



FIRST THINGS FIRST Series
“Giving It Up”
Matthew 6:25-34
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For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs. 1 Timothy 6:10

Jesus said... “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:21

“Do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³²For the pagans run after all these things and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.” Matthew 6:31-34

1. Give Up Control

No one can serve two masters...You cannot serve both God and Money. Matthew 6:24

2. Give It Up To God

A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD. Leviticus 27:30

TITHE = a tenth (10%) of your GROSS income given back to God.

Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house.

Malachi 3:10

Old Testament Tithes & Offerings:

10% Storehouse Tithe

10% Hebrew Widows & Orphans Offering

10% Gentile Widows & Orphans Offering (Every 3 Years)

Total: 23 1/3%

❖ **KEEPING WHAT BELONGS TO GOD IS STEALING.**

*Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse-the whole nation of you-because you are robbing me.
Malachi 3:8-9*

❖ **GOD SAYS "TEST ME".**

*'Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this.' says the LORD Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.'
Malachi 3:10-11*

❖ **IT REQUIRES FAITH TO GIVE FIRST... IT DOESN'T REQUIRE FAITH TO GIVE LAST.**

Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing. Proverbs 3:9-10

3. Give Up Debt To Give

The borrower is the slave of the lender. Proverbs 22:7 (ESV)

Total US National Debt = \$12.4 Trillion
Total US Personal Debt = \$16.7 Trillion
Total US Credit Card Debt = \$851 Billion
Average Debt per Citizen = \$54,000

Source: usdebtclock.org

Dave Ramsey's Seven Baby Steps...

- 1) Save \$1,000 in an Emergency Fund
- 2) Close Credit Card Accounts / Pay-off Debt With The "Debt Snowball"

... 7) Build Wealth and Give!

John Wesley said... "Make all you can, save all you can, give all you can."

Credit / Resources: *The Word on Finances* – Larry Burkett
Giving & Tithing – Larry Burkett
First Things First message – Pastor Craig Groeschel
daveramsey.com