The Biggest Faith-Adventure Most Christians Never Take

Pastor Art Hunt May 2-3, 2015

A faith-adventure happens when a believer hears, believes and obeys God's voice without having all the information.

Take-Home Truth: Our most important financial faith-adventure happens when we choose to trust God by presenting Him a tithe.

Tithing is God's Faith-Adventure Because . . .

#1: ... IT'S THE ONLY AREA OF OBEDIENCE IN WHICH GOD SAYS, "TEST ME."

"A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD." Leviticus 27:30 (New International Version)

"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings. "You are under a curse—the whole nation of you—because you are robbing me. ¹⁰Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house . . . Malachi 3:8-10a (NIV)

"... Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse ... 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. ¹¹I 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. Malachi 3:10-12 (NIV)

Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; ¹⁰then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV)

Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year. ²³... so that you may learn to revere the LORD your God always. Deuteronomy 14:22-23 (NIV)

#2: ... IT TEACHES BELIEVERS HOW TO BE GOD'S MONEY MANAGERS.

(See Luke 16:1-15, Matthew 25:14-30 and Luke 19:11-27)

You may say to yourself, "My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me." 18 But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth . . . Deuteronomy 8:17-18a (NIV)

Who has a claim against me that I must pay? Everything under heaven belongs to me. Job 41:11 (NIV)

Steward = someone entrusted with another's wealth or property and charged with the responsibility of <u>managing it in the owner's best interest</u>

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them." Matthew 25:14 (NIV)

Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain. Psalm 119:36 (NIV)

#3: . . . IT OBEYS JESUS' COMMAND TO STORE TREASURE IN HEAVEN.

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:19-21 (NIV)