



WEEK 9

CONTENT:

What's the most generous gift you have ever been given?

LEADERS NOTE: Outside of salvation, God's Word, etc.

What is your favorite gift you have ever given someone else? How did it make you feel?

Read Proverbs 3:9-10

What does it mean to honor the Lord with your wealth? Practically what does it look like?

LEADERS NOTE: Tithing, being generous with other people, maintaining above board transactions are all possible answers. However tithing is probably the main thing in view in this verse.

Can anyone explain what the first fruits offering was?

LEADERS NOTE: The first fruits offering would take place with a harvest. When the first of the crops was ready to be harvested they would take the first 10% and offer it to the Lord. Keep in mind this was before they had even finished the harvest. It was an act of faith. If a frost or pests came over night and wiped out the crop they would be left with nothing. When they offer the first fruits it was an act of trust that the Lord would provide all they needed even before their store houses were filled.

What would giving from our first fruits look like today?

Do you find it to be a challenge to give in that way? If so why?

What does this passage promise if we honor the Lord with our wealth?

How does that sit with you? Is it hard to believe?

Read Malachi 3:8-10

Do you notice any similarities in this passage and the one we have been looking at in Proverbs?

What stands out to you most in these 3 verses?

Can you think of any other time where God tells His people to test Him?

LEADERS NOTE: This is the only time God tells His people to test Him. The rest of the time He forbids us to test Him.

Is giving to the church the only place that we should be generous?

What are some practical ways we can be generous?

What are the biggest roadblocks to generosity in people's lives?

APPLICATION:

If you are not tithing will you take the challenge for the next 6 weeks to give your tithe (10%) to the Lord?

If you are tithing what are some areas you could practice generosity this week?

If you are struggling to find enough room in your budget to be generous will you sign up for the FPU class that is coming up at your campus?