


STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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- ❖ A popular phrase says, “Money talks.” If your money talked TO you, what would it probably say? If it talked ABOUT you to others?
 - ❖ What excuses have you heard people use for not giving a tithe (10% of income) to God? Make a list, ranking them in order of their legitimacy. How did God help you to overcome some of those issues in your own stewardship of finances? If someone told you they’d like to start tithing, what would your advice to them be?
 - ❖ Read Jesus’ words in Matthew 23:23-24 about the Pharisees and their tithing. How is it possible to “go wrong” tithing? What things are “more important” than tithing to God and why? What would you say to someone, based on Jesus’ words here, who thought they could just do the more important things and “skip” tithing?
 - ❖ When have you felt convinced that God wanted you to give a sum of money for an offering or special purpose? What need did it meet for others? What did YOU gain from the experience?
 - ❖ Review “The 7 Laws of Stewardship.” (If your group did the “brainstorming” activity last week, how close were you?) Which of them are most inspiring to you? Convicting? Which do you want to understand and practice better? Pray over these together as a group.
-  Teach your kids the truth of “stewardship” while they’re young and you’ll be laying the foundation for true financial freedom in their adult lives, helping them learn to handle money wisely now. (You’ll be surprised how fast they’ll get the concepts and be proud to see them master giving and saving.) Set up 3 “banks” where they put parts of ALL money they earn, are given as allowances or gifts. Small coffee cans with plastic lids work great! Label one “Giving” (the first part of all they get given back to the Lord in worship), one “Saving,” and one “Spending.” Help them determine what 10% is (perhaps make a chart for them with amounts listed) and have them put this amount in both, their “Giving” and “Saving” cans. Let them use their “Spending” money as they wish. Help them plan to save for things they want but don’t have enough spending money to buy. You’ll be amazed how frugal their spending will become, and how conscientious a saver and generous a giver they’ll become!

generosity

February 19, 2012

“First Things First”

Proverbs 3:9 (TLB) Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income, and he will fill your barns with wheat and barley and overflow your wine vats with the finest wines.

The 7 Laws of Stewardship

1. The law of C _____

Ask: “ _____?”

1 Chronicles 29:11-12, 16 (NIV) “Everything in heaven and earth is yours ... Wealth and honor come from you...it comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you.”

2. The law of C _____

Ask: “ _____?”

1 Corinthians 4:7 (NIV) What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?

3. The law of C _____

Ask: “ _____?”

1 Timothy 6:17-19 (NIV) Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

Check out www.globalrichlist.com

4. The law of C _____

Ask: “ _____?”

2 Corinthians 6:1 (NCV) "We are workers together with God."

Romans 11:35-36 (NIV) "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever!

5. The law of C _____

Ask: " _____?"

2 Corinthians 9:6,8,10 (NLT) A farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop ...God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others...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.

6. The law of C _____

Ask: " _____?"

7. The law of C _____

Ask: " _____?"

God first in my finances

Malachi 3:8-11 (NKJV) "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed you?' In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house, and try me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes."

➡ Respect the _____ of tithing.

Abel's offering in Genesis 4:3-4; Abraham's tithing in Genesis 14:18-23; Jacob's tithing in Genesis 28:20-22; Jesus' in Matthew 23:23

➡ Adopt the _____ of tithing.

Deuteronomy 14:23 (TLB) The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives.

➡ Honor the _____ of your tithes.

Leviticus 27:30 (NIV) "A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD."

➡ Remember the _____ of tithes.

John 6:9,11 (NIV) "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"...Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

➡ Experience _____ to tithers.

1 Samuel 2:30 (CEV) "I honor anyone who honors me, but I put a curse on anyone who hates me."

Bible Versions used: NIV-New International; NLT-New Living Translation; CEV-Contemporary English; TLB-Living Bible; NCV-New Century; NKJV-New King James

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