

The Tithe

Basic Theology Training

Answering the 10% Question//
What's the followers of Christ's Role?//
What's the church's role?//



New Horizons
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Bedrock Guide - The Tithe

Why This Sermon Matters

This is the ninth message in our Bedrock series, equipping believers with the foundations of Christian faith. This lesson's focus is money, one of the most practical and personal areas of discipleship.

Ryan reminds us: the tithe is not about church budgets or guilt trips...it's about learning to trust God, aligning our hearts, and joining in His mission.

Think of this guide as an invitation to wrestle with Scripture, confront heart issues, and grow into joyful generosity.

Core Truths About the Tithe

- 10% Is a Biblical Starting Point for Generosity
- Abraham and Jacob modeled tithing (Genesis 14:20; 28:22).
- Old Testament law codified it (Leviticus 27:30; Numbers 18:21).
- Israel often gave more than 10% through multiple tithes (Deut. 26:12).

Reflect:

- Why do you think God used a percentage instead of a fixed amount?
- How could starting with 10% help train your heart in generosity?

Jesus Fulfilled the Tithe — We're Not Limited to 10%

- Jesus affirmed the tithe while calling for justice, mercy, and faith (Matt. 23:23).
- Early believers practiced radical generosity, giving "beyond their ability" (Acts 2:44-47; 2 Cor. 8:1-5).
- The New Testament model is not about minimums but about sacrificial, Spirit-led giving.

Reflect:

- Do you view 10% as a finish line or a starting point?
- What might "unthinkable generosity" look like in your life?

Christians Are to Cultivate Trusting, Joyful Giving

- All we own belongs to God (Psalm 24:1).
- God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9:7-8).
- Giving tests and heals the heart: are we trusting Him or clinging to control?
- Example: the widow gave 100% (Mark 12:41-44).

Reflect:

- What heart issues or fears keep you from giving freely?
- How have you seen God provide when you trusted Him financially?

The Church Uses the Tithe to Fuel God's Mission

- Support worship and preaching (1 Tim. 5:17; 1 Cor. 9:13-14).
- Care for the needy (Acts 4:34-35; Gal. 2:10).
- Support missions (Phil. 4:15-16; 3 John 5-8).

Reflect:

- How does your giving connect to real ministry impact?
- Which part of the church's mission (worship, compassion, missions, leadership) excites you most?

Dig Deeper Questions

- Why is money often the hardest area to surrender to God?
- How does generosity protect us from greed and soften our hearts?
- What's the difference between giving reluctantly and giving joyfully?
- How might your faith grow if you practiced radical generosity?
- How does understanding the church's financial responsibilities help you see giving differently?

Recommended Next Steps

- ✓ Read Malachi 3 and 2 Corinthians 8-9.
- ✓ Track your spending this week and pray over it.
- ✓ Take a step of faith — if you've never tithed, try giving 10% for one month.

✓ Share your giving testimony with someone to encourage their faith.

Final Thought


Ryan closed with this reminder:

“I tithe. Lindey and I give 10% of our income to NHCC. It shows God I trust Him, keeps my heart soft, gives my job eternal value, and puts God first in everything.”

Giving is not just about dollars. It’s about discipleship, trust, and aligning your heart with God’s mission.

Small Group Questions

- Why is generosity such a central theme in both Old and New Testaments?

 Read Genesis 14:18–20 - What does Abraham’s tithe show about faith and worship?

- How does Jesus’ teaching in Matthew 23:23 challenge shallow giving?

 Read Matthew 23:23 - Why is justice, mercy, and faith inseparable from giving?

- What keeps people from trusting God with their money? How can we help each other grow?

 Read 2 Corinthians 9:6–8 - What promises are tied to generous giving?

- Why do you think God designed the church to be funded through the generosity of believers?

 Read 1 Timothy 5:17–18 - What do these verses teach about supporting ministry workers?

- How might practicing generosity reshape your faith, your family, and your church community?