

## ELEVATE

### FOUNDATIONS, Session 7 – Tithing & Giving

- Foundation # 1: Prayer
- Foundation # 2: The Bible
- Foundation # 3: Church
- Foundation # 4: Witnessing

#### 1. Malachi 3:8-12

- v. 8 – How can we rob God? by withholding tithes and offerings
- **Tithe** = a tenth of your income; required by God
- **Offering** = voluntary gifts above the tithe; Ex: building fund
- v. 9 – What's the result of robbing God? being cursed with a curse
- v. 10a – Where does the tithe belong? the storehouse: the local church
- v. 10b – What does God challenge us to do? prove Him, put Him to the test by tithing

#### 2. Proverbs 3:9-10

- v. 9 – Honor the Lord with your possessions and with the first fruits of your increase.
- What do we tithe on? all our income
- v. 10 – What happens when we tithe? God blesses us

#### 3. Giving to Others

- Ephesians 4:28 – Do not steal, but work.
- Why must we work? so we can give to those in need
- Ways we can give to others: help a needy friend, give to disaster relief, OCC shoeboxes
- Luke 6:38 – What did Jesus say about giving? give and men will give to you in abundance; your stinginess or generosity will come back to you

#### 4. Here's the Key

- 2 Corinthians 8:1-5 – The churches of Macedonia willingly gave to support Paul's missionary work **in spite of their own poverty**.
- v. 5 – Why did they do this? they had first given themselves to the Lord

#### Some Key thoughts:

1. When you remember that God gives you the ability to earn an income, it is easier to give back to Him.
2. If you give yourself to the Lord, you will want to give back a tenth of your income to Him.
3. When you think about what God gave for you, you will be glad to give back to Him.