

Offering Lessons

1. Tell about Niagara Falls and how water sprays everywhere. Bring a child up and put a rain poncho on him and give him a cup to hold. Take a supersoaker and spray them tons so water goes everywhere. Explain Malachi 3:10 and how when you give into God's Kingdom, He opens the windows of heaven and pours out so much blessing you can't contain it. It's so much that it can't help but overflow to those around you.
2. Fill a treasure chest full of rusty stuff, old holey shirts, dead flowers, and rotten food (ex. Banana). Cover it all with cobwebs. Have an adult helper drag the chest up to the stage and tell how they just found in the attic all their most precious stuff they've been saving up. When they open it they are disappointed because everything is old and nasty. Explain Matthew 6:19-21 and how we need to store up treasures in heaven where rust and moths don't destroy and thieves don't steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
3. Show the kids your offering envelope. As you talk, have a worker run through with a mask on and steal your offering from you. While another adult goes and captures the robber and brings him in handcuffed, you make a big deal of how awful it was that he stole the offering. Explain that we are stealing from God when we don't give like He's commanded us to. Then throw candy at the robber (who is handcuffed) and explain that when we rob from God it ties our hands so we are not able to receive God's blessings. Malachi 3:8
4. Spider monkey story – They catch a spider monkey by putting a small peanut in a jar. The monkey puts his hand in the jar and grabs the peanut, but can't get his hand back out of the opening with the peanut in it. You could put a whole bunch of bananas around him, but he can't get them because he won't let go of that little peanut. Explain Prov. 11:24 and how one man gives generously and gets even more, but the man who withholds more than he ought comes to poverty. Need: blow-up monkey, jar, banana, peanut.

5. Bring a pizza with 10 slices and give it to a helper. Make a huge deal on how you paid for this SUPREME pizza yourself, but you're giving it to him. Ask if you could have just one slice. Explain how God has given us all that we have; it all belongs to Him. When he asks us to give back to Him, we should be willing to cheerfully give because it's His anyways.
6. Bring a watermelon seed and ask kids what they do with the seeds when they eat watermelon. Do they throw it away, or swallow it, or have a spitting contest? Explain how many times we waste what God has given to us. We spend our money on food and then it's gone after we eat it. Sometimes we buy cool stuff with our money to compete with our friends. When we plant our money, our seed, into God's kingdom He can do exceedingly, abundantly above all we could ask or think with it (Ephesians 3:21). Bring out a whole watermelon and explain that all that was in that little seed.
7. Dress a person as a very rich man and dress a person as a poor lady. Tell the story of the widow's offering (Mark 12:41-44). Have the rich man pull out a huge wad of bills and then drop one in the bucket. Have the poor lady open her purse and shake it, only a penny falling out. She drops her only penny in the bucket. Explain how her small offering means so much more to God than the rich man's big offering, because it was all she had. She gave God everything.
8. Bring a tiny kid up and do the trust fall with him. He falls back and you catch him. Show that the kid can trust you. Then bring a bigger kid up on stage, and ask the kids if he would trust you to catch him if you had already dropped the tiny kid. Then do the trust fall with him. Do the same thing with an adult worker. Explain Luke 16:10 and how if we can be trusted with the little that God gives us, then He can trust us with bigger things. What we do with what we have now is what we'll do if we have more. If we are givers on what we have, God will trust us with more, because He knows we'll use it for His kingdom.

9. Take a heavy moneybag, blow-up raft or innertube, and an oar. Tell a story of a man who was taking a trip down the river and saw a moneybag caught on a log. He rowed over to it, snatched the bag, and looked inside. "Lots of money!! I love money!! I'm rich!!" Just then rough water comes and the boat tips and he falls in. He begins to sink because the bag is heavy, but he won't let go because he wants to be rich. He never lets go of the money and sinks to the bottom of the lake. No one ever sees him again. Explain 1 Timothy 6:9-10 and how when men want to get rich, they fall into the enemy's trap of harmful desires and it leads to destruction and ruin. We need money to live and money is a tool to reach people for Jesus, but the love of money is the root of all evil and will destroy us. When we give to God, we are saying that we love God, not money. We keep ourselves from falling into the devil's trap.

2 Corinthians 9:6

God's Super Size Bag!!

Get a large paper sack and place inside the bag some items such as a large ball (basketball, etc), 2 liter of Coke, Pack of gum, etc.

Say something like, "we give because we love God and we love people. The cool thing is that when we give, God has decided to bless us for our giving. Not only that, He wants to bless us above and beyond what we give."

Pull out your LARGE PAPER SACK. Say, "It's kind of like my special Super Size Bag. When I put something small in the bag, it comes out bigger than when it went in. Let me show you."

Take your GOLFBALL and put it in the bag (*create some excitement and anticipation by asking the kids if they really want to see this work*). Pull out the BASKETBALL.

Repeat this process with your CAN OF COKE and PIECE OF GUM.

In God We Trust!!

Show the kids a bill of any denomination.

While holding the bill up, say, "On every bill and every coin is written 'In God we Trust'".

When we give we can TRUST GOD to do what He says He will do. He says that He will bless us and provide for us when we give. **Let's TRUST GOD and GIVE BIG.**

Offering Lesson

Scripture: Luke 6:38 and Galatians 5:22-23

Props: Handful of pennies (you are willing to loose), a letter size piece of paper, and a pair of scissors.

Tell the story:

Many of us have been taught to work to receive the things we want and to save the things we've got only to collect more and more things. So, when you first become a Christian you may not want to give away the good things that God gives you. (Ask) *If you give away all the things you have, will you eventually run out of them?* Hmm, lets try something with this money that the world has to give. *Who would like some money?* (Take a handful of pennies and ask for volunteers to receive the pennies. Give away one penny to each person until they are all gone. Now have everyone that has the pennies give the penny away to someone who doesn't have a penny.) Now I don't have any pennies left and I know some of you who received the pennies really didn't like giving that penny away did you? But you know what, God gives us spiritual gifts and he wants us to give them away too. When you give away the things God has given you, he will bless it and work miracles with it. Look at this piece of paper (Show the paper). How many corners do you see? If I tear this paper, will I have more of less? Well, Gods gifts for giving are like these four corners. (Cut a large corner off the paper and give it away.) When I give away one corner from the paper, lets count how many corners I have now. Wow!! Now that I gave away one corner I now have 5 corners. (Now cut a second corner away from the paper). And now when I give away another corner I have 6 corners. And look at this, the first corner I gave away is not just one corner buy three and the second corner is three. That is the way it is when God gives us things to give away. He multiplies his blessing on your giving and gives more than you give away just as when I gave away one corner and became three. God always supplies my needs and because I gave away the things that God wanted me to give away, he blesses the giving and multiplies my gift so that I have more to give! The Bible says that the Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

gentleness and self-control. So as God gives you love, and brings you joy, or any of the other parts of the Fruit of the Spirit, be sure and give the same to everyone you meet!

“Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

Giving God Leftovers?

By Rev. Randy Christensen

What are you teaching: God wants your best effort during praise and worship.

Psalm 111:1 “I will praise the Lord with my whole heart in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.”

Mark 12:30 “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.”

What you will need: A plate of food with servings that are half eaten (i.e. Twinkie, hot dog, apple, etc.), a paper heart also lying on the plate.

Presentation: “Today I brought some wonderful snacks as rewards for children that have been very well behaved.” Pull out the plate of food. “Let me see, who has been well behaved today?”

“Well, let me first show you what the snacks are.” Pick up each snack and talk about how wonderful it is, and how good it tastes as you take another bite out of each one.

“Alright, let me see. To what child should I give this hot day?” Leader pauses and looks at the hot dog, then looks at the children quizzically. “What’s the matter? Some of you are looking at me like something is wrong.” Allow children to respond. “Okay then, if you don’t want a half-eaten hot dog, how about a Twinkie? Is that better?” Then the leader takes another bite.

“Listen friends. If you invited the President to come over for a meal and he didn’t arrive right away---let’s say you were hungry----so you ate without him. Just when you finished eating, in walked the President. So, you did the very best thing you could do. You gave him leftovers!” Hold up half eaten food for children to see. “Would that be a good idea? Is that how the President of the United States should be treated?”

“May I encourage you today to not give God just your leftovers? We need to give God our best in everything we do. When we come to services here, come prepared to give God your best. God doesn’t necessarily want your whole Twinkie, or whole apple, or whole hot dog, but God does want your whole heart.” (show heart from plate)

“Psalm 111:1 says, ‘I will praise the Lord with my whole heart.’ Don’t give God just your leftover time, of leftover offerings, or leftover attention. Decide today to give God all the praise!”

Offering Lessons

Mother’s Day Gift – Malachi 1.

Give mom junk, leftovers? NO

Israelites were doing that to God – God deserves our BEST!!

Gifts, what’s your favorite?

Getting gifts make us happy, OK

Wrong when it’s all we want

God is a giver, giving better than receiving

We should be givers, friendship, love, giving to God – time, talents, tithe.

Taking Tests – Malachi 3

Who likes taking tests?

Worst and best subjects for tests?

God says put Him to the test only 1 time in the Bible

Honor Him – Blessings

Radical Giving – 1 Timothy 6:17-19

1. Challenge to be a radical giver, story of \$10,000 gift to waitress.
2. God wants us to be radical givers of our time, talents, money. Start today, get in the habit.
3. Tithing teaches us to honor God, but also to be givers.

Planting a seed

1. Bring in a plant, show it started as a seed. No idea exactly how it would look full grown.
2. Offering is a seed too, only God knows exactly what it will grow into. Build His kingdom.
3. Our job is to be faithful in planting the seed, He does the rest.

Your feet are beautiful – Romans 10:15

1. Weird request, but take a look at your feet. What do you think of them? (fat, skinny, big, too long, stinky)
2. Believe it or not, God says your feet are beautiful. “Beautiful feet of those with good news.”
3. That verse isn’t just for missionaries or preachers! (some will do that)
4. When we tithe and give we help send the good news - (you have beautiful feet)

Demonstration of Giving/Receiving

1. God’s way of receiving starts with giving, world’s way is to keep it all.
2. Give 1 kid a few pennies, give away, everyone keep giving away. Give same kid more pennies, keep passing them away
3. God sees you generous with little, He blesses you with more. Can’t outgive God, more generous you are, more He blesses you!! (Reason = to be a blessing to others, starts with giving)

Just get started

1. I remember the time I made the decision to tithe, to begin giving into God’s kingdom. (story of dropping that money in the bucket)
2. As I was faithful each week, I started to notice something, God was faithful!!
3. I found out I can’t out give God, when I’m faithful, He always make sure I have enough, with some left over.

Giving God our best – Malachi 1:8

1. Use present box filled with old, used, unneeded stuff. Ask kids to decide if I should give these things to my loved ones.
2. We give our best to the people we love and care for. From our heart.
3. We should especially give our best to God. Our best – time, talents, and tithe.

The 2 G's – 2 Corinthians 9:11

1. How many of you make money? (allowance, shoveling, yards)
2. Lesson to learn young is to choose between the 2 G's (greedy, generous)
3. What is a person like that chooses to be greedy? Generous? (when it comes to money and possessions)
4. God says choose generosity!!

Giving Grudgingly – 2 Corinthians 9:7

1. Everyone gets told by parents to do things you don't want to do. (clean room, be nice to brothers or sister)
2. Do it to obey, usually grudgingly
3. One thing we should never do grudgingly is give to God, He loves a cheerful giver.

Can't lie to God! – Acts 5:1-11

1. Tell story of Ananias and Sapphira (what's the point of the story? Ask kids)
2. Don't give to impress people!!
3. God knows your heart, He loves when you give from your heart.

Being part of God's plan

1. Story of being part of something BIG!! (little league championship team)
2. I didn't do all the winning, I played a part.
3. When we give into God's kingdom, we're a part of something BIG!! He rewards us.

Being a giver is God's way

1. Think of a time you gave something to someone. (ask kids how they felt)
2. World says take, take, take = Happiness
3. God says give, give, give = Happiness
4. Bible says God loves a cheerful giver!!

Pumpkins and seeds (picture of worlds largest pumpkin)

1. World's largest pumpkin started out as a seed. 11'6" small – large
2. Our offering, tithes are a seed. They may be small but God can do amazing things with it. Small – miraculous
3. Our job is plant the seed, God will grow it. Just be faithful!

Thanksgiving all year long!!

1. Thanksgiving next week, Pilgrims gave thanks, what are we thankful for?
2. We can thank God by obeying, tithing and giving into his kingdom.

Little Boys Lunch

1. Imagining what it would be like to be that little boy. Lunchbox.
2. He gave what little he had and Jesus turned it into a miracle – fed 5,000

Safest place or person to be with

1. Where do you feel safest, maybe it's with a certain person? (Ask kids)
2. If you're putting God first in your life, anywhere you go is safest place
3. God promises when you put His kingdom first, He will take care of you. Clothes, food, all your needs. Make tithing, giving, a huge part of your life.

Sacrifice He honors – Phil 4:18-19

1. What does sacrifice mean? (ask kids)
2. Giving something away that costs you something (example of old pair of shoes)
3. God honors sacrificial giving, He will "open the windows of Heaven....!"

Money can be good or bad

1. Wrong hands it can be as bad as any weapon – drugs, weapons, evil
2. Right hands it is for good, Christians have the right hands – generosity, honor

Apple & the seed

1. I love apples. How many different apples are there? What's the most important part of the apple? – Seed
2. Our offerings are the seed to help grow the kingdom of God!!

Blessed to give – Acts 20:35

1. Many people will not give anything away without getting something in return.
 - a. Money
 - b. Trade
 - c. Attention/pat on the back
 2. God wants us to be givers without any thought of return, to others & to God
- QUESTION: Does anyone know someone who gives only to get?

All about me

1. Any one like going to the mall? I saw a t-shirt that said "It's all about me!" We live in a world that teaches, "It's all about me!"
2. It's not though, it's all about God!! Tithing helps us to remember that.

Pitcher & Cups

1. The pitcher of water is God and all His blessings. Fill a cup from the pitcher. This cup is us being blessed.
2. Tithing means 10%, pour 10% of one cup into another, that's tithing
3. When we are faithful, God will open the windows of Heaven and bless us more.

Craving the right things! – 1 Timothy 6:17-19

1. People crave after some crazy things in life – (food, cars, clothes, money)
2. Problem is none of these things last, they are all temporary.
3. God wants us to crave after Godly, Heavenly things – (Godliness, kindness, love, generosity, tithing)
4. These are the things that last, eternally

The 2 G's part 2, Generosity (2 Corinthians 9:11)

1. Go through the 2 G's again, decision to make when it come to money, possessions (greedy or generous)
2. Why does God want us to be generous? He loves to bless people! He blesses us when we are generous, so we can turn around and bless others!

OFFERING LESSONS

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Offering Messages

Leviticus 27: 30-33

1. God's law for the Israelites was to set aside a tenth of all their produce, grain and animals.
2. The blessings they received from God were recognized as blessings from Him by honoring him with the first 10%.
3. The tithe is looked at as holy to God, a way for us to recognize who it is that is blessing us, and honoring him in return.

Proverbs 3:9-10

1. Everything we own or possess comes from God and as his children, we need to see that.
2. When we honor him with the first fruits of our wealth, a blessing is returned to us.
3. God wants to bless all his children, and by honoring him above all else, we open the door of opportunity for him to prosper us and continue to bless us.
4. Honoring God with the best of everything we have should be every Christians' way of life.

Psalm 50:10

1. No matter what direction we look, as far as we can see, God is creator and owner of it all.
2. Some people see their possessions and money as their own, and hesitate in giving any of it back to God.
3. When you see your possessions as entirely His to begin with, it becomes clear that we are just stewards.
4. Honoring God by giving into His Kingdom, and being good stewards of what he has given us, should be as natural to a Christian as breathing.

Note: We are just caretakers..... *story of man with glass house and other collections he shares.

Deuteronomy 8:6-10

1. Problems and difficulties in life don't just go away when you become a Christian.
2. But when we live for God, and honor him with all we have, we see life as the blessing it was meant to be, regardless of our trials.
3. When you look at the blessings in your life be sure to remember where it all comes from, and honor the giver of it all with your whole being.
4. His promise to us is to provide us with our needs, when he is first in our lives.

Acts 20:35

1. The work God gives us to do should be seen as a blessing, no matter what the job is.
2. One reason is that it pleases God when we work hard to glorify him, not to just please men. We can have satisfaction in pleasing God with an honest days' work.
3. The second reason is when we earn money, for our work, we can then turn around and be a blessing to those in need.
4. Giving to others from the fruits of our hard work is the idea behind Jesus' words, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Acts 5:1-11

1. This story of Ananias and Sapphira brings out a couple of good points about giving.
2. The first is that we should be giving to honor God, not impress those around us. He sees our intentions and motives.
3. The second is, God will never force us or pressure us into being a generous giver, no one else should either. He wants a cheerful giver, with the intentions of honoring him, and blessing others.

2 Corinthians 9:15

1. Having Godly people in our lives as examples of how we should live is always a great thing to have, not everyone is that fortunate though.
2. Even though Godly people in our lives is a blessing, our ultimate example on how to live should be the Word of God, and the example Jesus gave us.
3. In this verse we see the example God gives us describing his generosity to us. He gave his only Son for us.
4. Our attitudes on giving should be the same, we should have the desire to give our all back to him, in every area of our lives.

Romans 15:25-29

1. This is a touching record of how the early churches were providing financial help to each other.
2. As Christians today we need to use the early church example on helping our Christian brothers and sisters who are in need, helping with willing hearts.
3. But it shouldn't stop there, we can be witnesses to the unbelieving world by reflecting the love of God in our lives, in helping anyone in need.
4. Having a giving nature should be part of every Christian, what a great way to help others and be witnesses for Christ at the same time.

Matthew 6:1-4

1. Many people like to give to others to impress those that see it, or to get a pat on the back, they look for earthly rewards.
2. The Jewish Pharisees were great at that, they wanted everyone to see what they gave, unfortunately some Christians are that way as well.
3. Jesus taught something different, our giving is between us and God. He is the one we need to please, not those around us.
4. Give generously because it pleases God, and He says he will reward us for it.

1 Chronicles 29:1-5, 9

1. In David and Solomon's time, the Tabernacle and the Temple were the visible symbol of God's presence to the people of Israel.
2. The Bible says David was a man after God's own heart, and even with all the mistakes he made in his life, worshipping God, and honoring him was the foundation of his life.
3. David never did build the temple, his son Solomon did, but with the materials David supplied from his wealth and possessions and the offerings from the people of Israel.

4. Honoring God with our finances, our time, and our talents, shows God that he is first in our lives, and his promise to us is He will always supply our needs and bless us beyond what we could even ask for.

Malachi 1:8

1. In the days of Malachi, the people of Israel had become stone cold in their devotion to God, they were just going through the motions in their worship of God.
2. Israel's sacrifices and gifts to God were leftovers, and rejects from their flocks, God rebukes them for it.
3. Is our worship of God cold or just lukewarm, are we just bringing Him our leftovers at the end of the week?
4. God deserves our best. The first fruits of what we're blessed with each week. Set aside the first and best part of our wealth to honor God with, and He will bless us in return.

Romans 11:33-36

1. 3 things about God stand out in these verses.
2. #1 WE serve an awesome , loving God.
3. #2 Everything we see around us exists because of him.
4. #3 We can never out give God, when we honor him, His blessings in return are more than we can ever imagine.

Matthew 6:19-21

1. Many people, Christians included, focus their attention on money and gaining more of it. Their possessions become their masters.
2. The problem with this is none of our earthly treasures with last, it's all temporary.
3. Jesus said focus on our heavenly treasures, the things we do for God's kingdom in this life go toward our heavenly treasure account, which will always be there, eternally.
4. When our hearts desire is to honor and please Him in all we do, He has promised His provision in return.

Luke 21:1-4

1. The rich people in this part of Luke were putting in only small portions of their large surplus into the offering box, trying to look religious.
2. The widow not caring what others thought, only God, put in all she had.
3. Our giving book into God's kingdom is between you and God, God sees into our hearts, and knows our intentions.

4. It takes faith on our parts in the promises of our awesome heavenly Father, that He will honor and bless us in return when we give him the first and the best part of what we have.

Romans 12:8

1. God has given to us gifts to be used to build each other up and help others.
2. Even though each of us should develop in ourselves the desire to give generously in the Kingdom of God, some are blessed more financially so they can give even more.
3. This verse points out that whatever position or gift God gives to you, use it to help others and glorify God.
4. Generous giving should be practiced by each of us but if God blesses you even more financially, use it for his glory, and remember where it came from.

Exodus 36:3-5

1. God had given Moses and the people of Israel the task of building a tabernacle to house the Ark of the Covenant and honor Him.
2. God equipped them for the task some as craftsmen, some with wisdom and intelligence, but He also put it in their hearts the desire to give more than enough materials and goods for construction.
3. God has called us to be givers whether its of our finances, talents, or abilities, giving into his Kingdom and honoring Him should be a priority in our lives.

Acts 10:2

1. As Christians we should be living reflections of Jesus Christ. Those around us should be able to see how we live and know that we are followers of Christ.
2. This man Cornelius was known as a , “devout man,” because of his generous giving and his openness in his worship of the God of Israel.
3. Generosity is just one of the character traits of Jesus we should be modeling.
4. Is your lifestyle evidence to those who are around you that you are a Christian?

Luke 11:41-43

1. To some people appearances are everything, and impressing people is high on their priority list.
2. When it comes to serving God, pleasing Him must come first.
3. The Pharisees in this passage were good at making themselves look very religious, trying to impress those around them.
4. Tithing and giving is very important to God, but not to impress others, the purpose should be to honor and please him.

1 Timothy 6:8-10

1. The point of this scripture passage is not to say money or possessions are evil or bad, but the love of it is and leads to many temptations.
2. Whenever we put the accumulation of money at the top of our list of goals in life, we run the risk of making money an idol to us.
3. 2 ways to keep from falling into this trap are A. putting the Lord at the center of everything we do, and B. is to allow God to develop in you a giving heart, being a generous giver will keep you from being a greedy receiver.

James 1:9-11

1. Being blessed by God with money and possessions is not a bad thing, God wants to prosper all his children.
2. This section of James points out how temporary money and riches are, and lets us know how we as Christians should view them.
3. We can do a lot of good for the kingdom of God with the money God blesses us with, honoring Him with our possessions reaps eternal Heavenly rewards.
4. Being blessed is not the problem, as long as we bless him above all else.

James 1:17

1. Being a good steward begins by always remembering who really is the owner of the things we have, God.
2. The money and possessions we have, all came from God, we are just stewards or managers of those things.
3. Using our money and abilities wisely and having a giving spirit pleases God, the source of our blessings, and that should be our goal in everything we do.

Proverbs 10:16

1. The ability to work with our hands and minds to earn a living is a God given blessing.
2. When we commit all our ways to Him, including what we do to make a living, then He wants to bless us in return.
3. Acknowledgment that our jobs and earnings and possessions are all given to us by God is the first step in being a good steward.
4. Giving back into His kingdom and honoring Him with our finances opens up the way for God to bless us in return.

Proverbs 11:28

1. Many people put their faith and trust in their money and possessions, to bring them happiness.
2. The problem with that is your money can let you down in a hurry.
3. The only lasting happiness and contentment you'll find is living for God and enjoying the blessings he gives.
4. Living for God and turning over every area of your life to Him, including your finances, is the sure way to contentment, in that we can trust.

Jeremiah 22:13-17

1. The Bible is loaded with Godly ways to manage your money in a way that pleases God, this is such a passage.
2. When it comes to dealing with money, honesty is the only way God blesses, even if it means no earthly reward.
3. Honoring God can come in many forms, and using our money honestly and sensibly for His glory is one of the ways of honoring Him.
4. Blessings come when we're obedient to His way, not the world's way.

John 15:1-5

1. To be a disciple of Jesus, means to not only listen to what He taught, but also being obedient to what he taught.
2. Fruitfulness comes out of us when we hear and obey, and the Holy Spirit will put the desire in our hearts to live more and more for him.
3. To know that Jesus taught that generosity leads to prosperity and then not obeying those words puts a wall between us and God.
4. Giving into the kingdom and to those in need, is part of what being fruitful means.

2 Timothy 4:1-8

1. In the days we live in we need to keep our focus on Jesus Christ and the prize we will receive when he returns, if we remain faithful to Him.
2. We're bombarded by ideas and wrong ways of living by our society, through t.v. and movies, contrary to the Word of God.
3. Being generous is one way God says we should be, that the rest of the world thinks crazy.
4. If we stick to God's way of living as we find in the Bible he has promised to provide for us, and eternal rewards await us in Heaven.

2 Samuel 24:18-25

1. When we receive something from someone else that we know they made some kind of sacrifice in giving it, it usually means something more to us.
2. The same applies to our giving to the Lord, sacrificing something on our part to honor Him shows God where our priorities are.
3. David insisted he buy the offerings he would present to the Lord instead of getting them for free.
4. Setting aside the first and the best part of what we have to give back to God, keeps our priorities straight, and lets God know we honor him above all else in our lives.

Tithing

By Rev. Randy Christensen

Scripture: Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Leviticus 27:30the tithe....is the Lord's.

Props: Dry erase board, markers, eraser

time	talents	tithes
t	t	t

Presentation:

(Write "time" on the left of the board.) We show people that we love them by spending time with them. We also may show Jesus we love him by spending time with Him. That could be time at church, reading our Bibles, praying, singing, and stuff like that. If we love him, we will give of our time to Him.

(Write "talents" in the center of the board.) God has given each of us special talents. We should use those talents to help others and to show our love to the Lord.

(Write "tithes" on the right on the board.) God also asks that we give of our money. When you give 10% of what you have to God, that's called a tithe. Now I understand that sometimes it's hard to give of your time to God. (Point at time.) Sometimes it is hard not to be nervous about giving of your talents. (Point to talents.) It's even harder yet for some people to give their tithes! (Point to tithes.)

We need to understand that if it wasn't for God, we wouldn't have any of these things. (Erase all letter, except for the t's. Draw the hill across the bottom of the t's.)

Jesus has given so much to us. He even gave His life! Certainly we can give back to Him what He desires. Give of your time, talents and your tithes and offerings.

The Love Letter (Tithing Object Lesson)

By Rev. Randy Christensen

Scripture: John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave....."
Ephesians 1:3 "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing through Christ Jesus."
1 Corinthians 13:5 Love ".....it is not selfish."

Props: A sealed envelope with a letter inside, a dollar bill, and offering envelope.
Letter Reads: Dear Honey Bunny, Oh how I miss ya!! When I see you next, I'm going to kiss ya!
Hugs & Kisses!! XOXOXO

Presentation:

Leader discovers an envelope. He holds it up for all to see. "Well look at this!! This envelope must have been left here for someone special." (He smells it.) "Hmmm, hmmm! This sure smells pretty! It must be a love letter. Who do you think that it's for?"

"You know, when someone is in love, they'll give all kinds of gifts and cards to their 'Sweetie-pie.' That's right! You know why? Because in 1 Corinthians 13:5 it says that love is not selfish. That means that if you love someone, you'll find it easy to give gifts, time and all kinds of things to the person you love."

"Should we read the letter? Let's do it." *Open the envelope and read the letter out loud with a shocked look. "Well, obviously whoever wrote this is willing to give something to his or her 'honey bunny!'"*

"You know, God loves us so much that He gave all that He had to us in His son, Jesus."

"Kids, we say that we love God. If we really do, we will also gladly give to God. We will give our tithes and offerings. We will give our time in Bible reading and prayer. We will give of our talents. Let's not be selfish with these things, but give to God!"

"Sometimes adults put their tithes or offerings in an envelope when they give. Today, let's think of that offering envelope as an envelope which we may use to send some of our love to God." *Place the dollar bill in the offering envelope. "Let's send him a 'love letter' with our tithes and offerings to show Him that we love Him with all of our hearts."*