

## Tithing Questions/Discussion Starters

1. Should you even talk about the tithe? Is it relevant?
2. If you talk about the tithe do you mention giving 10% or do you leave it up to the giver?
3. Is the tithe on gross or net income? Or does it matter?
4. Is tithing only to the church or can it include donations to non-profits?
5. Have you ever tried being a “high expectation” church in relation to the tithe? How did that work out?

### *Selected Scriptures (all from the NRSV):*

#### **Genesis 28:20-22**

<sup>20</sup>Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, <sup>21</sup>so that I come again to my father’s house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, <sup>22</sup>and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God’s house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one-tenth to you.”

#### **2 Corinthians 9:7**

<sup>7</sup>Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

#### **Malachi 3:8-12**

<sup>8</sup>Will anyone rob God? Yet you are robbing me! But you say, “How are we robbing you?” In your tithes and offerings! <sup>9</sup>You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me—the whole nation of you! <sup>10</sup>Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing. <sup>11</sup>I will rebuke the locust<sup>[a]</sup> for you, so that it will not destroy the produce of your soil; and your vine in the field shall not be barren, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>12</sup>Then all nations will count you happy, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts.

#### **Mark 12:41-44**

<sup>41</sup>He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup>Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup>For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”