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Who, What, When, Where, Why, How of the Christian Experience

LESSON # 31 CHRISTIANS BELIEVE IN GIVING A ND SERVICE

OBJECTIVE: The lesson covers three essential aspects of a believer's relationship with God: tithing, giving, and service. Tithing, described as offering a tenth of one's income to support God's work, is rooted in biblical examples such as Abram's giving in Genesis 14:18-20 and the principle reiterated in Leviticus 27:30. Proverbs 3:9 highlights the importance of honoring God with the first fruits, while Malachi 3:10 speaks of abundant blessings for those who open the floodgates of giving.

Beyond tithing, the concept of giving is explored, emphasizing a cheerful attitude and generosity as advocated in II Corinthians 9:6-7.

The teaching of freely receiving and giving, as mentioned in Matthew 10:8, reinforces the idea. Luke 16:10-13 underlines the significance of being trustworthy stewards. The lesson also delves into the idea of service, drawing examples from passages like Matthew 26:7-9, where the act of serving is depicted as a selfless gesture, and John 13:4-5, where Jesus sets an example by humbly washing feet.

The lesson's overarching message is that God seeks a people who desire a genuine connection with Him and are willing to break free from selfishness and greed through acts of giving and service. It highlights that God's power empowers believers to serve Him and others. The lesson emphasizes the joy in giving and serving, viewing these actions as continuous sources of fulfillment. Finally, the concept of every member having a role and responsibility within God's family is reinforced, echoing the call for wise servants in His service.



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GIVING

- **I. TITHING** A <u>tenth</u> of all income given to God for furthering His work in this world. The word tithe itself means a "tenth."
 - A. Genesis 14:18-20 Abram gives a tenth of everything.
 - B. Leviticus 27:30 A tenth of everything belongs to God.
 - C. Proverbs 3:9 Honor the Lord with the first fruits.
 - D. Malachi 3:10 Flood Gates
- **II. GIVING** Above and beyond the tenth.
 - A. II Corinthians 9:6-7 attitude: cheerful, not reluctantly.
 - B. Matthew 10:8 freely you have received, freely give.
 - C. Luke 16:10-13 trusted servants

III. SERVICE



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- A. Matthew 26:7-9 wasting perfume?
- B. I Peter 4:11 serving in God's power.
- C. Luke 4:39 at once she waited on Him.
- D. John 13:4-5 our example washes feet.

IV. OVERVIEW

- A. God wants a people who want Him.
 - B. Selfishness and greed are taught and learned. God wants to break into these areas of our lives and free us from ourselves by instituting giving and service.
- C. God desires us to serve Him and others in "His power".
 - D. God is looking for wise servants.
 - E. Serving and giving should be a joy, continually.
- F. Everyone in God's family has a job and responsibility.

