

## A Heart For God

God described David as a man with a heart after God. (Acts 13:22)

A heart for God is

- A passion to know God
- A pursuit to keep close to God
- A pathway to kindle the fire in my heart for God

Your heart is where your treasure is. (Matthew 6:21)

- Where we give our money forms a pathway for our heart to follow
- When we have a heart for god it forms a pathway for where we will give our money
- How we use money indicates our priorities, our values and our heart

1. God **owns** everything you **own**.  
(Psalm 24:1; 1 Corinthians 10:26; Exodus 19:5; Job 41:11; Haggai 2:8)
2. Giving is an act of **worship**. (Philippians 4:18; 2 Corinthians 16:1-2)  
Paul describes giving as “a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.”  
(Philippians 4:18)
3. Giving is an indication of **faith** in God. (Luke 6:38)
4. Giving should be **willingly**, **thankfully** and **cheerfully**. (2 Corinthians 9:7)

(3 kinds of giving)

- Grudge giving “I have to give.”
- Duty giving “I ought to give.”
- Thanksgiving “I want to give.”

5. Giving has two **Biblical** categories.
  - A. **Tithe - a tenth** (undesignated to the local church)  
(Galatians 6:2; Romans 7; Matthew 23:23)
    - A matter of obedience in the Old Testament
    - A matter of grace and the love of Christ (Galatians 6:2) in the New Testament  
(Romans 7: “We have died to the law”)
    - Jesus said you should tithe (Matthew 23:23)
    - First fruits
  - B. **Offerings** (designated gifts from the money I have after giving God the tithe)
    - A matter of opportunity and blessing
    - Giving requires giving up something
      - The price of a meal or two or three meals (don’t eat out or don’t eat)
      - Deciding not to buy a new clothing article, gadget, DVD, hobby choice, etc.
      - Selling something and giving the money
      - Keep driving current vehicle
      - “Fasting” from spending in order to give
      - “Frugal month” to give more to God

6. Giving should be **generous** and result in bountiful  **blessings**.

Three enemies to generous giving:

- I. The world wants God's money (Marketing)
- II. Christians have the same sinful and selfish desires as non-Christians ("Deny yourself")
- III. The devil tempts us to waste money because he is the enemy of god and God's Kingdom. (He knows that most of God's blessings will not come in this life, but in treasures laid up in Heaven.)
  - Where we give our money forms a pathway for our heart to follow
  - When we have a heart for God it forms a pathway for where we will give our money
  - How we use money indicates our priorities, our values and our heart