

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

More Than Enough, Indescribable, I Give Myself Away

WELCOME

Medal of Honor. Share with your group the highest honor you have so far received in your life.

WORD

PROVERBS 3:9

⁹ Honor the LORD from your wealth and from the first of all your produce;

It is fitting to honor he who gives himself for the sake of others. We honor our parents for their sacrifices in raising us up. We honor war heroes for their willingness to put their lives in the line of fire for the sake of their country. We even honor volunteers for their selfless dedication to serve others even without expecting anything in return.

To “honor” in its original language means to ascribe weight to something or to someone. It means to glorify, to revere and regard with great respect.

One way to honor God is through the act of giving. How do we do this? What should be the motive of our heart? There is certainly far greater reason than expecting to receive something in return or just being pressured to give. God will reward us for our giving, but it should never be our motivation.

We give in order to honor God and this should be the motivation of our hearts.

The Bible tells us that we honor God from our wealth and from the first of all our produce.

HONOR GOD FROM YOUR WEALTH

God owns the earth and everything in it (**Psalm 24:1**). The heavens declare His glory (**Psalm 19:1**); His honor is higher than the heavens (**Psalm 8:1**).

There is nothing we can give that God does not already have. In fact, God owns us and everything we have.

It is unimaginable and indescribable that the God who owns all creations, the entire universe and beyond — our homeland, the planet earth that we inhabit, the solar system, the billions of galaxies and the trillions of stars that made up the galaxies (which God knows each by name and all of them by number: **Isaiah 40:25–26**) — is the same almighty God who owns us. We are but a

tiny speck in reference to His vast creation, yet God thinks about us and cares for us.

“When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers—the moon and the stars you set in place—what are mere mortals that you should think about them, human beings that you should care for them?”
– **Psalm 8:3–4**

This thought is mind-blowing yet reassuring that our majestic God who owns everything takes care of us and all our needs.

God is awesome, exalted and majestic in all His creations. He can do immeasurably and abundantly more than what we could ask or imagine. This is the God whom we give glory and honor.

God is self-sufficient and self-sustaining. He has already given us everything. He owns whatever we have and our giving is merely giving back what already belongs to Him.

God does not need our wealth but He commands us to give because He knows us. By giving, we remember that God gives us the power and strength to make wealth, so that when we prosper, we will not become proud nor forget Him who gave us everything (**Deuteronomy 8:11–18**).

HONOR GOD FROM YOUR FIRST FRUITS

Honoring God from our first and best fruits simply means putting Him first. When we learn and practice the principle of giving to honor God, it will give us peace and freedom from anxiety because we know that God will take care of us.

Giving to honor God is giving with delight, just like how King David lavishly gave his wealth to start building the temple of God to guide Solomon whom

WORD (cont'd)

God has chosen to build the temple. All others offered gifts with whatever they have and they gave them willingly with joy (**1 Chronicles 29:1-9**).

We may not have much wealth to give, but we can also learn from the poor widow who gave her last two copper coins in the temple (**Mark 12:41-44**). Jesus told His disciples that this woman gave more than all others, because she gave out of her poverty while others gave from their surplus.

Tithing is not just an old law. In fact it was already a practice in the time of Abraham and Jacob even before the law was given to Moses. Giving a tenth of our produce is a good starting point. Later on we can have more freedom to give above our tithe with joy and willingness.

A tithe is a good place to start as it is not an absolute amount but a proportion of our produce. The proportion is only a minor proportion of 100%, although minor, it is enough step of faith to take.

The command of God in **Proverbs 3:9** comes with a promise in **verse 10** – “*So your barns will be filled with plenty and our vats will overflow with new wine.*”

We will never regret following the principles of God in our life. At the end of the day we know that His principles are better than our principles. We can never outgive God, He gave us everything with His Son Jesus, for us all.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

- 1. Honor God.** According to **Proverbs 3:9**, how do we honor God in giving? Will you still give even without the promise in **verse 10**?
- 2. Give Joyfully.** How do you feel whenever you give your tithe and love offering? Why do you feel this way?
- 3. Give to Honor.** In what ways can you honor God through giving?

WORKS

I GIVE

There are many needy people in this world. List down (3) individuals or groups whom God has put you in a position to help then write what you intend to do to bless them in the name of the Lord.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends