

# What the Bible Teaches About Tithing

The word “tithe” means a “tenth part” or 10%. In the Bible God tells us that we are to give the first 10% of all we earn back to him.

## Why Should I tithe? (10 Reasons from God’s Word)

### 1. **Because the Lord Commands It.**

“A tithe of all your produce is the Lord’s, and it is holy.” (Leviticus 27:30). Jesus said, “Yes, you should tithe and you shouldn’t leave more the important things undone either.” (Matthew 23:23). Tithing was the only thing Jesus commended the Pharisees for doing.

### 2. **Because Tithing Shows That God Has First Place in my Heart**

The purpose of tithing is to teach you to put God first place in your life. (Deut. 14:23). If God does not have first priority in your finances, He isn’t really first place in your life.

### 3. **Because it Reminds Me That Everything I Have was Given to Me By God**

“Always remember that it is the Lord your God who gives you the ability to produce wealth.” (Deut. 8:18). Rather than feeling I’m giving God 10% of my money, realize God is letting you keep 90% of His money. Without God’s help, you would have nothing.

### 4. **Because Tithing Expresses My Gratitude to God for Helping Me Earn Income**

“How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me?” (Psalm 116:12). Here’s the answer: “Each of you should bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you.” (Deut. 16:17)

### 5. **Because Refusing to Tithe is Stealing From God**

If you don’t tithe, God says you are using money that rightfully belongs to him. God says, “Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing me! But you ask, ‘How do we rob you?’ God says, ‘In tithes and offering. Bring your whole tithe to my house.’” (Malachi 3:8-10)

### 6. **Because Tithing gives God a Chance to Prove to You that He Exists and Wants to Bless You**

“‘Bring me your tithe. Test me in this,’ says the Lord, ‘and see if I won’t throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. I will prevent pests from devouring your crops and the vines in your fields will be protected from plagues.’” (Malachi 3:10-11)

This is one of the most amazing promises in the Bible. God actually offer you a challenge. He says, “I dare you! Start tithing and watch what happens!” He not only

promises to bless you with more, but he also promises to protect what you already have. Start tithing and get ready for God's blessing.

**7. Because It is Essential to Spiritual Growth**

"Just as you grow in everything-in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in earnestness and love...see that you also grow in the grace of giving." (2 Corinthians 8:7) Many Christians remain spiritual babies because they disobey God by not tithing.

**8. Because Tithing Shows I Really Love God**

"Where your treasure is, your heart will be also." (Matthew 6:21). Where ever you put your money is where your affection is going to be. Every time you give back to God you are drawn closer to him. You may say you love God, but 2 Corinthians 8:8 says that your giving tests the sincerity of your love. You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving. Jesus said, "If you really love me, do what I command." (John 14:15).

**9. Because Tithing is an Investment for Eternity**

Jesus told us to "store up treasures in heaven." (Matthew 6:19-20). How do you do that? By investing your money in helping people get to know Jesus.

**10. Because You Cannot Out Give God**

There are more promises in the Bible connected to giving than any other subject. Giving unlocks the promises of God in your life. When you give, God always give back to you in greater degree. Jesus said, "For is you give, you will get. Your gift will return to you in full and overflowing measure. Whatever measure you use to give it will be used to measure what is given back to you." (Luke 6:38)

**What Should I Tithe?**

The first 10% of every paycheck, and all else you earn. "Honor the Lord by giving him first part of all your income and he will fill your barns...to overflowing." (Proverbs 3:9-10) God wants first place. So rather than giving him "leftover" income at the end of the month, give to him first.

**Should I Tithe on My Net Income or Gross Income?**

Which do you want God to bless: your net or your gross income? Proverbs 3:9 says we are to honor God with the first part of all our income. We believe that means the gross income.

**What is the Difference Between a Tithe and an Offering?**

A tithe is 10% of your income. An offering is anything you give in addition to your tithe (financial gifts for missions, church building fund, special projects, etc.). Tithing is God's minimum standard of giving; the starting point. As God prospers you, you will want to give more.

### **Where Should I Give My Tithe?**

The Bible is clear that God expects the tithe to be given back to him at the place where you worship. In the Old Testament they brought their tithes to the Temple. In the New Testament the tithe was given at the synagogue or church. While there are many fine organizations, charities, and ministries, the church is God's institution. You may support other ministries with additional offerings; but the tithe is to be given to the church where you worship.

### **Ways You Can Give – Options for giving at Faith:**

- Place tithes in the offering during services (for tax purposes, use offering envelopes or pay by check).
- Mail in, or drop off at the church office during office hours. (M – Th, 8:00 – 4:30)
- Give online anytime at [www.faith.onthecity.org](http://www.faith.onthecity.org).
- Drop your tithe/offering envelope in the kiosk right outside the auditorium doors before or after each service.