

## WHAT IS TITHING?

The word “tithe” means “a tenth part” or “10%”. In the Bible God tells us that we are to give the first 10% of all we earn back to Him to be used for His kingdom work.

## IS TITHING A BLESSING OR A BURDEN?

To some people the offering is a necessary and somewhat painful ritual. To others, tithing is a joyful adventure. These people view tithing as a privilege, not an obligation. So the question is, how should we view the tithe? Is it a blessing or a burden? God’s Word gives us the answer. Tithing is a **blessing**, not a burden.

**Tithing is a blessing, because it gives us an opportunity ...**

### 1) ... to honor God.

**Leviticus 27:30** “A tenth of the produce of the land, whether grain or fruit, belongs to the Lord and must be set apart to Him as holy.”

### 2) ... to be obedient to Christ.

**Matthew 23:23** “How terrible it will be for you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest part of your income, but you ignore the important things of the law—justice, mercy, and faith. You should *tithe, yes, but you should not leave undone the more important things.*”

### 3) ... to be reminded that everything I have belongs to God.

**Psalm 24:1** “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.” (Rather than feeling “I’m giving God 10% of my money”, I come to realize that God is letting me keep 90% of His money. God owns everything and I am His manager.)

### 4) ... to express my gratitude to God for helping me earn my income.

**Deuteronomy 8:18** “Instead, remember that the Lord your God gives you the strength to make a living.”

**Psalm 116:12**, “What must I give you, Lord for being so good to me? Here’s the answer. “Each of you should bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you.”

### 5) ... to grow in faith as I see God blessing me through my obedience in tithing.

**Malachi 3:10** “I am the Lord All-Powerful, and I challenge you to put me to the test. Bring the entire ten percent into the storehouse, so there will be food in my house. Then I will open the windows of heaven and flood you with blessing after blessing.”

### 6) ... to invest for eternity.

**Matthew 6:19-20** “Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where they can be eaten by moths and get rusty, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where they will never become moth-eaten or rusty and where they will be safe from thieves.”

How do I do this? By investing my money in helping people get to heaven! Most of the things I spend my money on will not even last.

### 7) ... to see that I cannot out-give God.

**Luke 6:38** “If you give you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full measure, pressed down shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use in giving – large or small – it will be used to measure what is given back to you.”

## A PRAYER OF COMMITMENT:

“Father, I know you love me and want what’s best for me. I recognize that all I have, or will ever have, comes from You. I want to be more interested in pleasing You than in having more possessions. I want you to have first place in regards to my finances. I now understand that tithing is not a burden, but rather a wonderful blessing. Out of gratitude for all You’ve done for me I commit myself to returning at least the first 10% of all I earn back to you. I look forward to investing for eternity. Help me to remain faithful to the privilege of tithing.

In Jesus’ name.  
Amen

## WHAT SHOULD I TITHE?

The first 10% of every paycheck, and all else you earn. "Honor the Lord by giving Him the *first part* of all your income, and He will fill your barns ... to overflowing." Proverbs 3:9-10  
God doesn't want your "leftover" income at the end of the month. He wants first place.

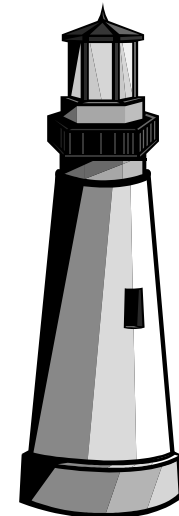
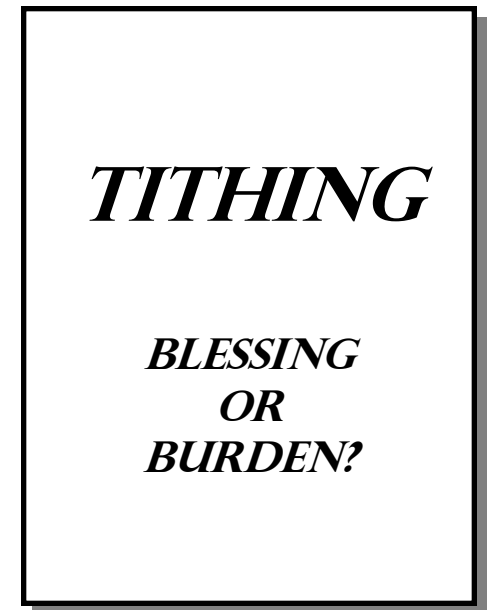
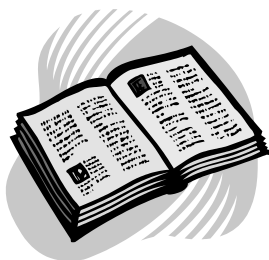
## WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO REMEMBER TO TITHE?

Camano Chapel provides envelopes for tithers. You may ask for these envelopes from the church office. Keep it in a prominent place on your desk as a reminder.

In order to teach your children the principles of tithing you may request offering envelopes for each child to use. Even preschoolers can bring their weekly offering to church. If your children are old enough to receive an allowance, they are old enough to learn to give the first 10% back to God.

## JOIN THE CAMANO CHAPEL "TITHING PROJECT".

In January, 2006, Pastor Kris challenged every family in the church to increase their giving by at least 1% each year until we all reach 10%. As we progress toward the tithe, we are encouraged to look for ways to decrease our debt and curb spending. Would you join us in the "tithing project"?



**CAMANO CHAPEL**