

WORTH IT.

Message 2 – God’s Worth It

Announcements

- **2018 Community Series // *The Other Side: Getting Through Life’s Storms* //** Starting January 13-14! Pray and consider hosting this five-week study on overcoming adversity. Talk with your small group host about questions on hosting a group for your family, friends, or colleagues. More to come!

Warm-up

What was the most expensive gift you’ve ever received? Name a gift you received that, while inexpensive, meant a lot to you.

Word and Application

Today we are discussing the second message in our series entitled *Worth It*. It is clear in Scripture that God wants to bless His children in every way, including finances. We will look at the foundation of *tithing* God has established from the beginning of history that can unlock the blessings He has already prepared for you.

Read Genesis 14:17-20. What do you think Abraham was expressing by giving Melchizedek a tithe?

Tithing is the primary way we thank God for His increase and simultaneously acknowledge that it all comes from Him. Abraham tithed to Melchizedek before Scripture was even written, he tithed because he recognized that God was his resource, not himself. Lets look at Scripture to see God’s perspective on tithing.

Three Aspects of The Tithe:

1. Tithing is a test

Every time we get paid, God is testing our hearts to see if we think He is *Worth It* enough to acknowledge that all our finances come from Him. Tithing also reveals to God if we love our money more than we love Him. This is the only area God invites us to test Him.

Read Malachi 3:6-10. How can you summarize this passage in your own words? Why does God Almighty invite us to test him with the tithe? With all that is going on in this world, explain how tithing and investing your future to God is the only sure way to have peace in today's times.

2. Tithing is biblical

Read Genesis 28:22, Leviticus 27:30 and Deuteronomy 26:1-2. Although tithing started *before* Scripture was even written, it is a biblical principle of putting God first that is supported in His Word.

Read Matthew 23:23 and Hebrews 7:8. What difference does it make to God that you tithe with the right heart? The expectation is that you tithe because you want to put God first. Your tithe is to be given out of honor and awe of who God is and with a pure heart.

3. Tithing is a blessing

God's heart is to bless His children. He wants to open the heavens and pour His Favor upon you as you acknowledge by giving back 10% that He is your resource of all things. You are a child of God and all the blessings that come with that position are yours for the taking.

Read: 2 Chronicles 31:4. Why did King Hezekiah demand financial support from the people? How might this apply to the Church in today's world? **Read 2 Chronicles 31:5-10.** Explain how God's word is true and how faithful God is to His word and how tithing is the one thing we can be confident God will stand behind. Share a time when God supernaturally provided for you or someone you know in response to faithful tithing.

Ask yourself the following questions this week; *have I trusted God with his command of the tithing? Why or Why not?*

- If you are tithing, ask God to check that your heart is pure and cheerful in this area.
- If you are not tithing consistently and faithfully, ask God for understanding and faith to believe and test Him in this area so we can unlock blessing that are stored for us in heaven. Then commit to testing God and see what happens!

Prayer

Thank God for all He accomplished through Jesus that made it possible for us to be children of God so that we can be 100% confident that God is faithful and will bless us when we tithe to Him. Pray for the specific needs of the group.