

# THE PURPOSE OF GIVING

## What Is Giving?

**Giving, based on the New Testament, is a cheerful response to the work of God in your life.**

*2 Corinthians 9:6-7 "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

## Why Do We Give?

The Bible says, *"The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives."* ~ Deuteronomy 14:23 (TLB). Giving is a reminder that God is the supplier of everything we have. It is also God's personal invitation to an outpouring of his blessing in your life.

*Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. –Malachi 3:10*

This is the only place in Scripture where God tells us to put Him to the test. In other words, he's saying, "Go ahead. I dare you. See if you can out-give me!"

## What is Your Next Step in Giving?

One way West Lynchburg encourages you to honor God is by committing to take a greater step in giving over the **next 4 months**. Not only will you be obeying God, but God will bless you in return.

### The 4 steps of growth in giving:

- **Initial Giver** - give my first gift
- **Consistent Giver** - giver regularly
- **Proportional Giver** - consistently give a percentage, 1%, 5%, 10%, and beyond. By the way, "tithe" means "tenth" which is defined as the first 10% of a person's income.
- **Sacrificial Giver** - give as a lifestyle of generosity

Is God wise? Do you trust Him? These are two fundamental questions behind the act of giving. If God is wise, then you should listen to what He says about financial stewardship. If you trust Him, then you should trust Him with all aspects of your life, including your finances. So go ahead. Accept God's invitation to put Him to the test. Start giving faithfully and watch what He does in and through your life.

Simply sign up for the challenge and we'll send you some resources to get you started. We'll also send encouragement along the way.

### [Take the 4-month Giving Challenge](#)



If you need assistance with online giving, call the church office at 434-845-4600.