

“Why Tithe?”

Pekin First Church of the Nazarene

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Rev. Lloyd Brock – *NWIL District Superintendent*

- DS Update

In the Bible, we find a powerful principle of tithing, which is the act of giving back a portion of what we have been blessed with. Just like seeds, our financial resources have the potential to make a significant impact in the lives of others and in advancing God's kingdom. When we choose to tithe, we are not merely giving away a small part of our income - we are sowing seeds of faith, trust, and obedience.

- **Tithing is not just a _____ financial _____ transaction; it is a reflection of our trust and gratitude towards God.**
- **Remember, tithing is not an obligation or burden, but an _____ opportunity _____ to partner with the Creator of all things.**
- **Definition: A TITHE = _____ one-tenth _____.**

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

A Man Called Melchizedek in Genesis 14

“Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was a priest of God Most High, and He blessed Abram, saying, “Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. And blessed be God Most High who delivered your enemies into your hand. Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.” **Genesis 14:18-20 (NIV)**

Now we move to the very end of the Old Testament. We're a thousand years down the road now. Listen as God speaks to His disobedient people in **Malachi 3:8-10 (NIV)**

“Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, “How are we robbing you?” In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have enough room for it.”

What does the New Testament teach concerning Christian giving?

1 Corinthians 16:1-2 (NIV) contains the most concise teaching on this subject

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

1. Why tithe? God wants us to be _____ generous _____, _____ giving _____ people.

- The word *believe* is used 272 times. ■ The word *pray* is used 371 times.
- The word *love* is used 714 times. ■ **But the word *give* is used 2,162 times.**

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” Luke 6:38 (NIV)

- Let’s ask Jesus: How do you want me to become more generous, to grow in generosity? How do you want me to express generosity?

2. Why tithe? God want us to trust Him _____ completely _____.

- Let’s ask Jesus: Help me to learn to trust You in every area of my life. Where am I holding back?

3. Why tithe? God wants us to make a difference in His kingdom, His Church, and make an eternal impact through _____ our lives _____.

- Let’s ask Jesus: What difference can I make Lord? How can I have Maximum Kingdom Impact?

4. Why tithe? God wants to abundantly _____ bless us _____.

“Good will come to those who are generous.” Psalm 112:5 (NIV)

“Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home.” Luke 16:9 (NLT)

- Let’s ask Jesus: What blessing from God am I missing out on? How does my mindset need to change?

The Practice of Joyful Giving.

“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 (NIV)

- Personal Reflection and Response

_____ **I am a PFN tither. I will continue to be a faithful tither as God helps me. Thank you. We will pray for you.**

_____ **I am choosing today to become a tither or regular giver. I make this commitment asking for God to help me. We will pray for you.**

_____ **This is a new concept for me. I need to process this and consider what God desires for me and my family. Please pray for me. We will pray for you.**