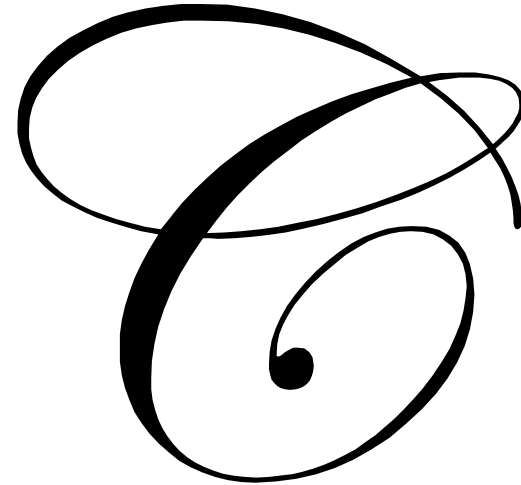


6. ***Do all the tithes belong to the pastor or minister?*** The scripture says in Num. 18:24 that the tithes are for the Levites which were the ministry tribe. That does not mean, however, that the entire tithe is to be used by the pastor. Only one Levite functioned as the high priest and hundreds of others did the work of the ministry. Their work was also supported out of the tithe. The minister or pastor in a New Testament church should be supported by and administrate the tithes to the effectiveness of all the work of the ministry. Tithe should not be paid to any organization that is not directed by God called ministry.
7. ***Is the tithe limited to just ten percent?*** No, even though this is where it begins you can add to the percentage of your income that you tithe, as you wish. Although the word, tithe, by definition mean 10%, it is said that J.C. Penney, the founder of the store, was tithing 90% of his income and retired a wealthy man. Begin by praying that God will double and triple the amount you give as tithe. So that 10% of your income will be twice or three times as much money.
8. ***What if I am in a situation where there is financial abuse?*** God will never hold you accountable for the performance of those stewards He placed over you. God will judge His servants. You pray for them and remain faithful.
9. ***Should ministers pay tithe?*** Yes, for two reasons. First, because as a leader we must be examples. Secondly, the scriptures say in Num. 18:26 “When you Levites take tithes from the Israelites which I have given you from them for an inheritance, then you shall present an offering from it to the Lord, even a tenth of the tithe.”
10. ***What if I have not been tithing properly?*** This is the beauty of New Testament grace. In the Old Testament you would be punished. Because of the forgiveness we have through Jesus’ blood, you simply repent and purpose in your heart to begin now being faithful in giving the tithe from this day forward.



# Tithing

Questions and Answers on this biblical principle

Covenant Church of Castle Rock

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# A simple overview of the Tithe

## Top Ten Questions about Tithing

From “When God is First” By Pastor Mike Hayes

*The word “tithe” simply means a “a tenth.”*

### **What is tithing?**

It is setting aside the first tenth of your income and giving it to your local church.

### **Why do we do it?**

The principle is rooted in putting God first, but it is also commanded by God in Leviticus 27:30 where God says that “*Any tithe of the land, from the grain of the land or from the fruit trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.*” (NET Bible)

### **What is it used for?**

It is used for the support of ministry staff that God has called and put in place for the operation of the local church and for the ongoing operation of local ministry.

### **What if I don’t tithe?**

You will miss out on the blessing of this principle. A very popular vs. of scripture used to teach on tithe is Malachi 3:10 which says “*Bring the entire tithe into the storehouse so that there may be food in my temple. Test me in this matter,*” says the sovereign Lord, “*to see if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until there is no room for it all.*” However, we need to go a little further to get the full extent of this promise. In verses 11 & 12 God further states “*Then I will stop the plague from ruining your crops, and the vine will not lose its fruit before harvest,*” says the sovereign Lord. 3:12 “*All nations will call you happy, for you indeed will live in a delightful land,*” says the sovereign Lord.” (NET Bible)

1. ***Do I tithe on the gross amount of my income or the net?*** Tithe on the gross. The difference between the gross and the net includes benefits to you like health insurance, government supplied roads, police and fire, etc. but remember this is a matter of the heart so don’t get legalistic in issues like this.
2. ***Isn’t the concept of tithing an Old Testament law that was not taught in the New Testament?*** The principle of tithing is older than the New Testament covenant because Abraham paid tithes to Melchizedek in Gen. 14. Jesus endorsed the paying of the tithe in Matt. 23:23. Also, Paul, the apostle, in 1 Cor. 16:2 said, “On the first day of each week let each one of you bring an offering as God hath prospered you.” This is speaking of percentage or proportionate giving.
3. ***What if my spouse is not saved and does not allow me to tithe?*** You are not held accountable for what you do not possess. I would suggest, however, two options. First, don’t just assume your spouse won’t allow it. Choose a time to appeal to him/her and ask if you can give a regular portion of income. Secondly, if you do not have money to give, give time and talents to the ministry of your choice and God will honor it.
4. ***I own a business, how do I tithe from my business?*** Tithing is computed based on increase or profit. There are several ways to compute profits and certain times when that can be done. Work out the details with your accountant. I believe God is beginning to call large no’s of Christian business owners to start businesses and tithe from their businesses to further the kingdom.
5. ***Where should my tithe be paid – all to my church or part of it to a mission’s cause or media ministry?*** The scripture says in Mal. 3 “Bring all the tithes into the storehouse that there may be meat in my house.” This is normally translated to mean the local church. Many people, however, are not connected to a local church. In that case give to an accountable leader who is able to responsibly administer finances in a Godly manner.