

Giving - How?

**Deuteronomy 14: 22 – 29, 1 Corinthians 16: 1 – 4, 2 Corinthians 9: 6 – 14,
Matthew 6: 1 - 4**

1. Deuteronomy 14: 22 – 29

- Be sure to set aside a tenth
- Eat it in the presence of the Lord your God
- So that you may learn to revere the Lord your God always
- So that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands'

2. 1 Corinthians 16: 1 - 4

- Each one set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income
- Planned and spontaneous giving
- Collection for God's people
- Where are my eyes focussing?
- Matthew 6: 24 – You cannot serve both God and money

3. 2 Corinthians 9: 6 – 14

- Sow and reap -
- Integrity, honesty and cheerfulness
- You will be made rich in every way
- Generosity results in thanksgiving to God!

4. Matthew 6: 1 – 4

- Do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing!
- Giving in secret!
- Giving will receive a reward!

Digging Deeper

Read Deuteronomy 14: 22 – 29

1. What strikes you in these instructions given to God's people?
2. What is a tithe? What does it mean to eat the tithe in the presence of the Lord?
3. What are the reasons and blessings mentioned in these verses? How do they link with last week's passage in Matthew 6?
4. Who benefits from the tithes in these passages? What do we learn from this and who benefits?

Read 1 Corinthians 16: 1 – 4

1. What differences do we see in this New Testament church instruction compared to Deuteronomy?
2. How would giving work out in the early church context when there were slaves who may have received no income?
3. Is giving only about money? What other 'currencies' can we include in giving?
4. How important is transparency and accountable with money in God's family. Do you look at the financial statements prepared and distributed each month? Should we all take ownership of this?

Read 2 Corinthians 9: 6 – 14

1. What does this passage say about our attitude towards giving?
2. How do we develop the ability to be cheerful givers?
3. What impact has generosity had in your life? How do we cultivate a culture of generosity as a family of God within our community?
4. What impact for God's Glory would generous hearts and actions have for the people we live, work and meet day to day?