

Name: _____

Date: _____

GIVE CHEERFULLY

“So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Objectives

<i>Knowledge of God’s Will</i>	God has freely given all we have, and we should return what He has given us.
<i>Knowledge of God</i>	God wants us to give willingly with joy. In giving, we will receive innumerable blessings.
<i>Good Works</i>	God provides our needs. He blesses and loves those who give cheerfully.
	Tithing shows what we treasure in our hearts, and makes more room for God.
	Learn to be generous by giving ourselves first to the Lord.

A. Understanding Tithing

Tithing in the Bible (Num 18:26–28; Deut 14:22–23, 28–29)

Tithing showed the Israelites’ spiritual dedication to God. A portion of the yearly tithe was eaten to remind themselves of God’s provision. But it also served a practical purpose in supporting God’s workers and the needy. Jesus later had to remind the people that while we should always return what God gave to us, we shouldn’t use tithing as an excuse to neglect our duties of justice, mercy, and faith (Mt 23:23).

Tithing Today

Our offerings are needed for paying workers, but they also serve as a reflection of our spiritual offering. Tithing shows our love for God and reminds us that everything we have comes from God. Otherwise, we are robbing Him of what is rightfully His (Mal 3:8).

B. Examples of Tithing and Giving

1. *The Pharisee (Lk 18:10–14)*: To him, his tithe was simply a part of his obligation, and a way to show off his religious devotion. He gave to keep the law, not out of love for God.
2. *The Widow (Mk 12:41–44)*: Although the widow gave very little, Jesus commended her because she gave all she had willingly, out of love and the goodness of her heart.

Our attitude clearly makes all the difference when offering to God! He desires that we give willingly, with joy, and with a heart to serve. Paul used the example of the Macedonians, who were poor themselves, but desired to help, so they experienced joy in giving what they could (2 Cor 8:1–15).

C. Principles of Tithing

1. *Giving is a matter of the heart (2 Cor 8:2, 12; 9:6)*
2. *Giving is a personal choice (2 Cor 9:7)*
3. *Give in proportion to what God has given (2 Cor 9:10)*

D. The Results of Giving

1. *God will increase the fruits of our righteousness*
2. *God will enrich our lives*
3. *We become partners in the ministry*
4. *Giving brings thanksgiving and glory to God*

Life Application

1. Learning to Tithe
2. Learning to Be Generous

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Lesson 9 Homework Assignment

Give Cheerfully

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse (2 Corinthians 9:7):

1. What is the most important aspect of giving, according to the memory verse?
2. “Will a man _____? Yet you have _____ Me! But you say, ‘In what way have we _____ You?’ In _____ and _____.” (Malachi 3:8)
3. “He who sows _____ will also reap _____, and he who sows _____ will also reap _____.” (2 Corinthians 9:6)
4. What principles should we follow when tithing according to the Bible?
5. What do we receive as a result of tithing?
6. Where does your time and money usually go? What “treasures” do you keep in your heart?
7. What is one action that you will try to take each week in order to increase your generosity?