

Excelling in the Grace of Giving

Series – First Pursuit: Pursuing the God Who Pursues Me
– Malachi 3:8-12 –

But just as you excel in everything — in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us — see that you also excel in this grace of giving. (II Corinthians 8:7)

* When it comes to our giving, _____ are more important than _____.

* Our giving should demonstrate _____ not _____.

1. A Direct Confrontation (vs. 8)

2. A Resulting Curse (vs. 9)

3. A Promised Commitment (vss. 10-12)

Application Questions. . .

1. What part of the text or message had the greatest impact on you? Where were you most encouraged, intrigued, or challenged?
2. Why do you think it's human nature to see our money and assets as belonging to us instead of God (Ps. 24:1)?
3. How had Malachi's peers robbed God? What was futile about their worshiping God with a "whats-in-this-for-me" attitude?
4. How do you think Malachi would have responded to the following: (a) I can't afford to give right now, I have too many bills. (b) I "tithe" my time by volunteering (c) I wait until the end of the month, quarter or year to decide how much I can give.
5. Have any of you actually lived out this teaching or "tested" it like God challenges us to? Share your experiences with the group.
6. In order for you to "excel in this grace of giving," what would need to change: Your time priorities, spending habits, mission vision, other?

