

CHRIST CENTERED COMMUNITY (C3) HOMEWORK

“Edifying the body by embracing the grace of the Spirit to live out the love of the Son in fellowship that glorifies the Father”



WARM UP

What is the most expensive thing you've bought?

What is the most ridiculous thing you've ever spent money on?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. What was one new thing you learned from Sunday's message?

2. In Matt 6:19-24, Jesus tells us that ultimately the way we treat money shows where our hearts are. In what way does the act of giving reveal our hearts?

3. It is clear from all the way back in the Garden of Eden and with Cain and Able that even the humans knew that part of stewardship is returning to God a portion of what He entrusts to us. God makes some amazing statements about this ordinary principle (ordinance) in Malachi 3:6-12, rebuking the Isrealites for disobeying it.

a) Why do you think God's statement about His character in verse 6 is important to the context of this passage? And to the context of giving?

b) When God says that He has been robbed, what does that imply about His ownership?

c) We talked about the reality that under the new covenant we are not required to tithe in the way that the Israelites were under the Mosaic law. But God talks about more than just the tithe in this passage. What other form of giving is mentioned in this passage?

d) Read Exodus 25:2 which describes the first mention in the Bible of "offering" used here. How is the offering described in Exodus and why is that important for the Malachi 3 passage?

e) As we trust God and obey His ordinance of giving, what promises are given to us in this passage? What warnings are given?

4. Read 2 Cor 9:6-11. Paul shows us the heart of a Christian giver.

a) Write down what he says this person does and does not give like.

b) Paul tells us to give because God loves a cheerful giver. He says that is the reason to give. Why is that important? Why do you think God loves a cheerful giver?

c) What are some factors that keep you from giving cheerfully?

d) How does God's giving and our giving relate in this passage?

5. For your personal reflection, do you trust God to provide abundant grace for all of your needs? Does your giving reflect this trust?

a) Do you give regularly to the church or other ministries? Why not?

b) How can you start giving this week? And what practical methods can you use to do that?