

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

WARM UP QUESTIONS

Do you remember saving as a child for something you really wanted? What was it?

What are you most inclined to spend money on?

Why do people give to different organizations and people?

BIBLE EXPLORATION: READ GENESIS 14:17-24

About this Story

This is the first time we see the concept of a tithe (giving 10% to the Church). It is formalized by law under Moses.

For Abraham, it is a natural response to God's generosity to him.

After Abraham gave away, he had an opportunity to receive. He refuses the offer, relying only on God.

His refusal was because he had already promised God not to take anything. He was sticking to his commitment and trusting God.

Questions

What amazes you most about Abraham's decision to give away a 10th of everything?

Malachi 3 talks about withholding tithes as "robbing God." Why does God use such strong language?

How do you feel about giving back to God?

Pastor Mike says the tithe is a "starting point." Is that how you view it? What is your view on giving?

“LEARNING TO LISTEN TO GOD AND EXAMINE YOUR LIFE AND WEIGH YOUR CONVICTIONS AND MAKE THIS KIND OF DECISION IS HARD BUT IT’S ALSO ONE OF THE WAYS WE GROW.”

LET’S TALK ABOUT IT

What did you hear in the sermon that challenged your normal point of view?

What did you hear about the new Christ Church vision that excites you?

Mike gave 7 reasons he and Sherri give, which did you resonate with?

1. It’s God’s money
2. He gave His son to die for us
3. We are commanded to give
4. The local church is the hope of the world
5. Keeps priorities straight
6. We want God’s blessing (which is not bought)
7. We get to give

What is your giving story? Why do you give?

What has prevented you from giving to the Church in the past or the present?

What about the new Christ Church vision are you most looking forward to seeing happen? How can you give to help make it happen?