

Pledging to Give in Stewardship

We continue to consider **pledging** (promising) **to give** (to transfer in love for free) **in stewardship** (as those who manage value in trust for the true owner).

Article 8

Frequently Asked Questions about Tithing

There are two ways to give, directed by God, tithes, and offerings. Again this week our focus is on tithes, which ordinarily go to the parish general operating fund. We will use a question and answer format with “frequently asked questions” about tithing. These were developed by S.K. Biffle in, “How to Tithe and Why.”

Q. Should I tithe my capital?	A. <i>No. Only personal income is tithed.</i>
Q. Must I be rich to tithe?	A. <i>No. If you want to be rich toward God, tithe. Do you want the little income you have to suffice? Tithe.</i>
Q. Suppose a small child gets just 50 cents a week in allowance. What should the child give back to God?	A. <i>Five cents, a tithe by all means. It is folly to train a child in habits that are not expected nor intended to be permanent.</i>
Q. Is the tenth all I can give?	A. <i>No. Additional offerings can be given.</i>
Q. How can a businessman know his net income until the end of the year audits and reports, etc.?	A. <i>Estimate it as best as you can based on last year’s experience. God knows your heart. Relax.</i>
Q. What constitutes my personal income?	A. <i>Gross income, minus direct costs needed to produce that personal net increase.</i>
Q. Should I subtract the payments on and repayment of personal debts (such as taxes and loans) before I calculate the tithe?	A. <i>No. No more than you should deduct your cable TV bill.</i>
Q. Is tithing (10% of net personal income to God) the same as other forms of giving?	A. <i>No. God owns the tenth and you possess it as His steward. Your job is to get it back to God, Who is the rightful owner.</i>

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