

February 10/11 Pastor Dave Patterson

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so use the discussion questions as you see fit, but emphasize the relationships.

Proverbs 11:24-25

Give freely and become more wealthy; be stingy and lose everything. **The generous will prosper**; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

Proverbs 11:24 (MSG)

The world of the generous gets larger and larger; the world of the stingy gets smaller and smaller.

Three reasons why we give:

- 1. It's an act of worship
- 2. In obedience to the Word
- 3. It makes a difference in eternity. The gospel goes to all nations through the generosity and stewardship of God's people.

We give because:

"Life is short, Eternity is real, and People matter most"

"The church matters more than any other organization on the planet. We are the only gathering of supernatural ambassadors, which carry the heart of the Father to this orphan planet. The Kingdom advancing matters too much to not be serious about our giving. We are at war with the demons behind Buddhism, Hinduism, Atheism and a long list of other isms. So, we must grasp and communicate the importance and value of our mission and the importance of financing God's work on earth until he returns! We must never forget that our giving produces eternal results!'

Matthew 6:21 (AMP)

"For where your treasure is (your wealth and money), there your heart (your wishes, your desires; that on which your life centers) will be also"

Genesis 14:18-20

And Melchizedek, the king of Salem and a priest of God Most High, brought Abram some bread and wine. Melchizedek blessed Abram with this blessing:

"Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. And blessed be God Most High, who has defeated your enemies for you."

And Abram gave him a tithe of all.

Hebrews 7:1-4

For this Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first being translated "king of righteousness," and then also king of Salem, meaning "king of peace," without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but made like the Son of God, He remains a priest continually. Now consider how great this man was, to whom even the patriarch Abraham gave a tenth of the spoils.

Genesis 28:14

"Jacob ...all the families of the earth will be blessed through you and your descendants. Know I am with you, and I will watch over you no matter where you go."

Genesis 28:18-19

The next morning Jacob got up very early. He took the stone he had rested his head against, and he set it upright as a memorial pillar. Then he poured olive oil over it. He named that place Bethel (which means "house of God"), although it was previously called Luz.

Genesis 28:22

"...And this memorial pillar I have set up will become a place for worshiping God, and I will present to God a tenth of everything he gives me."

Acts 4:32

All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.

Genesis 24:1-2 (VOICE)

Abraham was now very old. He had seen many years come and go; and The Eternal One had blessed his life in every *imaginable* way

Proverbs 3:9 (AMP)

"Honor the LORD with your wealth *(possessions and substance)*And with the first fruits *(the first and best part)* of all your crops *(income and increase)*, then..."

TALK IT THROUGH

- 1. Has your personal experience with money in regards to the church been positive or negative? Explain.
- 2. Why do you think it's difficult for many people to talk about finances and especially giving?
- 3. God calls us to give the first and the best of our lives to Him. How can we assess how we're doing in this area? What is first in your life?
- 4. Pastor Dave gave this progression in the process of giving:
 - The encounter with God and invitation from Him
 - The commitment on our part
 - The test
 - Continued blessing and favor

Where are you in this progression? What is your next step?

5. The Bible says there is no condemnation for those who are in Jesus. We also know there are thousands of people within The Father's House family who are in different places in life, spiritually, morally, financially, etc. In the context of us trying to love and encourage one another, with no hand on judgment, share some of your own story regarding financial giving in the church context.

Malachi 3:10 (NLT)

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, "I will open the

windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! **Try it, put me to the test!"**