

BLING BLING

Opportunity Of A Lifetime

1. Put God first by returning the tithe

Malachi 3:6 "I the LORD do not change. So you, O descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed." (NIV)

Malachi 3:7 "Ever since the time of your forefathers you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD Almighty. "But you ask, 'How are we to return?'" (NIV)

Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (NIV)

Malachi 3:8 "Will a man rob God? Yet rob me you. But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' In tithes and offerings." (NIV)

Matthew 6:31-33 "So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (NIV)

Proverbs 3:9 Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income, and he will fill your barns with wheat and barley and overflow your wine vats with the finest wines. (TLB)

2. Recognize the consequences of putting you first

Malachi 3:8-9 "Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' In tithes and offerings. ⁹ You are under a curse - the whole nation of you - because you are robbing me." (NIV)

3. Realize the blessings that follow returning the tithe

Malachi 3:10-12 "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it. ¹¹ I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not cast their fruit," says the LORD Almighty. ¹² "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the LORD Almighty. (NIV)

CG Questions

1. Why does God want to be first in every area of our lives?
2. Why do many Christians put themselves first instead of putting God first in their financial lives?
3. What are some consequences of not putting God first by returning ten percent to Him first?
4. What does God do for the believer who returns the tithe?
5. How has God blessed you because of your faithfulness to return the tithe?