

## Two Questions Christians Should Ask About Giving

Two common questions Christians ask are: “Where do the offerings go?” and “How much should I give?”. If you haven’t asked or considered these questions, you really should.

- Tithe is used for the support of pastors, evangelists, Bible teachers, and administrators. The Bible mandates it as 10% of our increase.
- Local Church Budget is used by a church for its local needs such as literature, outreach supplies, church bulletins, utilities, maintenance, insurance, school operating expenses, children’s magazines, teaching supplies, worthy student fund, local staff salaries, etc. A personal giving plan suggestion is three to five percent of our increase.
- Conference Advance is used by a local Conference for its needs such as Christian education, local evangelism, Vacation Bible Schools, the monthly Union magazines, summer camps, and much more. A personal giving plan suggestion is one to two percent of our increase.
- World Budget is used by the General Conference for its needs such as medical and educational institutions, world mission support, and evangelism. A personal giving plan suggestion is one to three percent of our increase.
- Special Projects donations is used for Capital campaigns for church or school projects, mission trips, supporting ministries, etc. A personal giving plan suggestion is as God has prospered.

While the tithe we are called to return to God is Biblically set as 10% of our increase, offerings should be given as one is able and should be given from a cheerful heart. When thinking of our stewardship giving/returning (we return tithe, we give an offering) it helps to keep the 3 S’s in mind. Our giving should be:

- Sacrificial – God sacrificed for our salvation. oh that we would be sacrificial in in our stewardship to Him.
- Systematic –Every day God bestows blessings upon us. It should be a part of our plan and budget to give systematically.
- Spontaneous – There are some blessings that God gives us that seem spontaneous. Some are bestowed when unexpected needs arise. Some of our offerings should be spontaneous, as we see needs arise.