

SERMON NOTES & LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

SAYS WHO?! JESUS, SO DON'T CHEAT YOURSELF, Curt Brunk 1.10.01

Giving – I love to talk about and do it, Jesus loves to talk about it and do it: 11 or 39 parables, 1 in 7 versus of Luke

Give in a way that stores for you in heaven, Lk 12:32ff

This church gives to a remarkable degree! Praise God!

Guiding Principles (found in more detail in 2 previous sermons – 5.4.08 & 11.2.08 – on Lake Samm's Media Page)

Tithe – 10% of total Income – commanded by God to gloriously reveal the fullness of His image through His beloved bride, the church

Fully resourced church – 10% vrs the current 1.7% that regular churchgoers give – can get beyond basic needs/staff to easily:

Increase meeting people's needs in the community by 10 fold

Hire a much needed Lake Samm Kids Pastor

Finance projects that bring God to our culture – Sticky Buns a movie being made at Lake Samm

Finally do our Internship and train not just a new generation of ministers, but all of us

Now just imagine eradicating Malaria, providing clean water to every person, educating millions...

This is the glory of God manifesting corporately through His church, in a way individuals cannot

Key is, the tithe is not your choice, it is His to bring glory to His name by our simple obedience

Offering – giving as the Spirit brings opportunity.

This is your choice, have at it with joy!

To be balanced with your bills

Sign up for Dave Ramsey Small Group to get out of debt & be free to pursue what the Spirit brings

To whom much given, much required, Lk 12:48

What Godly giving is really all about:

1st, Generous towards others

Moses stored up for lean times *for others*

We can store up wrongly for ourselves, Lk 16:16-21

NEXT WEEK: Says Who?! The Keepers of the Faith

We are not as wise, nor as commended, by Jesus as the thieving manager! Lk 16:1-9

God is trying to give us more than we can even imagine, but we cheat ourselves, Lk 16:10-13

2nd God blesses in ways way beyond income, Mal 3:8-12

3rd When learn what generous life brings, become overflowing in every area, Lk 6:38

So, to start 2010 right: what 3 things do you want to see God do (please make one of them for Lake Samm)

Then, start giving knowing what He can do...

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

1. In your journey as a Christian, when did you 1st hear about tithing? Describe that teaching, conversation. What was added to your perspective about God's directive to us to tithe, from this sermon? What Scriptures are most helpful for you?

2. Curt challenged us to dream about what God might do in and through Lake Samm if we followed Him well in giving & tithing. Which of those "possibilities" provoked your imagination? What other large Kingdom dreams are you willing to pray about & imagine?

3. Curt noted that God has unique and creative ways to bless us when we tithe and are generous in our "offerings". How have you seen this in life? What questions do you have about how this might work in the future for you in your journey with God?

4. Brass Tacks: What needs to happen in our hearts for us to be genuinely open to this teaching? What adjustments can we support you in making in 2010?

TODAY'S OPPORTUNITY: (Remember to watch for God to move this week and tell us your testimony!)

I will pray for _____ to come to Jesus