



## CELL GUIDE

**TOPIC** Worship Through Giving

**SPEAKER**

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**THEME** Critical Concerns Beyond the Souls of Man

**DATE**

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# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

Most of us are familiar with the various methods for giving tithes and offerings. But we might not truly understand the spiritual significance of tithes and offerings. Our posture of worship should extend beyond the Holy Communion and singing praises to giving as well. In this sermon, Elder David Foo led the congregation to re-examine the significance and reasons behind why we give to God.

## Worship Through Giving

### (1) What does it mean to worship through giving

Worship is about what pleases God. We can worship God through singing, serving and giving. Giving is a distinct and separate form of worship that God desires and deserves from us. God regards our work for Him as separate to our giving to Him and even people who serves God full time are asked to give (Numbers 18:26).

The differences between tithing and worship through giving can be summarised in the table below. Worship through giving is to honour God and acknowledge that He is greater than us (Hebrews 7:4-6) and to please Him, rather than meeting our obligations to Him and focusing on what God will bless us in return.

Tithing	Worship Through Giving
Old Testament	New covenant
Required under the Law (Leviticus 27:30-31) 3 tithes: Self-consumption, the poor and the Priests/Levites	Optional/ Voluntary Not required to pay the 3 tithes under Old Testament Law
10% of income and increase	In proportion to God's blessings (Genesis 22, Philippians 4:18)
Out of obligation under the Law	Out of gratitude and love for God
Not giving in the right spirit. Can be a struggle for the giver.	Giving to please God. Willing and cheerful giver.

Is tithing the same as worship through giving? The answer is yes and no. As followers of Christ, we are not bound by the 3 tithes under the Old Testament law. Instead, we are called to give

generously. Tithing is one expression of worship through giving, because the voluntary giving of 10% of what God has given us has spiritual significance to God.

## (2) How do we worship through giving

The key to worship through giving is our personal relationship with God. This can be expressed through:

- Our attitude/posture - When we give in faith (Hebrew 11:16), cheerfully (2 Corinthians 9:7), humbly (1 Chronicles 29:14), voluntarily and intentionally
- Our gift – When we prioritize our giving above everything else in terms of timing (first priority, regular) and amount (sacrificial, generous, in proportion to God's blessings)

We can give wherever and whenever God directs us to give in His kingdom.

## (3) Why should we worship through giving

Reasons to worship through giving:

1. It is a win-win situation
  - We earn rewards in heaven when we give (Philippians 4:17)
  - God will bless us (Luke 6:38)
  - Our hearts draw closer to God (Matthew 6:21)
2. It is warfare for our souls
  - We glorify God over money
  - We counter the enemy (love of money) of our heart
  - We are reminded that all we have comes from God and He is our provider
3. God is worthy of all our worship
  - Jesus is our High Priest according to the order of Melchizedek (Genesis 14:18-20, Hebrews 7:13-17)
  - His body was broken for us so that we may be part of the body of Christ
  - His blood was shed for us so that we may be forgiven and have life

## CONCLUSION

We give in the context of our personal relationship with God, as led by God and in response to God. If we have a deep personal relationship with God, we will still be able to worship through our giving even if we do not have a lot. It is not about the amount or percentage that we give, but about our heart posture towards God (1 Corinthians 16:2) and what pleases God.

When we give to God in a posture of worship, we do not need to worry about getting good returns, for He who is able to work out all things for our good; He knows how to use the money. We should not let our mindset of stewardship or investing wisely in the kingdom of God get in the way of our giving. Instead, we should learn to excel in the grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7).

# QUESTIONS

1. Has giving been a way of worshipping God for you personally? Why or why not? If so, how has it brought you closer to God?

2. What is your understanding of tithing and worship through giving? When do you struggle the most to give and why?

3. What are some ways you can incorporate giving in your life to help those in need or support God's work? How do we ensure we are faithful in our giving to the Lord? Share some practical handles with the group.