



House Church Study Questions Based on the SAC Sermon on April 10, 2022

Sermon: Discipleship in our Finances
Text: Various

Take some time to worship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7IIZIPtQuW8> You're So Good

Discussion Questions

Icebreaker Question: You just won 100,000,000 in a lottery. What would you do with your time?

Question #1: Last week we learned that God's desire for us to tithe regularly was not because He wants our money but because He wants our *hearts*.

What heart issues do you think get in the way of not tithing regularly?

Read Roman 8:12-17. Talk about how you think this passage can help us to understand tithing better. (Think in terms of our 'sinful nature'; 'slave to fear' and the fact that 'we are heirs'.

Question #2: We can experience God's glory when we tithe. Read Malachi 3:7. What does it say here that we will experience? Now read Matthew 6:31-34. What does it say we will experience *less of* if we trust God to provide for our needs? Talk about this last one for a bit and see if you really think this is true.

Question #3: 'Tithe' means *tenth*. In the O. T. the Israelites were taught to honor God by giving to Him a tenth of what they had. The O.T. law is described in Hebrews 10:1 as a shadow of the good things to come. So if the O.T. tithe was only a shadow, or just a *beginning*, then it would seem that the tithe still has a place in the N.T. as a base from which *greater* things are built upon. Giving a

Additional Question: Read Proverbs 3:9-10. Why do you think it's important to give from what we have to God *first*? And what can we realistically expect from God if we do?

tithe of 10 percent *plus* offerings on top of that. What are your thoughts about this?

Question #4: Read Malachi 3:10. The teaching here is that the *whole tithe* should be brought into the storehouse. The storehouse is a room in the Temple where the tithes were kept (usually including grains and other food). The Temple is where God's people gather. So we could glean from this that our whole tithe should be given to the place where God's people gather. . .which is the church. What are your thoughts on this?

Additional Question: If the whole tithe goes to the church, then might it be possible that the *offerings* that God tells us to also contribute should go to other ministries and kingdom efforts?

Question #5: Read 1 Cor. 16:1-2 There are 4 principles here: 1. Tithing should be regular (on the first day of every week). 2. Participatory (it says 'each of you') 3. Intentional ('set aside a sum of money') and 4. Proportional ('in keeping with his income') Do you see this as practical guidance? Do you see principles here that we should be honoring as our regular practise of tithing?

Additional Question: Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-11. Consider the whole idea of *generosity*. If you sow generously, you will reap generously. Now read verse 11 again. God is wanting his children and the people around them to experience Him *as a generous God!* How does that make you feel in terms of your relationship with God and how you feel about your finances and the choices you make?

Invitation and Mission for this week

Your invitation this week is to consider James 1:22 in relation to your finances, tithing and relationship with God.

Pray for each other