



#3 “Vital Signs of the Generous Heart”

The Vineyard Church of Conroe

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Sermon Notes

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?”
Matthew 6:25-27

The “Heart of Generosity” HAS MEASURABLE VITAL SIGNS

⁸ *“Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. “But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’ “In tithes and offerings. ⁹ You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. ¹⁰ 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.*

Malachi 3:8-10

I. Malachi 3:8 - The purpose of the tithe

⁸ *“Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. “But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’ “In tithes and offerings.*

The Vital Sign of a “Heart of Generosity” is GIVING TEN PERCENT TO THE LOCAL CHURCH

³⁰ *“One tenth of the produce of the land, whether grain from the fields or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD and must be set apart to him as holy.*

Leviticus 27:30

NLT

“Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should

*have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.
Matthew 23:23*

II. Malachi 3:9 - The consequences of ungenerosity

⁹ You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me.

The Symptoms of an Unhealthy “Heart of Generosity” are FINANCIAL WORRY AND CONFLICT

To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who do nothing, even what little they have will be taken away. Matthew 25:29 NLT

III. Malachi 3:10 - The benefits of generosity

¹⁰ 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.

The Symptoms of a Healthy “Heart of Generosity” are FINANCIAL PEACE, FAVOR AND WELL-BEING

^{33b} “And God’s grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴ 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 ³⁵ and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.”

Acts 4:33b-35