

Sunday – June 10, 2018

Pastor David Higa

**Now Concerning the Collection of the Saints...
1 Corinthians 16:1-24**

So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. [2 Corinthians 9:7]

Tithing, I believe, is one of the most misunderstood concepts in the New Testament. *Do you know that nowhere in the New Testament are we commanded to tithe?* That may sound unbelievable, but true. "Paul never used the word 'tithe' when he discussed giving, even though he gave more attention to giving than any other New Testament writer." [Bible Knowledge Commentary] There is a vast difference between *tithing* and *giving* [or *offering* as Paul oftentimes called it].

"Tithe" simply means a *tenth*. It was instituted in the Old Testament, and became a formal law exercised in the time of Moses for the nation of Israel. They were to give a tenth to the Lord and to the Lord's work. When you do a Bible search on the word "tithe" or "tenth," you will find that almost all the references are in the Old Testament, with just a few in the New Testament. And those few simply refer to the Old Testament practice. The New Testament teaches "giving" [not tithing], and emphasizes freely giving with a cheerful heart.

"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver." If you are giving grudgingly or out of compulsion; if you are being pressured or coerced by someone to give, then it'd probably be better not to give. *Why? Because God loves a cheerful giver!* The inference, then, is that He doesn't like it when we give grudgingly. As I once heard a Pastor put it, "Don't pollute the offering with a grudging gift." There is purity in giving; it comes through a pure heart and that's what makes it so special; that's what pleases God.

Now, this is not a teaching on not giving. We should be giving as God's people. We should be offering our time, energy, and resources to God and others. "Freely you have received, freely give." These are the red-letter words of our Lord. But if we cannot give freely then we ought to commit some time to prayer and ask God to change our hearts; because not giving is more a matter of the heart than anything else. Even in little we can cheerfully give little as our hearts are changed.

Some things to ponder even as Paul has called the Corinthian church to ponder, not only through this first letter but even more so in his second letter, which we will begin next Sunday.

Weekly Ministries:

Sun Morning Services – at Rosemont ES w/ Spanish translation.
7:30 am
9:30 am with Children's ministry.
11:30 am with Children's ministry & Teens ministry [6th-9th grades].

Sun Evening Service – HT Office. *Job*.
6:30 pm with Children's ministry.

Mon Evening Men's Fellowship – at HT Church Office.
6:30 pm Bible Study in Exodus.

Tue Evening Ladies Fellowship – at HT Church Office.
7:00 pm Bible study discussing Sun sermons in 1 Corinthians.

Wed Afternoon Elderly Ministry – at Hollywood Royale.
3:30 pm See Carl for details.

Wed Evening Service – at Rosemont ES with Children's ministry.
7:30 pm Old Testament Bible Study – *1 Chronicles*.

Sat Afternoon Elderly Ministry – at City View Villas.
2:00 pm See Carl for details.



Weekly Ministries for Everyone

- **Monday Evening Men's Fellowship**
Our men meet on Mon evenings beginning at 6:30 pm for a light dinner, and then at 7 pm for Bible study and fellowship. See Sal for details.
- **Tuesday Evening Ladies Fellowship**
Our ladies meet Tue evenings at 7 pm at our HT church office. Ladies please join us for worship, Bible study, and warm fellowship. See Sandra or Arlene for details.
- **Wednesday Evening Midweek Service**
Our midweek study of the Old Testament is every Wed evening at 7:30 pm here at the Rosemont auditorium.

Next Friday Worship Night on June 22

Mark your calendars for the next worship night on Fri, June 22, at the HT Church Office at 7 pm. Join us for a refreshing time of worship and prayer as we draw near to the Lord as a congregation. Food and warm fellowship will follow.



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Daily Bible Reading 06/11 – 06/17: Job 35 – Psalm 25. Reading plan at Info Table.

Spanish Translation is available during our services using small remote earpiece units. Please come to the Information Table.

Prayer Requests: We are available for prayer right after the service or you can fill out a **Prayer Card** and drop it in the offering box.

As a courtesy, please turn off cell phones and pagers during service.

Worship Services:

Sundays at 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.
Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Rosemont Avenue Elementary School
421 N. Rosemont Ave., Los Angeles, 90026

Sunday Evening at 6:30 p.m.
Church Office - The Hidden Treasure Bookshop
1822 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles, 90026