



GIVING

Builder Level

Purpose

God is the great Giver of all that we have. In this badge you will learn the reasons for and the joy of giving.

Exploring

The Bible, in both the Old and New Testaments, has much to say to us about the subject of giving. Using the Bible texts referred to, answer the following questions .

1. Why should a Christian be a giving person?

a. John 3: 16, 1 John 3: 17 b. John 14: 15, 15: 12 c. Romans 12: 1 d. Luke 12: 33

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2. Whose money are we giving away?

Deut. 8: 18

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Haggai 2: 8

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1 Cor.4: 7

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3. To whom should we give?

a. Malachi 3: 8-10

b. Luke 14: 12-14

c. What interesting fact do we notice in Matthew 25: 40 that ties the two passages together?

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4. What qualities should be typical of your giving? List and memorise them.

a. 2 Cor.9: 6 - 7

b. Matthew 6: 1-4

c. 2 Samuel 24: 24

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5. When and where do we give?

a. What day is a good day for giving? Why?

1 Cor. 16: 2

b. What other days are good for giving?

Luke 10: 25-37

6. How much should you give?

a. Luke 6: 38, 2 Cor. 9: 6

b. Mark 12: 41-44

c. Luke 12: 48

d. 1 Timothy 6: 7

e. 2 Corinthians 8: 9

7. What dangers are always present with the matter of money?

a. Ecclesiastes 5: 10-11

b. 1 Timothy 6: 10

c. What do we learn in Acts 5: 1-11 about our giving?

8. Define each of the following terms in your book:

a. Tithe

b. Offering

c. First fruits

9. Explain the value and importance of giving 'first fruits'.

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Doing

1. Arrange to visit with one of the deacons from your church for an interview. Ask if it is permissible to obtain a copy of your church's current financial budget. In your interview ask him these questions and write down the questions and answers.

a. As a deacon in our church, what work does your job involve?

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b. Why should we give money to missions, poor people etc., through the local church? Why not just give our money directly to the various agencies and organisations as we sense their needs?

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c. Why do we need deacons, or church officials, to do the work that you do? Couldn't it be done by individuals?

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d. Go over the church budget with the deacon and determine:

1. What percentage of our budget is used in helping the poor? Do we differentiate between helping the poor of our congregation and the poor of our community?
2. What percentage of our budget is used in missions?
3. What percentage of our budget is used on church programs?
4. What percentage of our budget is used on our own building and property?
5. What do these percentages tell you about your church's priorities?

e. Discuss with the deacon: Is there anything that you or he can think should be changed, as far as the church's giving is concerned?

2. Giving should be a habit. A good habit. One that brings cheer to the giver. Begin a program of regular giving to your church. Decide how much you want to give to God, paying it out of your allowance, your savings, or whatever income you might have. As the Scriptures say, This giving may be done in secret. Only you and God need to know the facts.

Continue your giving for three weeks. When you have completed the three weeks of regular giving, sign the following statement below:

*'I have begun a program of regular giving in support of my church
and have kept it up faithfully for at least three weeks.'*

signed.....

Continue the good habit you have started and look for God's blessings as promised in Malachi 3:10 - 11.

Reflection

Discuss with your Counsellor what you have learned about giving as a Christian and what God promises.

Ask your Counsellor to sign below and arrange for the presentation of your badge.

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