



Why We Teach Giving (and not Tithing) at CrossLife CC

“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.” 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

At CrossLife CC, we believe that our financial giving is an act of worship and a response to the grace we’ve received through the gospel. Our prayer is that those who support the mission and ministry of CrossLife would give not out of guilt but out of grace, not from duty but from delight, not under compulsion but from a cheerful heart. For those familiar with our Sunday worship program, this is why we state “Worship through Giving” and not “Worship through Tithing”. As Christians under the new covenant, we are under grace, not under law. The way we live, and the way we give, is a reflection of our love for Christ and His church. So we do not teach “old covenant law-tithing” (10% gross income); rather, at CrossLife we encourage “new covenant grace-giving” that is Cheerful, Regular, Overgenerous, Sacrificial, and Sowing (“C-R-O-S-S”). As a result, we are blessed by putting our trust in Christ and not in our currency, demonstrating that He is our true treasure and pleasure.

“New Testament believers are never commanded to tithe...The guideline for our giving to God and His work is found in 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.’” Pastor John MacArthur, Grace Community Church

“Even though tithing is not mandated, there is no call in the New Testament to hoard one’s possessions or to live selfishly...God is to be our treasure and hence believers are to give generously and freely. For most believers in the West, that means giving more than a tithe.” Dr. Thomas Schreiner, Professor of New Testament at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

“I view the tithe of 10% as I view a child’s first steps. His first steps are not his last, neither are they his best, but they are a fine beginning. So is the tithe. Tithing is for many the first toddler steps of stewardship. It is the training wheels on the bicycle of true giving. It may not be a home run, but it gets you on base.” Author Randy Alcorn, President of Eternal Perspective Ministries

“God’s extra provision is usually not intended to raise our standard of living, but to raise our standard of giving. As 2 Corinthians 9:11 teaches us, ‘You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.’” Author Randy Alcorn, President of Eternal Perspective Ministries