



WEEK NINE: WE GIVE

By Dan Roseman

November 6, 2011

What is "church"? As we continue through the book of Acts, we see people respond to the Holy Spirit. Last week, we saw how ***we worship*** every day of the week. This week we learned that ***we give*** to one another, and to those outside the church.

Where Am I Today?

- 1) Think of a time that someone (that you're not related to) was generous to you. How did their generosity affect you? How did you respond?

Into the Bible

- 2) Christians are expected to give generously, sacrificially, cheerfully and obediently. Very early in the life of the church in Acts, the first Christians started looking after one another. **Read** Acts 4:32-37 to see how they did this. What does this passage teach about how we are to look out for one another today?



- 3) The Bible has many guidelines for giving. How much, and to whom, may vary depending on the person. **Read** the following passages on giving throughout the Bible. Who is God calling you to give to?
 - a. Proverbs 14:21
 - b. Proverbs 21:13
 - c. Galatians 6:9-10
 - d. James 1:27
- 4) The Bible definitely calls us to be generous, sacrificial, cheerful and obedient in our giving. However, it also calls for us to be wise. **Read** the following passages where priorities for giving are provided. How can you know when or why *not* to give?
 - a. Matthew 6:1-4
 - b. 2 Corinthians 8:12-14
 - c. 2 Thessalonians 3:8-11
 - d. 1 Timothy 5:8

How Does This Apply?

- 5) One of the first ways Christians are called to give is through a tithe, literally 10% of your gross income. Where should this go, and why?



- 6) What is the difference in giving *so that* God will bless you, and giving *because* God has already blessed you?
- 7) We all have needs. Our needs can be physical, emotional or spiritual. Meeting those needs takes commitment. How can your Life Group commit to you?
- 8) Follow through with Joe's challenge. Pray about what God will have you give away, and see how God uses it.

Digging Deeper: Going Further on Your Own

- 9) One of the most common objections to tithing is that it's an Old Testament concept, and we're living in the New Testament era. The meaning behind this objection is that tithing is part of the Old Covenant law and we now live in the New Covenant, where the law has been fulfilled. If the law has been fulfilled, tithing should be obsolete. How do the passages below refute that argument? **Hint:** think about when the Old Covenant law was given.

Genesis 14:17-20

Genesis 28:10-22

Romans 3:28-31, 4:1-5

Hebrews 5:5-6

Hebrews 5:7-10

Hebrews 6:19-20

Hebrews 7:14-17

Romans 8:31-32