

**A Sacred Sacrifice
Tithing, Part One
03/09/24
Newport News**

Opening

-“Laura”

-When God listens to how I manage my money, am I mispronouncing “Christian stewardship?”

-I’ve entitled this mini-series “A Sacred Sacrifice” because I believe that these two words are at the heart of Christian stewardship: **sacred and sacrifice.**

-(Just because you ARE a Christian and financially responsible, doesn’t mean you are practicing what I would call Christian Stewardship.

-Being financially responsible is only the beginning of Christian stewardship!

-Consider this:

Am I giving sacrificially to the sacred work of building Jesus’ Church? Because if I am not giving sacrificially to the sacred work of building Jesus’ Church then I am mispronouncing Christian stewardship by the way I am managing my money.

Recap

-Our plan for our sacred sacrifice this year:

- 1. monthly tithe: 10%**
- 2. monthly missions: 2%**
- 3. annual missions pledge: one month tithe**
- 4. Legacy \$40K: _____**

-2024 Capital Improvements

- \$80k Sanctuary AC
- \$30k Sanctuary Projector
- \$10k Sanctuary Wheel Chair Access
- \$10k Chapel (RC and Workshop)
- **Total = \$130k**

(\$20k from Catalyst/Anchor, \$40k raise, \$70k spend)

-2024 Missions support Slide

-Fourth Quarter Giving Slide

-Okay, six question people often have related to tithing...3 tonight

The Portion...?

-Matthew 23:23

-Only three categories for OT transitioning into NT: released, remains, raised

-The Bible should never be leveraged to justify less!

-tithe means a “tenth part”

-I believe that means 10% of our gross annual income

-(talk too about how God measures the gift not by amount but by sacrifice so % evens the playing field)

-Mark 12:41-44 (widow’s mite)

The Consequence...?

-Malachi 3:7-10 (just prior to 400 yrs of prophetic silence)

“Being blessed means having supernatural power working for you. By contrast, being cursed means having supernatural power working against you.” Robert Morris from The Blessed Life.

“The principle of the first fruits is very, very powerful. I have heard it said that any first thing given is never lost, and any first thing not given is always lost. In other words, what we give to God, we don’t lose because God redeems it for us. But what we withhold from God, we will lose. Jesus echoed this principle when He said: For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me will find it (Matthew 16:25).”

-90% with God’s favor is more than 100% without God’s favor!

>10% less is of course less, in that moment

>it's what becomes of what remains that matters...favor or not!

The Priority...?

-1 Corinthians 16:1-2

-Proverbs 3:9-10 (introduce phrase: "sacrificial priority percentage" here)

-Matthew 6:33 (quote)

Our gift does not rise to the standard of the tithe until the sentiment of heart from which it comes crosses the threshold of a sacred sacrifice AND gladness.

Band

How are you pronouncing "Christian stewardship" by the way you are managing your household finances?

Am I giving sacrificially to the sacred work of building Jesus' church...too and through the church I call home?

Close

-Psalm 24:1