



## TALK ABOUT IT

1. Are you more giving with your time, money or things? In what group have you experienced the most generosity: Family, team, congregation, other?

**READ ABOUT IT:** James 1:22-24, Acts 4:32-35, 2 Corinthians 9:7-11, Deuteronomy 14:23, Malachi 3:10

## THINK ABOUT IT

2. **Read Acts 4:32-35.** How well does verse 32 describe your relationship with others in your church? What would have to change for such a description to be more true?
3. **Read 2 Corinthians 9:7-11.** For what reason does God bless these people? How does generosity towards others eventually lead to praise for God? What promises are made to “cheerful givers” in this passage?
4. **Read Deuteronomy 14:23 and Malachi 3:10.** In what practical ways do we show that God comes first in our lives? (Other than just saying it.) Is 10% too much for God to ask of his people? In other places in the Bible, God warns against “putting him to the test.” Why do you think he makes an exception when it comes to giving? What does he promise to do in response?

## DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT

5. What has God given to you? Why is God so generous? What can you do differently this week to show that you “get it” when it comes to giving? Will this be “a test” for you, or for God?

### James 1:22-24 NIV11

<sup>22</sup>Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. <sup>23</sup>Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup>and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

### Acts 4:32-35 NIV11

<sup>32</sup>All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all <sup>34</sup>that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales <sup>35</sup>and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

### 2 Corinthians 9:7-11 NIV11

<sup>7</sup>Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. <sup>9</sup>As it is written:  
“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;  
their righteousness endures forever.”  
<sup>10</sup>Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup>You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

### Deuteronomy 14:23 NIV11

<sup>23</sup>Eat the tithe of your grain, new wine and olive oil, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks in the presence of the Lord your God at the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name, so that you may learn to revere the Lord your God always.

### Malachi 3:10 NIV11

<sup>10</sup>Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. 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 there will not be room enough to store it.