



Week 14 - April 6

Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.. -Malachi 3:8-10 ESV

Honor the Lord's House

One of the most controversial topics within the faith community has always been the subject of giving. Due to historical mismanagement of funds and misappropriation of resources, many in both the Christian and broader community have become skeptical about the benefits of giving to the church. However, our obligation to contribute to the church should not depend on people's actions, but rather on God's commandments and His promises regarding giving.

The Lord reminds us that our management of His resources should always consider giving to the faith community based on three principles: 1) Prioritizing the Lord's work (Haggai 1:3-12); 2) Recognizing that our lives are intertwined with divine purpose and responsibility (Philippians 4:10-19); and 3) Understanding that our giving to the Lord's work is linked to His promise that we will have the resources we need (Proverbs 3:9-10). As we honor the Lord's house through our giving, He will honor our households with the necessary resources and more (Malachi 3:8-11).

Family Question: How does the bible command me to prioritize my giving to the work of the LORD??

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, help me to prioritize your work as I consider how to distribute the financial resources entrusted to me. In Jesus' name, I ask this. Amen



Week 15 - April 13

Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.
-Proverbs 14:31 ESV

Give to the Poor

In a day and time of such economic fluctuations and uncertainty, it is good to know that the Lord is on the side of those with financial access to resources and, more importantly, has an ear open to the needs of the poor. The scriptures remind us that the Lord is committed to meeting the needs of the least of those in our community by defending them from those who mistreat them through ungodly financial practices (Psalm 35:10). As believers in the community of faith, we are constantly reminded in the word of God that we should be mindful of how we can use our resources to help those who are needy (Luke 3:11). Not only are we commanded to look out for the poor around us (Deuteronomy 15:7-8), we are reminded that when we give to the poor, we will not lack anything (Proverbs 28:27), we will be blessed for our generosity (Proverbs 22:9), and the Lord will repay us for what we do for them (Proverbs 19:17).

So, when we see the needs of those around us, we should consider how we can best assist in meeting those needs. As the Lord reminded the Jewish community, this is not a time to tighten our fists. It is an opportunity to give to one another as the Lord guides us. Our giving will ensure that neither we nor our children will be anything but blessed by the LORD (Psalm 37:25-26; Isaiah 58:10-12).

Family Question: How does my money management honor God's commandment to serve the poor?

PRAYER: Father, give me the grace to consider ways to serve the poor around me. Please show me how to budget my resources with those in need in mind. In Jesus' name, I ask this. AMEN



Week 16 - April 20

A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children,
but the sinner's wealth is laid up for the righteous. -Proverbs 13:22 ESV

Drop the Charges

In the Jewish community, one's faith was not only a personal belief; it served as the foundation for the legacy of their home and bloodline. Therefore, in all matters, they considered how their decisions, actions, and principles would be perceived and lived out across generations. They focused on establishing future generations for success in every aspect of their lives. One such aspect was their finances. They became intentional about ensuring that wealth was transferred to their children's children. As Christians, it is essential that we provide a more favorable financial position for our future generations..

Consider how you're strategizing your finances. How are you setting up the next generation to have resources for the journeys with their own families? As the Lord blesses you, remember that though it may all be in your bank account, a portion of it may be intended to flow through you for the generations after you.

Inheritance is not merely a financial transaction. The more significant inheritance is the information and wisdom we acquire from our life experiences. It is this wisdom that informs the management of the resources we entrust to them. Consider how you might impart wisdom to the next generation, enabling them to be better positioned than you were when you embarked on your journey into adulthood (Isaiah 38:19).

Leaving an inheritance should not be an option. It should be the central thrust of managing our faith as we encounter and engage future generations.

Family Question: How can I use my resources to position future generations for Kingdom work?

PRAYER: Prayer: Heavenly Father, give me the wisdom to set aside an inheritance for the coming generations. In Jesus' name, I ask this. Amen.



Week 17 - April 27

Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.
-Proverbs 11:25 ESV

Giving to Missions

When we think of mission work, we often recall commercials urging us to give \$0.25 per day to support those in foreign countries. While this is a form of mission work, it is much broader than that. In summary, mission work aims to ensure that the gospel is preached, the less fortunate are served, and, most importantly, the love of Jesus is demonstrated in practical ways and in places where there is an immediate need.

As Christians, we are reminded to spread the gospel throughout the world (Acts 1:8). Therefore, the Lord sends individuals with spiritual gifts, training, and a desire to serve in these capacities; however, this service requires resources to be donated for the work. Like the apostle Paul, every day, people in foreign lands dedicate their lives to spreading the gospel through acts of service. Those of us who have the resources and are serious about sharing the gospel globally are encouraged to contribute to those engaged in this work (Philippians 4:14-18). We are reminded that as we give, not only will the needs in other areas be met, but the Lord will also meet our needs (Philippians 4:19).

As we use our resources, Heaven responds by ensuring that we have everything we need in the same manner we ensure others have what they need (2 Corinthians 9:6-8).

Family Question: How can we give to mission work?

PRAYER: Heavenly Father, show me where I can find resources to meet the needs of the poor. Then give me the grace and finances to send support. In Jesus's name, I ask this. AMEN.