the deepest places of our hearts: how we give — our tithes, our offerings, and how we invest what God has entrusted to us into the work of His Kingdom. This is not a lesson in finance; it is an invitation to worship. It is a call to live as stewards — people who acknowledge that everything we have is first and foremost God's.

Introduction: The Heart Behind Giving

Giving flows from relationship. It is the visible expression of trust: trust that God provides, trust that He cares for His people, and trust that His priorities are worth ours. The Bible repeatedly refuses to separate what we treasure from what we serve. Jesus said, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21). Our giving reveals the location of our hearts.

When we speak of stewardship, we are not only discussing budgets and bank accounts. We are talking about discipleship. Financial stewardship propels the

gospel, cares for the poor, trains leaders, and sustains the local church. Generosity forms character; it breaks the power of covetousness and sets us free to trust God’s providence.

Part I: Tithe — Definition, Scriptural Foundation, and Principles

What is a tithe? Historically and scripturally, a tithe is a tenth — a firstfruits acknowledgment of God’s provision. Leviticus affirms: “Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord’s; it is holy to the Lord” (Leviticus 27:30). In the patriarchal narratives we see Abram and Jacob offering tenths in response to God’s blessing (Genesis 14:20; 28:22). In Malachi God challenges His people: “Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house... and I will pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need” (Malachi 3:10).

Principles to hold:

- Firstfruits and priority. Tithing is about giving God the first, not the leftovers. When we place God first in our finances we acknowledge His lordship.
- Ownership and stewardship. Scripture consistently teaches that God owns all (Psalm 24:1). We are managers of what He entrusts to us.

- Consistency and faith. Regular, proportionate giving fosters trust — in God and in the community of faith.

How to approach tithing today: There is variation in practice about whether to tithe on gross or net income; that is a matter of conscience and community. The key is faithfulness and intentionality. Practical steps include setting up automatic giving, tracking your giving as a spiritual discipline, and aligning with your church’s definition of the “storehouse” — usually the local church and its ministries.

A pastoral caution: Never let tithing become legalism. The percentage is not a talisman. The New Testament stresses heart and motive. Yet the practice of a tithe can be a helpful baseline — a training in trust and priority.

Part II: Offerings — Beyond Tithing, Sacred Generosity

If the tithe plants a root, offerings are the blossoms. Offerings are extra gifts that flow from gratitude and compassion — funds given above the baseline tithe to meet needs, propel missions, and respond to crises. Offerings fund missions, disaster relief, benevolence, capital projects, and special initiatives like education and healthcare.

Paul’s word is brief and penetrating: “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7). Offerings ought to be voluntary, joyful, and proportionate to God’s work and our capacity.

Practical principle: Before you give to a project, ask: Does this align with Scripture? Is there clear purpose and accountability? Offerings can expand kingdom impact, but without transparency and discernment they can foster mission drift or misuse. Support ministries that can demonstrate clear objectives and measurable outcomes.

Part III: Investments in the Kingdom — Strategic Giving for Multiplied Impact

We are called not only to give, but to invest wisely. Kingdom investment means stewarding resources so they produce lasting spiritual fruit — disciples trained, churches planted, communities strengthened.

Principles of kingdom investment:

- Eternal ROI: Invest in things that last — discipleship, theological training, church planting, mercy ministries that change lives.
- Wise stewardship: Practically, this means due

diligence, risk management, and accountability.

- Collaboration: Partnering with other churches and ministries multiplies impact and avoids duplication.

Models:

- Long-term mission partnerships that support sustainable work on the ground.
- Grants for leadership development and theological education.
- Social enterprises that meet human needs and provide funding for ministry.
- Endowments and reserves that ensure future ministry resilience.

Risks are real: financial volatility, shifting donor interest, complex governance. Mitigate these by diversifying giving, insisting on oversight, setting clear metrics, and ensuring doctrinal alignment.

Part IV: Practical Steps for Transparent and Joyful Giving

How do we put these principles into practice?

1. Assess:

- Do a personal audit: record income, expenses, current giving. This is not about shame; it's about

clarity.

- Define your spiritual goals: What kingdom work moves you? Local mercy, global missions, leadership training?

2. Create a giving plan:

- Choose a baseline (many begin with 10% as a discipline) and plan offerings beyond that for specific needs and investments.
- Consider allocating a portion to longer-term kingdom investments — think of it like a ministry mutual fund.
- Review the plan quarterly or annually and adjust with prayer.

3. Control and accountability:

- Give through transparent channels: request receipts, ask for annual reports, and look for governance structures.
- Seek stewardship training from your church or trusted mentors.

4. Ethics and integrity:

- Avoid pressure tactics. True giving is voluntary and joyful.
- Request impact reports and ensure that funds are

used as promised.

Tools you can use: simple budget templates, mission-partner checklists (impact metrics, governance), and estate-planning conversations about legacy giving.

Part V: Common Questions and Practical Scenarios

Q: Should I tithe on gross or net income?

A: Different traditions teach differently. The important question is faithfulness and consistency. Discuss with your church leaders and let your conscience be informed by Scripture.

Q: Can I direct my offering to specific projects?

A: Often yes. Many churches allow designated giving, though some ask to direct gifts to where the need is greatest. Verify the policy and give where you believe the funds will do the most kingdom good.

Q: What if I'm in financial hardship?

A: God honors sincerity. Biblical examples commend sacrificial giving even from poverty (Mark 12:41–44). That does not mean you should jeopardize your family's basic needs. Adjust your giving, seek pastoral counsel, and prioritize staying afloat while trusting God for provision.

Q: How do I balance generosity with family responsibilities?

A: Stewardship includes caring for your household (1 Timothy 5:8). A sustainable giving plan honors God, sustains family, and models generosity for children. Build emergency savings, reduce debt, and then increase generosity as your situation permits.

Application — What This Means for Us

1. Evaluate where your treasure is. Take time this week to prayerfully examine your giving. Is God first? Are you giving with a cheerful heart?
2. Make a practical commitment. Decide one concrete step: begin a tithe, increase your offering by 1%, set up automatic giving, start a giving plan, or join a kingdom investment fund.
3. Partner with your church. Stewardship is corporate as well as personal. Meet with a leader, ask for transparency, and look for ways to serve beyond financial gifts.
4. Teach the next generation. Talk about why we give. Let children see generosity as worship, not as an obligation.

Illustration

Consider a farmer who plant one seed in good soil and waters it faithfully. Over time that seed produces

fruit, and some of that fruit becomes seed for the next season. Kingdom giving is like that — sowing that produces fruit that in turn multiplies future sowing. When we invest in discipleship or in training leaders, what we give now bears fruit for decades.

Closing Challenge

If you have never practiced tithing, consider this as a step of faith. If you already tithe, consider where offerings or investments might multiply your impact. If you are in hardship, take comfort: God sees the heart. And for all of us, let our giving be an act of worship, not of duty — generous, wise, and joyful.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, You are the owner of all. We thank You for Your provision and for entrusting us with resources for Your glory. Give us hearts of gratitude. Teach us to give sacrificially, cheerfully, and wisely. Help us to prioritize Your Kingdom above our comforts. Guide our decisions, guard our motives, and multiply the seed we sow for the sake of the gospel. Use our tithes, our offerings, and our investments to bring healing, hope, and faithful witnesses to every nation. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Benediction

Go now as stewards of God's manifold grace. Live generously, give joyfully, and invest in what endures. May the Lord open the windows of heaven over you as you honor Him with your first fruits and your faith.

Written By Elder Keith Joel Walker