

"The Real Owner"

Series: On A Fiscal Cliff?

February, 3, 2013

by Senior Pastor, Tom Lundeen

(You can sign up for Pastor Tom's e-newsletter
for his thoughts on various subjects at
pastortom@myriversidechurch.com)



Note Psalm 24:1

This series culminates today by focusing on our r_____ to God and what He expects of His followers.

God's expectation is that we bring Him back a portion of what He gives us...it's called a _____.

1. God _____ Everything

Reality is that most families will see \$1-2 million flow through their hands over the course of their _____ lifetimes.

Money is f_____. That's why it's called "_____-cy"!

No matter how much money we have in the bank or how much we owe Visa, we have to understand that we are _____ of Someone else's money (note Psalm 24:1 and 50:10).

Note Deuteronomy 8:10-18

This means that God gives us our abilities; resources; skills and talents; opportunities to _____ money; bodies, strength and energy to work; employers and/or customers the money to pay us with; homes; _____; families; business partners; i _____; creativity; dedication; ingenuity and initiative.

2. Why _____ Matters

Tithe = a _____

The principle of the tithe is both _____ - Law and _____ -Law (note Genesis 14:18-20; 28:20-22; Matthew 23:23).

Note Genesis 4:3-5a

"Firstborn...first fruits" (principle found _____ times in the Bible, note Exodus 23:19 a)

(continued on reverse)

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(continued on reverse)

In a special way, God views that “first fruit” offering as a representation of all your resources, and when you offer that to Him, God _____ the rest of your resources.

Note Malachi 3:8-10

- A. Tithing comes with a _____ (Malachi 3:10).
- B. Tithing is the only time in the Bible where God invites us to _____ Him (Malachi 3:10b).
- C. The _____ belongs to God (Malachi 3:8-9).
- D. The tithe is a b _____ (note II Corinthians 8:1-5, 7, 9).

If we're on a “fiscal cliff”:

- Giving is the _____ response to the right view of money.
- Giving is possible when we don't have an emotional or personal attachment to money.
- There's nothing wrong with _____ spending and using God's money to enrich our lives and our families...
- ...the confusion comes when that's all we're doing.
- Tithing is a great spiritual discipline that reminds us Who really is the true _____ of our money and resources.
- God's principles about budgeting, debt, saving, contentment, and tithing are God's design for a Biblical bailout plan!

Take the “On A Fiscal Cliff?” 90 Day Challenge today! Place your card in the box at the doors as you leave; if you will be taking the tithing challenge, please pick up paperwork in the resource area or online at www.MyRiversideChurch.com/TitheChallenge.

Remember that we have resources available to help you:

- Various books at the resource center
- Free budget worksheets also available
- “Act Your Wage” games available at the resource center

Use the connect card to tell us about a commitment you made today, and tell someone you know or a Pastor or Staff person at Riverside about the spiritual commitment you have made today!

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