



Week 1: Know It

1 WHAT DOES THE BIBLE REFER TO AS THE TITHE?

- A. In the Old Testament, the word “Tithe” means to **set aside** a certain amount of one’s **income for God**. It is to be the first part and is **Holy to the Lord**. A tithe refers to a **tenth** of one’s income because the word literally means “tenth” or 10%.
 - I. Have students give an example. An example would be if you had \$100, then 10% would be \$10.
 - a. It was to be the first of everything you receive, and you must set it apart.
 - i. Leviticus 27:30 says, “**A tithe of everything** from the land, whether **grain from the soil or fruit from the trees**, belongs to the Lord: it is **holy** to the Lord.”
 - ii. Exodus 23:19 - “The **first of the first fruits** of your land you shall bring into the house of the **Lord your God**.”

2 WHY SHOULD WE BRING GOD OUR FIRST 10%?

- A. It is a **reminder** for us as believers that **everything belongs to God**, and we are to honor Him by putting Him first in our lives and finances.
 - I. If I were to lend you my car that belongs to me, would you have a hard time bringing my car back to me after I let you use it?
 - a. No! Why? Because the car belongs to me!
 - II. It’s the same when we bring our tithes! We can **give cheerfully** because we acknowledge it already belongs to Him.

3 WHERE IS YOUR TITHE TO BE GIVEN?

- A. Malachi 3:10 says, “Bring the **whole tithe** into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this.”
 - I. The local storehouse is represented today as the local church.
 - II. When we bring our tithes to the local church, it helps to advance the ministries that help us reach people for Jesus.

4 WHAT DOES THE BIBLE REFER TO AS AN OFFERING?

- A. Offerings are primarily an **expression of gratitude** to God for all He has done in our lives. They are given above the tithe to be used to **bless others** and to further the Kingdom of God.
 - I. They can be monetary, material gifts, or any need that could be met to bless others.
 - a. Have students share examples of their offerings.
- B. As an example, the offerings given at Victory support what we call “Kingdom Builders.” This provides support to Local Church Expansion, Global Missions, and Future Christian Leaders.

5 WHAT’S OUR HEART POSTURE WHEN WE GIVE?

- A. Gifts should be given **willingly and cheerfully**.
 - B. 2 Corinthians 9:7 - “Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”
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Week 2: Have It

LAST WEEK'S RECAP / STUDENTS' ANSWER - CORRECT ANSWERS GET A PRIZE.

- A. What is a Tithe?
 - I. The first 10% of our income. It is to be the first part and is Holy to the Lord.
- B. Why do we Tithe?
 - I. It reminds us that everything belongs to God, and a portion is brought back to God to thank Him for what we have received.
- C. Where is the Tithe to be given?
 - I. To the local church where you worship.
- D. What are Offerings?
 - I. Money, Time, and Things given above the Tithe to bless others and further the Kingdom of God. It is given because we are thankful for all God has done in our lives. (Victory gives to Kingdom Builders.)
- E. How should Tithes and Offerings be given?
 - I. Gifts should be given willingly and cheerfully.

God says to test Him in your giving.

- A. Malachi 3:10 - "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

ACTIVITY

- A. Have the students grab a piece of paper and write down what they are believing in God for, as they put Him first!
 - I. Examples: car, college tuition, a job... etc.

NEXT STEPS

- A. What decision can we make starting today to do with the first part of our income?
- B. How can our small group come together and reach our goal for our offering to Kingdom Builders?
 - I. Call to Action: Bring your tithe next week as a group, as we recognize everything we own belongs to Him FIRST!
 - II. You can give online (myvfc.info/give) or in the giving envelopes in the auditorium.



Week 3: Share It

TITHES AND OFFERINGS ARE TO BE USED TO FURTHER THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND BLESS OTHERS.

- A. Jesus Himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)
 - I. Remember this from 2 Corinthians 9:6-8:
 - a. "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."
- B. Small Group Leader: Share an experience when you trusted the Lord financially and put Him first.
 - a. Explain how you saw the blessing of the Lord through this.

ACTIVITY

- A. Have each student write out an elevator speech (1 minute) to share with the group about what tithe and offerings are, and the WHY behind it biblically.
 - I. Goal - Students should be able to effectively communicate this in a host spot in service, at their schools, or to another believer.
 - B. Have each student take turns in the group and present the elevator speech they wrote on their note card.
 - C. Receive the group's tithes they brought and pray over them together before putting them in the offering boxes.
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