



THE BIG IDEA

We don't give because it's law. We give because it literally changes us. We have Christ in us.

WHY DO WE NEED TO KNOW IT?

We're hesitant to give. But when we find out that it actually brings about positive physical changes our attitude towards giving can change.

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

Examine our unconscious rules about giving. Challenge ourselves to "give more than we can spare." Join us in giving \$10 more a week for the next 10 weeks and allow yourself to embrace Christ in you.

START HERE

This series is all about the spiritual rhythms that Christians need to practice to connect with God, and grow in faith. We will be covering a number of topics, and we want our entire church to be a part of the conversation. If you missed the message on Sunday, you can catch up [here](#).

CONVERSATION GUIDE

This week's message was geared towards helping us understand what we can learn from the rhythm of giving of our resources. Here are some key concepts to explore with the group.

Step 1: What unconscious rules have you developed for your spiritual life?

We all have unconscious rules and expectations we follow. From the mundane way you wash your hair in the morning to how and where you'll spend your money. These unconscious rules reflect our values, whether we realize it or not. On Sunday, Jonathan challenged us to consider how the unconscious rules we've developed for our lives affect our spiritual lives. Do the spiritual rhythms you participate in have you living off the spirituality of others, or do they allow you to develop what Christ looks like inside of you?

Step 2: What are your feelings about tithing?

Did you grow up in a church or a family that emphasized giving 10% of your finances to the church? If so, how did that expectation influence how you give today? Many of us know this 10% rule, but don't completely understand its Biblical roots. Jonathan taught us the rules found in Leviticus 27: 32-33 and

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- “Ask Science Mike” podcasts explore the intersection of science and faith and how it changes your brain- [LISTEN](#)
- Forefront Blog- [READ](#)
- Andy Stanley on balancing your finances- [WATCH](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 1st

- DAYLIGHT SAVINGS! EXTRA SLEEP!!

NOVEMBER 5th

- [FCQ Session 3](#): LGBTQ and The Church: Building Bridges Across the Divide with Justin Lee at Roulette

NOVEMBER 21st

- Serve at the [Father's Heart](#).

NOVEMBER 25th

- Happy Hour at [Ted's Tavern](#)

Deuteronomy 12: 5-7, 26: 12 were similar to the rules created by America's Founding Fathers. It's easier to understand why we each struggle to give what feels like a tax to the church, because this “rule of tithing” is based on the taxes Israel gave as they were developing a nation.

Step 3: How does developing a rhythm of giving your money help you to embrace Christ in you?

Just as the earliest members of the church felt an obligation to tithe, we too often struggle with the rhythm of giving. Paul teaches them, and us, that giving doesn't need to be a burden set by old rules, but rather a life-giving rhythm we define for ourselves that allows us to discover Christ alive inside us. When we give we have the opportunity to step into the generous, selfless presence of Jesus. Giving and investing our money allows us to give of ourselves and feel connected to something bigger. Revisit the passages in Galatians 2: 16-20 where Paul speaks of the freedom we have in Christ.

CLOSING: C.S. Lewis said “I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare.”

This season we are challenging each other as a church to give \$10 more than you think you can spare for the next 10 weeks. Give your group members time to discuss how they feel about this challenge and consider how you can support each other in committing to a rhythm of giving.

BENEDICTION

In closing, pray this prayer together, from Seeking God's Face,

“GREAT AND MIGHTY GOD, BECAUSE OF JESUS I CAN SEEK YOUR FACE; BECAUSE OF JESUS I MAY ENTER YOUR PRESENCE; BECAUSE OF JESUS I'M MADE, WITH ALL YOUR PEOPLE, INTO A HOUSE OF PRAYER; BECAUSE OF JESUS YOUR EARS ARE OPEN TO LISTENING TO MY PRAYERS. AND SO I PRAY IN JESUS NAME, AMEN.”