## GIVING: PUTTING GOD FIRST

Sermon Series: Strapped

GOD'S WISDOM, WHEN APPLIED, LEADS TO FINANCIAL PEACE

### WHAT IS TITHING?

• TITHING IS <u>RETURNING</u> THE FIRST <u>10</u>% OF YOUR INCOME TO GOD'S CHURCH.

(Leviticus 27:30)

**②** TITHING IS GIVING GOD MY <u>FIRST</u> AND BEST SO HE CAN BLESS THE <u>REST</u>.

(Proverbs 3:9-10, 1 Corinthians 16:2)

### **WHY TITHE?**

• TITHING PROVIDES FOR GOD'S WORK THROUGH THE CHURCH.

(Malachi 3:10)

② TITHING TEACHES ME TO PUT GOD FIRST.

(Deuteronomy 14:23 TLB, Malachi 3:8-9, Matthew 23:23NLT)

**3** TITHING BUILDING MYY FAITH IN GOD.

(Malachi 3:10b)

### THE BOTTOM LINE

✓ COMMON SENSE SHOUTS...

"...GIVE LAST!"

✓ uncommon cents whispers...

"...give first."

Current Series: Strapped
Giving: Putting God First 3-by Pastor Jesse Elizondo (12/20/15).

# **REALife Application**

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or REALife Group.

#### Main Idea:

Tithing is giving God my first and best so He can bless the rest.

- What's one idea from the message that really stood out to you? Why did this idea grab your attention?
- Are you giving God your first and best? Why or why not?
- Share a time when your faith grew as a result of your giving. What did you learn about God from your experience?
- With your Bible or YouVersion, read and discuss Leviticus 27:30, Proverbs 3:9-10, and Malachi 3:8-12.
- How can tithing be a form of accountability for you?
- What are some of the barriers you've faced or are facing that keep you from tithing?
- Jesse shared some of the ways tithing has enabled God to work through the church in significant ways. What are some of the things God is doing through the church that you are most excited about?
- Why do you think Malachi 3 is the only place in the Bible where God asks us to test Him?
- What is the connection between our hearts and our giving?

### **Next Steps:**

• What's one thing you will do this week as a result of something you learned from this message?

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