



**Part 3 - First Things First
November 20, 2016**

ICEBREAKER: What is the First thing you do in the morning? What is the best thing that you own?

MAIN POINTS:

**A stagnant life says no,
A blessed life flows**

EXPLORATION:

- 1. Read Genesis 4:1-7. What was the difference between Cain and Abel's offering and heart?**

(Context Clues- Some people believe that God was displeased because Cain gave a grain offering and Abel gave an animal sacrifice. The context shows that their heart was different because Abel gave his first and his best. Cain waited and gave after a period of time.)

- 2. Read Exodus 13:1-2 and Exodus 23:19. How are these verses similar and different?**

(Context Clues- the item offered in the two is different. The similarity is that in both God requires the first.)

3. Read Proverbs 3:9-10. What is significant about the richest and wisest man in the world at that time teaching that we should give God of our first fruits? What is the consequence of doing so?

(Context Clues- Blessing is the consequence not the motivation for giving God our first and our best.)

4. Read Malachi 1:6-8 and 3:8-10. Discuss the details that these passages include around the idea that we should give God our first, our best and a tenth.

APPLICATION:

1. Read Matthew 6:21. If the location of your treasure identifies the location of your heart, then where is your treasure and your heart? If someone opened your checkbook what would they conclude is the treasure of your heart?

2. Read Matthew 6:33. What does this verse suggest about the main point? How could you apply this verse to give God your first and your best??

3. Have any members share testimonies of how God blessed them when they made the commitment to tithe. (You should ask ahead of time)

4. Pray for God's blessing to flow into and out of River Point Community Church and our families. Continue to pray that God would truly bless our efforts for Operation Christmas Child.