

¹⁵And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. ¹⁶Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. ¹⁷Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit.

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¹⁸I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. ¹⁹And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

—Philippians 4:15-19 ESV

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The Book of Philippians: Side By Side

We are Better Together...

- In Worship
- In Service
- Through Struggles
- With Prayer
- Through Generosity

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“Earn all you can, save all you can, give all you can.”
—John Wesley, Founder of Methodism

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I. See Generosity as a Response to Grace

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³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.

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⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. —Philippians 1:3-5, 7 ESV

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⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. —Ephesians 2:8-10 ESV

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2. Practice Generosity as a Means of Protection and Provision

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¹We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ²for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.

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³For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ⁴begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints.

—2 Corinthians 8:1-4 ESV

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And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

—Luke 12:15 ESV

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Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit.

—Philippians 4:17 ESV

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Tithe = 10%

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Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. And thereby put Me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

—Malachi 3:10 ESV

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¹Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. ²On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come.

—1 Corinthians 16:1-2 ESV

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Barna

Only 5% of the U.S. population tithes.

Health
Research
Funding

Only 3-5% of Americans who give to their local church do so through regular tithing.

Health
Research
Funding

For Christian families making less than \$20k per year, 8% of them gave at least 10% in tithing. For families making a minimum of \$75k or more, the figure drops to just 1%.

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Health
Research
Funding

People are more likely to practice tithing when they begin in their teens or early twenties.

Relevant

A 10% increase in giving from church goers would result in an additional \$165 billion in church funds.

Cleveland
Clinic

The scientifically-proven benefits of giving include: lower blood pressure, increased self-esteem, less depression, lower stress levels, longer life, and greater happiness.

ACSTechnologies "True Stewardship Toolkit"

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“God doesn’t just want 10% of what you make; He wants 100% of who you are!”

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Give, and it will be given to you.
Good measure, pressed down,
shaken together, running over,
will be put into your lap.
For with the measure you use
it will be measured back to you.

—Luke 6:38 ESV

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⁶The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

—2 Corinthians 9:6-7 ESV

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And my God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. —Philippians 4:19 ESV

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3. Know Generosity Pleases God

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I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.

—Philippians 4:18 ESV

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In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." —Acts 20:35 ESV

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⁷But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also... ⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich. —2 Corinthians 8:7, 9 ESV

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