Multiply: Generosity Changes Lives Week 2

Announcements

Dream Team Orientation -- Sunday, November 11th, 5:00 pm at LCC, GCC and SSC.
 Help get your small group serving together by encouraging those in your group to attend *Dream Team Orientation*.

Warm-up

What was a memorable way you honored your mom or dad on Mother's or Father's Day?

Today we are doing to discuss how we can honor God with the gifts we give.

Word & Application

Read Proverbs 3:9. Why do you think God asks us to show him honor by giving our "firsts?"

The definition of the word *first* is: to be the head of, the original, to be before all, in preference to something else, the beginning, the foremost.

Read Matthew 6:33. How can we place God first in our lives?

We must place God as the first priority in our lives by giving him our time talents, relationships, finances, etc. The rest of our discussion will be focused on what it means to honor God with our finances.

Read Exodus 13:12-13. In these verses God establishes the principle of giving him the firsts.

Read Romans 5:8. Jesus was the firstborn, and God gave him as a sacrifice for us. This parallels the Old Testament sacrificial system where a "clean" animal had to be sacrificed to redeem an "unclean" animal. This shows us how even God follows the principle of the "firsts."

Why can it be hard to give the "first" in our finances?

It takes faith to give God our first when we don't know what the future holds. If we do step out in obedience then we can trust that if we give God our first He will bless the rest.

Read Exodus 23:19. Where should we give our "firsts?"

According to Exodus 23:19, our tithe (first ten percent) should be given to the "House of the Lord" – the local church.

Read Proverb 3:9. According to this verse, what should we tithe on?

We need to tithe on anything that is an "increase" - salary, bonuses, sale of possessions, gifts, etc.

Read Leviticus 27:30. What should be our motivation for tithing?

When we tithe we are honoring God through obedience. Furthermore, tithing shows our love for Him and that He is our first priority. It also reminds me that God owns everything and I am responsible for what I do with what He has entrusted to me.

You may say God is first in your life, but if you were to show where you spend your money, would others see God as your first priority? Why or why not?

Read Proverbs 3:9-10. What was God's promise to us in Proverbs 3:10 if we honor Him with our firsts?

How has God proven Himself faithful as you have stepped out and given in faith?

Prayer

Pray for each person to be able step out in faith and honor God with their giving. Also, take time to ask for specific prayer requests from those in your small group.