

LIFE GROUPS DISCUSSION GUIDE

“TREASURE = HEART”

Malachi 3:8-10

Pastor Miles McPherson – Jan 25, 2015

In Sunday’s message Pastor Miles taught about *Tithing*.

Tithing is a word we find in the Old Testament that means a tenth.

As Pastor Miles taught on Sunday we read about tithing in the Old and New Testament – in the lives of Abraham (Genesis 14:18-20), Jacob (Genesis 28:22), in Old Testament Law (Leviticus 27:30) as well as the New Testament in Matthew 23:23 and Hebrews 7:8.

Tithing isn’t a formula it’s a guide. We see tithing as a guide that helps to teach us to be generous with all that God has given us.

MEMORY VERSE

Matthew 6:21 NIV -- *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

DISCUSSION STARTERS

1. “*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also*”. Jesus says there is a direct correlation between what we treasure and our hearts. What are some of the things that you think you treasure? Do these treasures align with what you say you’re passionate about?
2. Do you feel generosity is something that we naturally tend to do, or do you think it’s something we learn? How do we learn to be generous?
3. What are some of the things that hinder/prevent us from being generous?
4. When you think of Christians and the Church in general do you think of them as being generous? What are some ways you’ve seen Christians be generous? What are some ways you’ve seen the Church in general be generous?



STUDY QUESTIONS

We want to look at a few passages that the Apostle Paul wrote in the book of 1 Corinthians. After we read each passage we're going to ask the same questions, we want to see if we hear or see any reoccurring themes/common threads in these passages.

READ: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

1. When you read these 2 verses what stands out to you?
2. Does anything in these verses challenge the way you typically think/feel?

READ: 2 Corinthians 8:1-8

1. When you read these verses what stands out to you?
2. Does anything in these verses challenge the way you typically think/feel?

READ: 2 Corinthians 9:1-15

1. When you read these verses what stands out to you?
2. Does anything in these verses challenge the way you typically think/feel?

What are some of the reoccurring themes/common threads in these passages? What do you feel God is showing you or teaching you?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Last week we made a list of ways we can be generous towards our families, our jobs, our neighborhoods as well as at The Rock? Take a moment to reflect on how this impacted you this past week? What did you notice? How did people respond? How did you feel? This week what are some ways you be generous?

TAKE IT HOME!

This Sunday Pastor Miles invited everyone that calls Rock Church his or her home to *Join in Generosity 2015*.

Your commitment to *Join in Generosity* is designed to encourage you to trust God with your finances. Scripture instructs us to bring our "first fruits" to the Lord. In regards to our finances, this means that before we spend on anything else, we are to give back to the Lord.



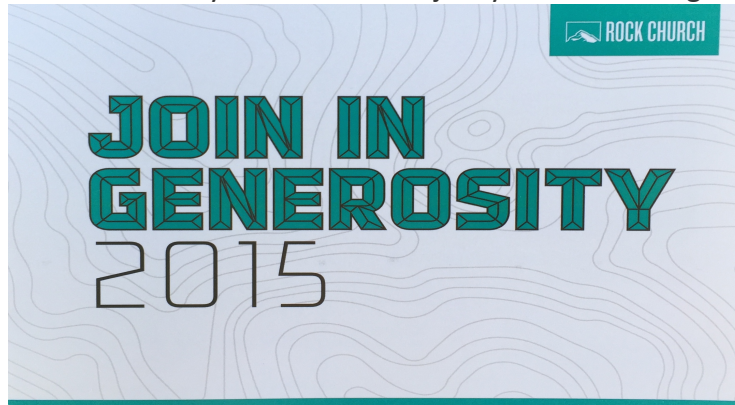
Tithing is an **ACT OF FAITH** that shows

(1) we believe that all we have belongs to the Lord, and

(2) that we trust that God will provide all that we need.

To help you take that step of faith, we encourage you to start tithing today to Rock Church.

We think you will be amazed at how much better you will live on 90% of your income with your faith in the Lord versus 100% of your income and just your own strength.



<http://www.sdrock.com/tithechallenge/>

So today, deepen your faith and take the Tithe Challenge.

It will enrich your walk with God and allow you to experience your Christian faith in new and vibrant ways.

