



GOING DEEPER AT HOME

JAN 29: MAKE A PLAN

All of us have a priority system when it comes to money. If we look at the 5 ways we use money, there is a system to each one. There's a habit, the credit card company has a system for us to follow - it's called interest payments, the gov't has a system - called income tax, often our employer has a system for saving for the future, and then what's leftover we give away. This puts God and others last, they get the leftovers. If there is anything left after I've bought what I think I need, I've paid off last months purchases, paid the government, saved a little to spend later, I might give some to God and others. God invites us to test Him, to see what happens when we put generosity first.

SCRIPTURE:

Malachi 3:7 - 10

GOING DEEPER QUESTIONS:

1. What order are the 5 financial priorities (spend, repay debt, pay taxes, save, give) in your life?
2. What is something from the message that stood out to you, was new or challenged you?
3. What comes to mind when you think about giving? Does it feel freeing or controlling?
4. What challenges might prevent you from setting apart a portion of your income to practice generosity?
5. Do you agree that by not giving we are stealing from God? Why or why not?
6. This is the only time God says we can "test" Him. Why do you think He gives us permission to do this?
7. Read Matthew 6:31 - 33. What does it mean to seek the Kingdom of God first? What kinds of things do you find yourself seeking first?
8. How is living generously living out God in our world?
9. If you've been tracking your spending, keep doing it and take a look at your spending. Where is God inviting you to make changes?
10. What step(s) is the Holy Spirit inviting you to take to live a balanced life financially & with God?