

For Further Reading
about
Tithing & Giving...

Old Testament

Genesis 14:20; 28:22
Exodus 25:2; 35:5, 25, 29
Leviticus 27:30-32
Numbers 18:21-28
Deuteronomy 12:6, 11, 17-18
14:22-29; 26:12-13
2 Chronicles 31:4-12
Nehemiah 10:37-39; 12:44
13:5, 10-13
Amos 4:4
Malachi 3:8, 10

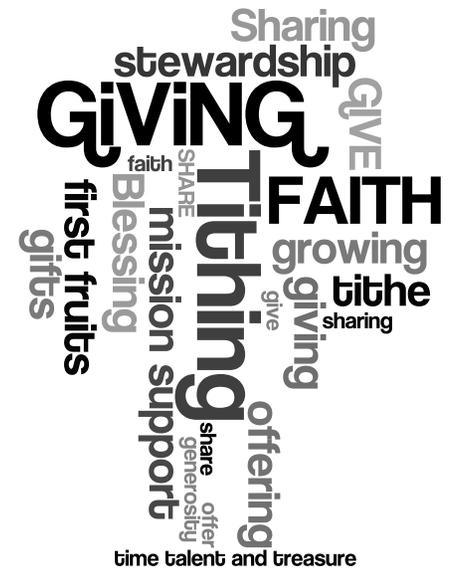
New Testament

Matthew 5:42; 6:2-4; 10:8
22:21; 23:23; 25:31-40
Mark 12:17
Luke 6:30; 11:42; 18:12; 19:8
Acts 20:35
Romans 12:13
2 Corinthians 8:3; 9:7
Hebrews 7:5-9

Reading List Continued...

Apocrypha

Tobit 1:6
Judith 11:13
Sirach 35:11
Maccabees 3:49; 10:31
11:35



Allegheny Synod's
Stewardship
&
Mission
Interpretation
Team



Allegheny Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Just like prayer, worship, service, study, invitation, and encouragement, giving is a faith practice to which all Christians are called. Faithful giving involves the generous sharing of time, talent, *and* treasure—gifts which were first given to us by God. One test of our faith is the elasticity of our purse strings!

The starting point for Biblical stewardship is the tithe, or 10% of one's income. Tithing was practiced in the Old Testament from the time of Abraham and Jacob:

...and Abram gave him one-tenth of everything... (Genesis 14:20)

...and of all that you give me I will surely give one-tenth to you... (Genesis 28:22)

But the tithe was just a beginning. In Deuteronomy 12:6, giving includes burnt offerings, sacrifices, tithes, donations, votive gifts, freewill offerings, and the firstlings of flocks and herds. That's seven different categories of giving!

Count it up:
A tithe is 10%...the portion given of these other gifts could be at least 16% or up to as much as 70%.

Just as with any other good work, we do not give in order to earn favor with God. We are free in Christ; free to give joyfully without limits. And as that favorite old hymn reminds us, "We give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be..."

Jesus outlines what we are called to do as disciples, whatever the cost: *feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, take in the stranger, clothe the naked, visit the sick and the prisoner.* (Matthew 25:35-40)

Through our mission offerings we can do exactly this, worldwide! We can work hands-on for local needs and give our dollars for this work around the world.

Jesus told the rich young man to sell all he had and give to the poor; then he said, "Come, follow me." This is still what Jesus says to every one of us—*Follow me!*—and Jesus gave his all.

Generous giving is one way in which we are all called to *Come, follow Jesus.*