DISCUSSION GUIDE

There's Levels to This | Pastor Mike Todd
The Starter Kit Series Week 4

Scripture

Malachi 3:8-12 (NIV)

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. 11 I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe," says the Lord Almighty. 12 "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the Lord Almighty.

Main Idea

In this series, Starter Kit, we have looked into the Word of God to discover the basics of our faith, generosity, purpose, and the assignment on our lives. Today Pastor Mike Todd shared with us about Crazy Faith–faith that's not rational. He goes where He sees belief. Do you have faith to believe it? Don't take your foot off the gas.

TITHE

The tithe is 10%, the lowest level of generosity. He doesn't want something FROM you. He wants something FOR you. Neglecting your tithe is robbing God the opportunity to bless you. How are you demonstrating where your treasure is?

Additional Scripture: Matthew 6:21



OFFERING

The offering is the next level over and above the tithe. It's generosity that says whenever, wherever, however, because God's math is multiplication like in the story of the feeding of the 5,000. The miracle happened in the hands of the disciples but first they had to organize what they did have. What do you need to put into order so that God can be a blessing through you (Ex: budget, freedom from debt, gather your excess)?

Additional Scripture: Luke 9:12-17, Acts 20:35

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

You know this level of generosity is a sacrifice because it hurts. Think of the examples of Abraham giving his son, Mary anointing Jesus and washing his feet with the perfume that was worth a year's wages, and the poor woman who gave her only two coins. What is God asking you to sacrifice so that you can be a river and not a reservoir?

Additional Scripture: Mark 12:42-44

Summary

We are not here to take something but to GIVE everything in crazy faith. Today we learned that generosity has levels. Which level are you at? All that we have is given to us by God. If he can give it to you, can He give it through you? Instead of needing a prayer answered, you can be an answered prayer for someone else. Don't take your foot off the gas.

Call To Action

- 1. If you are not already tithing, commit to give your first 10% back to God. Visit hopecity.com/give for more information.
- 2. Create a budget and ask God to show you the details of what needs to change so that you can get to another level of generosity.
- 3. Take a step toward building your legacy by going through Growth Track, joining the Dream Team, joining a Connect Group, and be a part of the Hope City family.

Group Leader Resource

Game: Mail Call

Place chairs in a circle, using one less than needed. Have everyone take a seat; the one person without a seat must stand in the center of the circle. They'll say, "Mail Call for everyone..." and pick a descriptor, such as "wearing red" or "has a cat." (There's a lot of room for creativity here.) Everyone the descriptor applies to must get up and find a new seat without retaking their initial seat or moving to the seats next to them. The person in the middle will also be racing for a chair; whoever is left standing at the end stands in the circle next, and the game continues.

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