

Four Key Realizations:

- 1) This world is not our ultimate home - Lk 12:15
- 2) All we have, we have by the grace of God- I Co 4:7
- 3) All we have belongs to God - I Co 4:1-2
- 4) All we have is to be used for the sake of others - I Tim 6:17-19

Determining How Much to Give:

- God rarely sends an invoice

...A tithe (1/10) may be an Old Covenant rule, but it's not a New Covenant concept
- Heb 8:13; 10:9

...A tithe may be an indicator/guide to loving and disciplined giving, but not at law

- Develop a Love, not a Law for Giving - II Co 5:14

...We are to give...

...Willingly - II Co 8:3; 9:7 = of grace, not of guilt

...Generously - II Co 8:2,3; 9:6 = not determined by circumstances

...Cheerfully - II Co 9:7 = of delight, not duty

...Sacrificially - II Co 8:3; II Sam 24:24 = not merely out of leftovers

...Systematically/Intentionally - I Co 16:1-2 = prayerfully and wisely planned

- Give what God says and where God says

...to those you trust to administer it properly - I Co 16:3,4; II Co 8:16ff

- Expect an increase...

...in balance between asceticism and materialism

...in simplicity

...in sensitivity

...in contentment

...in awareness of God's faithfulness - Matt 6:33