

Pulpit Study Guide

ReKindle

Pt 3 - Rekindling the Sacrifice



This week Pastor Tim is going to rekindle our passion for sacrifice. God wants us to give because He uses our sacrifice (which is based on trust) to grow His Kingdom. The Church is God's chosen instrument to draw His people to Himself. We should see to it that we are sacrificial in our giving to do our part in God's eternal plan.

I love C.S. Lewis' definition of sacrifice. *"I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. In other words, if our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc., is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditures excludes them."*

Sacrifice is at the very heart in the life of the Christ Follower. Our sacrifice doesn't save us, but it is the fruit of a heart that trusts that God will provide when we are obedient.

Grace and peace!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Deering Dyer'. The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large initial 'D' and 'Y'.

Deering Dyer
Small Groups Pastor

Group Study Questions

1. Is there a difference between giving and sacrifice? Explain?
2. Why is the subject of financial sacrifice a touchy one?
3. Pastor Tim used the analogy that the Church is a lot like a dining room table. Some have to set the table so others can come and eat. In other words, some of us have to give so others can come to church and receive God's Word. At what point do we push ourselves away from the table and become a table setter? Discuss.
4. Read Luke 6:38. How does this apply to question 3? Do we give in order to receive? Or is it really a part of our calling to follow the Lord? Discuss.
5. Read Malachi 3:10. What is God telling us to do?
6. God wants us to test Him because He wants us to know we can trust Him. What keeps us from testing God?

7. Read 1 Corinthians 16:1-4. Write in the words from this passage that meet the three points below.

1 Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. 2 On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come. 3 And when I arrive, I will send those whom you accredit by letter to carry your gift to Jerusalem. 4 If it seems advisable that I should go also, they will accompany me.

#1 Giving is weekly.

#2 Giving is planned.

#3 Giving is proportional.

8. Why does God want us to give sacrificially in this manner? Discuss as a group.
9. Pastor Tim taught us that God wants our heart to stay connected to the mission God has given our church. This is our calling. Read Matthew 6:21. How does this apply? Discuss.

10. **Application:** This week spend some time asking yourself the following questions:

“Where is my heart?”

Does my schedule and checkbook reflect what you really value?

Does it reflect your value for God?

Some further resources: You can get more information and resources by going to www.crossroadswired.com/give-online.