

## **A MATTER OF TRUST**

### **OUR FIRST GOD Miles McPherson / January 29, 2017**

**THIS WEEK:** Miles brought the series to a close by defining what tithing is, and is not. Beginning the message by making the point that we don't have to do any of the things that the Bible commands us to do. Explaining why we should heed the word of God's and his commandments.

#### **Opening Discussion - Study Questions:**

Which of the following does a Christian have to do to be considered a Christian: Pray, read the bible, go to church, worship, tithe, attend life groups, serve. Why or why not?

Which of the above list are easy for you to do and which are not so easy?

Why should we "honor the Lord with our possessions and the first fruits of all we produce"? Hint Proverbs 3

What is the difference between a tithe and an offering?

After your giving is done, are you free to use the rest of your resources in any way you desire? Why or why not?

#### **Group Activity - Putting Knowledge Into Action:**

Tithes and offerings are almost exclusively dealt with in financial terms.

What are some other areas and opportunities in which we can give?

"the collection for the saints" as Paul spoke of in 1 Corinthians 16:1 is considered extra or additional giving. An offering. Give some examples of extra giving or offerings.

Going around the table give examples of how giving blessed you personally?

Going around the table give examples of how giving blessed others?

#### **Going Deeper - Personal Challenge:**

Which from the list in question #1 are you NOT doing at all or enough of? Consider how large of a gift would have to be so that you could not afford to give it?

If you were charged with stealing from God and your check book or bank statement were the only evidence admissible in court would they convict you or defend you?

**Taking it Home - Application:**

Pray over, make a plan and put into motion an idea to bless someone.

**BONUS VIDEO:** Chuck Missler <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j-dgyPtVhBo>

**MEMORY VERSE:** Malachi 3:10 "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."

**LESSON QUOTE:** If the amount of your giving doesn't mean anything to you, why should it mean anything to God?

**LIFE GROUP PRAYER REQUESTS:**

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