

# Service & Giving

A lot of conversation in the church today centers on what the Bible teaches about sex and marriage. Our culture too is full of this debate, and people feel very passionate in talking about it. But in fact, the Bible says a lot more about money than it does about sex, though we don't seem to be quite as interested in hearing about that subject. Today on Groundwork we are going to talk about it, as we study Matthew 6:19-21 and Luke 16:1-9 to focus on the spiritual discipline of giving – giving of your time, your service, and – yes – your money.

**AWARENESS** Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What is your honest understanding of and feelings about tithing? What about volunteer work? How do they relate to your faith and discipleship?
- How does the focus of your thoughts relate to your faith and your relationship with God?
- Do you think money is money good or bad for relationships? Does it make a difference if it's a family relationship, a friendship, or God?



**LISTEN TO THE EPISODE:** [Service & Giving](#)

**READ** [Matthew 6:19-21](#), [Luke 16:1-9](#)

**REFLECTION** After listening, consider the following questions:

- Based on Jeff Munroe's comments in segment 2, should 10% be the floor or ceiling for you? Is it a good goal to reach for or is it a goal you can easily, comfortably surpass?
- Evaluate your generosity in other areas of your life beyond money: Are there areas you could celebrate your already generous spirit? Where you could cultivate a more generous spirit?
- Why does helping others (monetarily or otherwise) reflect your commitment to discipleship?
- Consider Jeff's closing question for yourself: "Do I go through life squeezing, grasping, holding; or do I have an open hand?" Not just with money, but with all things: Our time, our talent, the way – all of our possessions. Do we share those things freely?

**RELATED PASSAGES** for further study

[Mark 12:38-44](#), [Genesis 14:17-24](#), [Matthew 25:14-30](#), [1 Peter 4: 9-11](#)

## CONCLUSION

Prayerfully consider your relationship to money, possessions, time, and your talent. Consider making it a practice to periodically evaluate your motives behind where and why you make the choices you do. Seek God's insights and ask him to uncover for you anything that might be hindering your spiritual growth.

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<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/service-giving>

*Printed on January 21, 2025*