

Generosity Has a Beginning Place  
Philippians 4:16-17

When the Bible speaks of generosity, it is not speaking of “random acts of kindness,” it is speaking of a full-blown character trait of giving oneself away.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

When you give yourself away, there is a beginning place. It all starts with giving your life to Christ.

There is a biblical beginning place for generosity. The first one that we are to give to is Christ.

The concept of the firstfruits describes both the quality and the timing of the gift.

The concept of the tithe speaks to the amount of the gift.

There is a common myth that these are obsolete requirements of the Old Testament Law for Jews.

The firstfruits and the tithe are biblical principles that appear in Scripture before, during, and after the Law.

Hebrews 7:4-10; Luke 11:42

In the New Testament believers are referred to as the firstfruits.

2 Thessalonians 2:13

Does it make any sense that those of us who are saved and owned completely by God would take back 90% of our lives?

Mature Christ-followers come to the place where they are constantly giving their lives and belongings away for the sake of Christ and His kingdom.

For immature believers who have not yet grown in contentment and faithfulness, a firstfruit—tithe—is the starting place.

Philippians 4:17

This principle works in our lives in such a way that it is never a neutral dynamic. Either you will find yourself working against God by keeping what belongs to him or you will find yourself experiencing the incredible blessing of working with God.

Malachi 3:8-10