

Tithe your income and resources to God

Colossians 2:6-7

⁶ And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. ⁷ Let your roots grow down into him to be rooted in Him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

Read God's Word daily

Obey the leading of the Holy Spirit

Offer your prayer and thanksgiving to God

Tithe your income and resources to God

Enjoy fellowship with God's people

Declare your faith in Christ publicly

1. Tithing is the baseline gold standard for giving

A. Malachi 3:6-12

⁶ "I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. ⁷ Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD Almighty. "But you ask, 'How are we to return?'⁸ "Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?'¹¹In tithes and offerings. ⁹ You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. ¹⁰ 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 there will not be room enough to store it. ¹¹ I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe," says the LORD Almighty. ¹² "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the LORD Almighty.

2. Cheerful generosity is the attitude of giving

2 Corinthians 9:7-10

⁷ Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written:

"They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;

their righteousness endures forever."

¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.

3. Sacrificial commitment is the model for giving

Luke 21:1-4

As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. ² He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. ³ "Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. ⁴ All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

2 Cor. 8:1-5

And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ² In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³ For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴ they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. ⁵ And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us

4. God's Kingdom agenda is the priority for giving

5. Circumstances and opportunities occasion special giving

6. Extravagant out of the box gifts are possibilities for giving

Acts 2:45-46

⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.

Acts 4:33-35

And with great power the apostles were giving testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all. ³⁴ For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales ³⁵ and lay them at the apostles' feet, and they would be distributed to each as any had need.

7. Reaping what you sow is the principle of giving

2 Corinthians 9:6

⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

Galatians 6:6-7

⁶ The one who is taught the word is to share all good things with the one who teaches *him*. ⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap

Practical Application

- 1. Start tithing as a regular spiritual habit
- 2. Increase your giving as a spiritual commitment
- 3. Give a first fruit gift as an act of faith
- 4. Pray about an extravagant out of the box gift