



March 6, 2016

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<sup>6</sup> Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. <sup>7</sup> You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." <sup>8</sup> And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. <sup>9</sup> As the Scriptures say, "They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever." <sup>10</sup> For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you. <sup>11</sup> Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God. **2 Corinthians 9:6-11 (NLT)**

- The principle of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
  - God is a \_\_\_\_\_ giver - "For God so loved that He gave."
  - God is looking for people through whom He can funnel \_\_\_\_\_ to make a difference in our world.
  - We are most like God when we \_\_\_\_\_.
- The problem is \_\_\_\_\_
  - "\_\_\_\_\_ not!" is the most repeated command in God's Word. - 365 times.
  - God wants to move us from fear to \_\_\_\_\_

## Three Types of Giving

### 1. Tithes

<sup>6</sup> For I the LORD do not change; ... Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, "How shall we return?" <sup>8</sup> Will anyone rob God? Yet you are robbing me! But you say, "How are we robbing you?" In your tithes and offerings! <sup>9</sup> You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me—the whole nation of you! <sup>10</sup> Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.

**Malachi 3:6-10 (NRSV)**

- Returning the \_\_\_\_\_ tenth to God.
- The principle of the tithe: God established the tithe to work selfishness and greed out of our heart and to work faith into our \_\_\_\_\_.

Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be. **Matthew 6:21 (NLT)**

### 2. Offerings

- Giving \_\_\_\_\_ the tithe

### 3. Extravagant Offerings

- God invites you to \_\_\_\_\_ with him to bless someone through an extravagant act of selflessness.

### My Next Step Today Is To...

- Meditate on and/or memorize Matthew 6:21
- Desire to have God use me and do His work through me as I commit to live a life of joyful generosity.
- Take the Tithing Challenge.
- Give the biggest gift I have to give, myself, to God so that I can receive the biggest gift He has given, Jesus.