



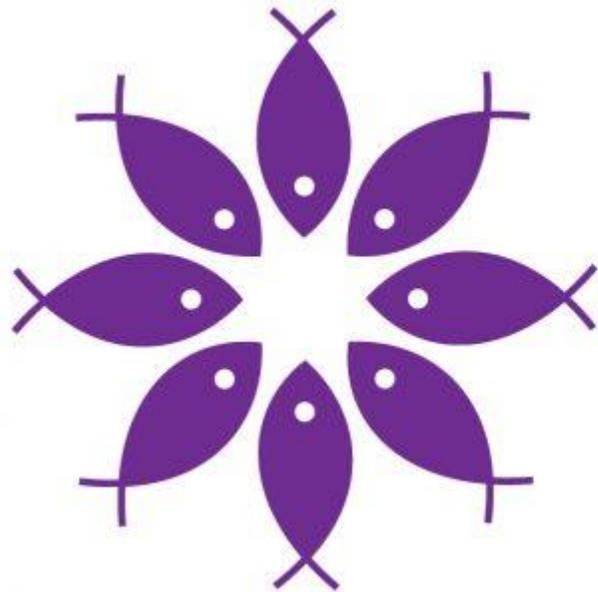
# Jesus talks about money; we can too

Lori Guenther Reesor  
October 24, 2018





The  
**Presbyterian**  
**Church**  
in Canada



Presbyterians  
**Sharing**



## About Lori

- fundraising consultant
- speaker
- theologian
- *poet*
- donor
- board member
- former pastor
- *wife, mom*



## About Lori

- Blog and research posted at [www.lgreesor.com](http://www.lgreesor.com)
- B. Math (Statistics)
- Master of Theological Studies
- D. Min. at Tyndale University College and Seminary, 2014

## Please type in your questions

- Moderator will read them out on your behalf. We'll also take question breaks during the presentation and again at the end.













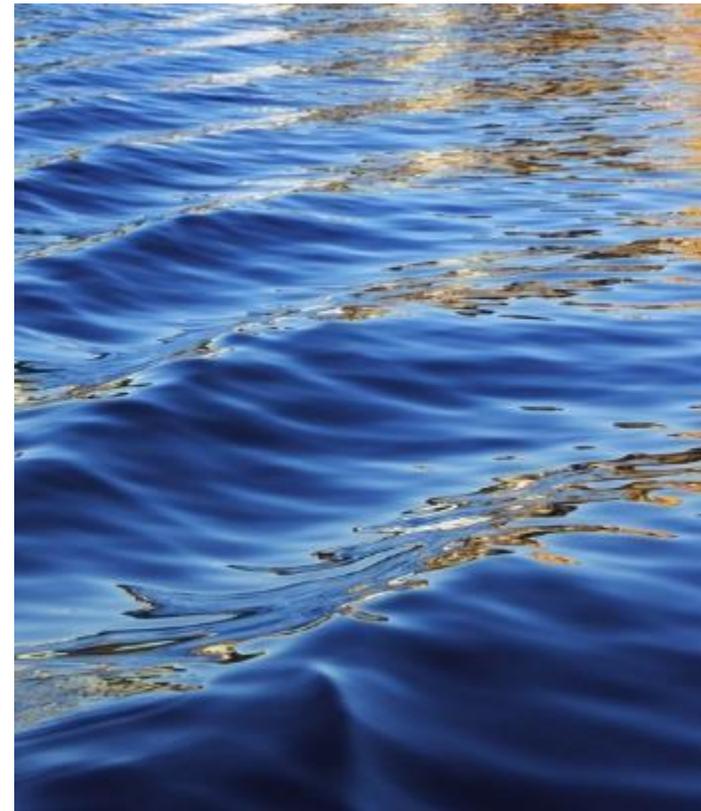
## Our discussion points for today's webinar

- Tithing
- Circle of Grace model of giving
- *Imago Dei* – what does it mean to be created in the image of God?
- Resources on Jesus and money, Christian giving



# Tithing

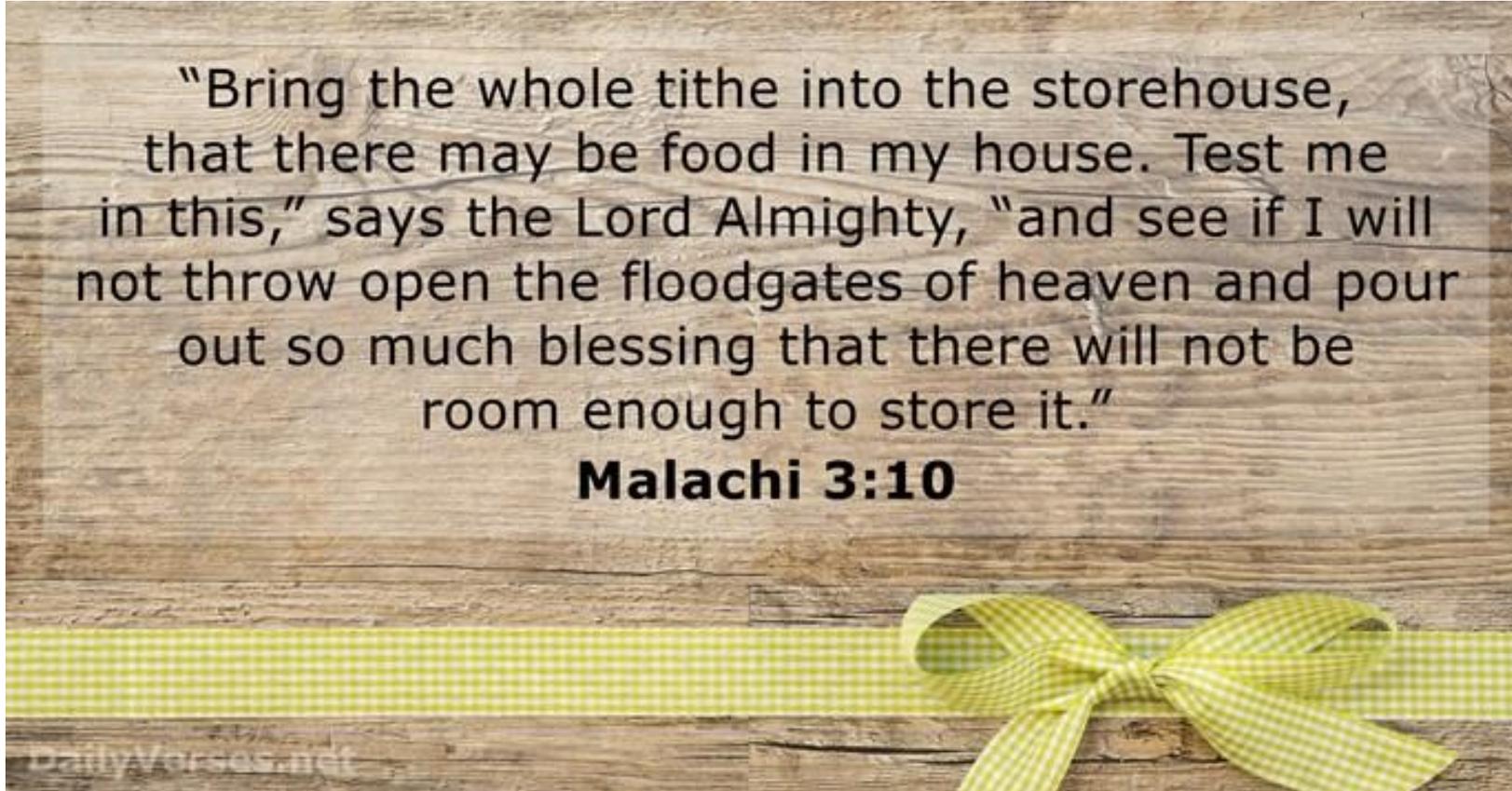
What did Jesus say?



## But first an OT reference

“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 3:10**



DailyVerses.net

## And some more from Malachi 3

- Offerings of righteousness
- Malachi 3:5

<sup>5</sup> “So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against **those who defraud laborers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice,** but do not fear me,” says the LORD Almighty.

## New Testament references to tithing

- Matthew 23:23, Luke 11:43
- Luke 18:12
- Hebrews 7:1-10



# From *Stewards of God's Grace* on PCC website

Written by Herb & Shirley Gale

## **Question: What about tithing?**

Answer: Tithing is the practice of giving 10% of one's income for sacred purposes. The Old Testament writings include many commands to the people to present a tithe of their produce to the Lord.

In the New Testament, tithing is never commanded of God's people. Jesus himself condemned tithing when it led to self-righteousness (c.f. Luke 18:9-14), Zaccheus gave more than half of his savings away after he had been touched by Jesus' love (Luke 19:8), and the early Christians went far beyond tithing when they gave everything they owned to the church to be used for the common good (c.f. Acts 2:44-45; 4:32-25).

## From *Stewards of God's Grace* on PCC website

Written by Herb & Shirley Gale

### **Question: What about tithing?**

The New Testament writers do not lay down any laws about giving, but challenge us

**to learn to give with the same whole-hearted generosity that we see in Jesus.**

# Some observations on tithing

## Great things about tithing

- It's way more than most Christians give
- Makes a wonderful goal for people learning to give
- Makes an excellent baseline for mature givers

## Risks of tithing

- Thinking we can do whatever we want with the other 90%
- Legalism – giving based on duty and obligation

## Awkward things about tithing

- If you are already visiting a food bank in order to pay the rent, then living on 90% of your income isn't a good option

## What I hear in congregations about tithing

- people in church say 'we tithe' and actually mean – this conversation is done
- \$20 a week is \$1000/year
- If this is a tithe, then what is annual income?



# A GIVING GUIDE

As Christians, we are encouraged to follow the spirit of the tithe and consider giving to God as an act of worship and thanksgiving.

The foundation of generous giving is found in the Bible.

## GIVE GRATEFULLY

Giving grows out of the joyous recognition that all we have comes from God. It is a response to God's grace.

(2 Chronicles 29:14; 2 Corinthians 9:12)

## GIVE CHEERFULLY

Give, not until it hurts, but until it feels good. Giving is a joyful act.

(2 Corinthians 9:7)

## GIVE FREELY

We give, not because we have to but because we want to.

(2 Corinthians 9:7)

## GIVE INTENTIONALLY AND PROPORTIONALLY

We give a percentage of what we have according to what we have been given.

(2 Corinthians 8:12)

## GIVE OFF THE TOP

As an expression of trust in God, we give off the top of our income instead of what is left.

(Proverbs 3:9)

## GIVE REGULARLY

We grow in generosity when we develop the habit of regular giving.

(1 Corinthians 16:2)

*God's grace touches our hearts and lives – and those around us – as we grow into the image of the greatest giver of all.*

The following giving chart shows weekly offerings as a percentage of income. This may help you decide what you want to give to the church as a proportion of your income.

## WEEKLY PERCENTAGE GIVING GUIDE

Income		Weekly giving					
Annual	Weekly	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%	15%
12,000	231	5	9	14	18	23	35
16,000	308	6	12	18	25	31	46
20,000	385	8	15	23	31	39	58
25,000	481	10	19	29	38	48	72
30,000	577	12	23	35	46	58	87
35,000	673	13	27	40	54	67	101
40,000	769	15	31	46	62	77	115
45,000	865	17	35	52	69	87	130
50,000	962	19	38	58	77	96	144
60,000	1,154	23	46	69	92	115	173
75,000	1,442	29	58	87	115	144	216
100,000	1,923	38	77	115	154	192	288
125,000	2,404	48	96	144	192	240	361
150,000	2,885	58	115	173	231	289	433

For those giving on a monthly basis – by Pre-Authorized Remittance or by post-dated cheques – simply multiply the weekly giving in this chart by 4.33 (there are 4.33 weeks in a month).



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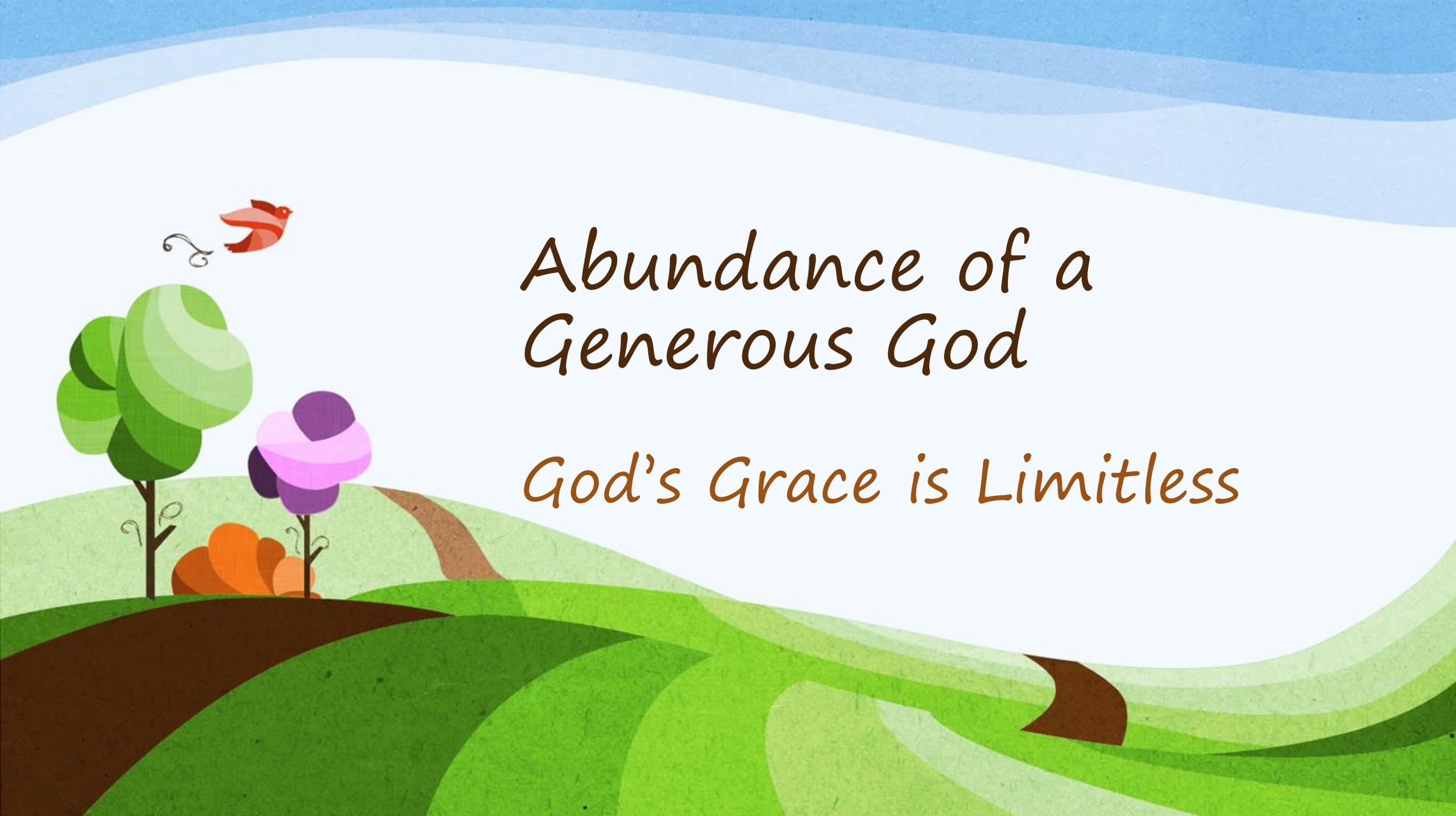
Talk to your envelope steward

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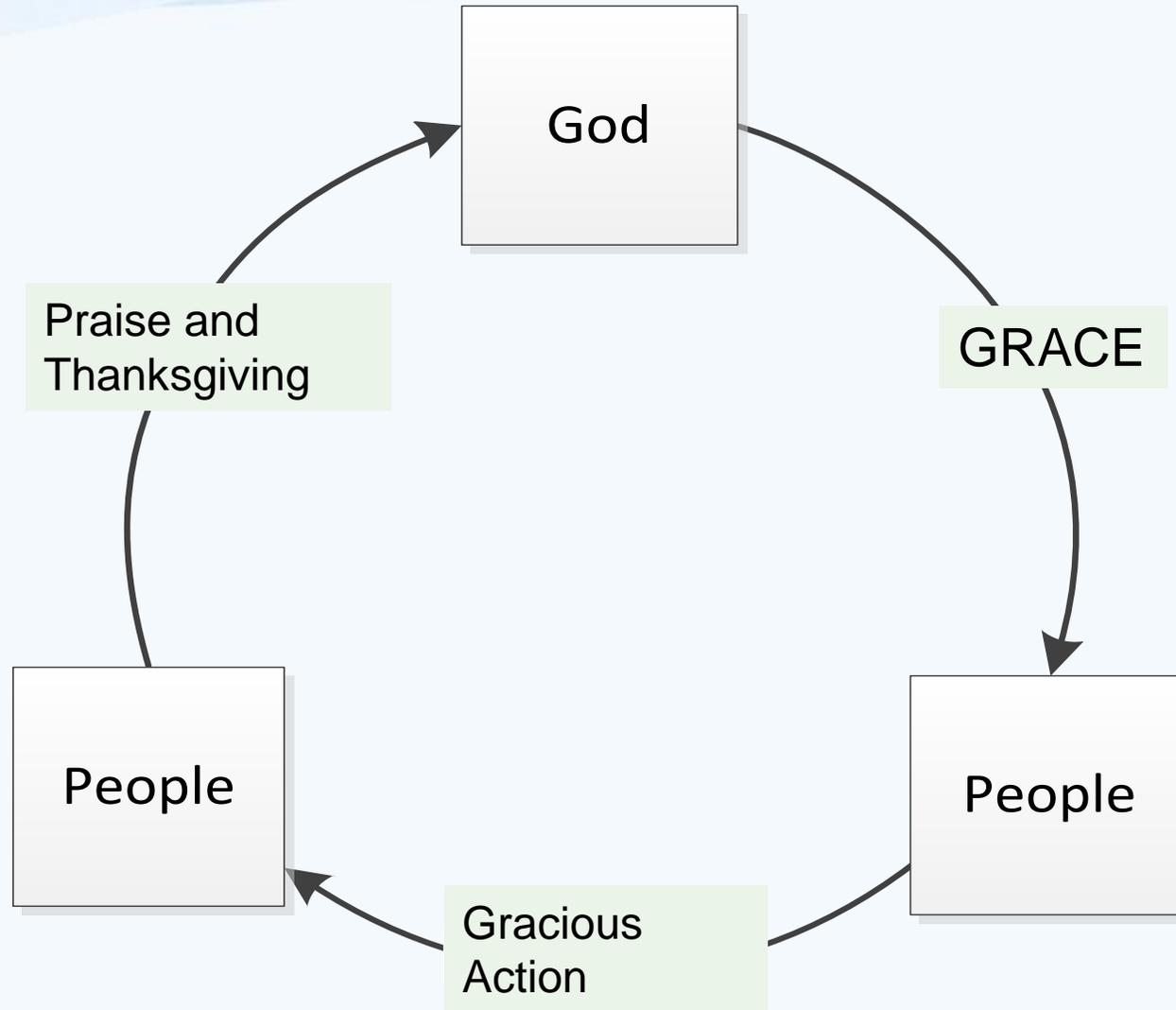
Jesus talks about money;  
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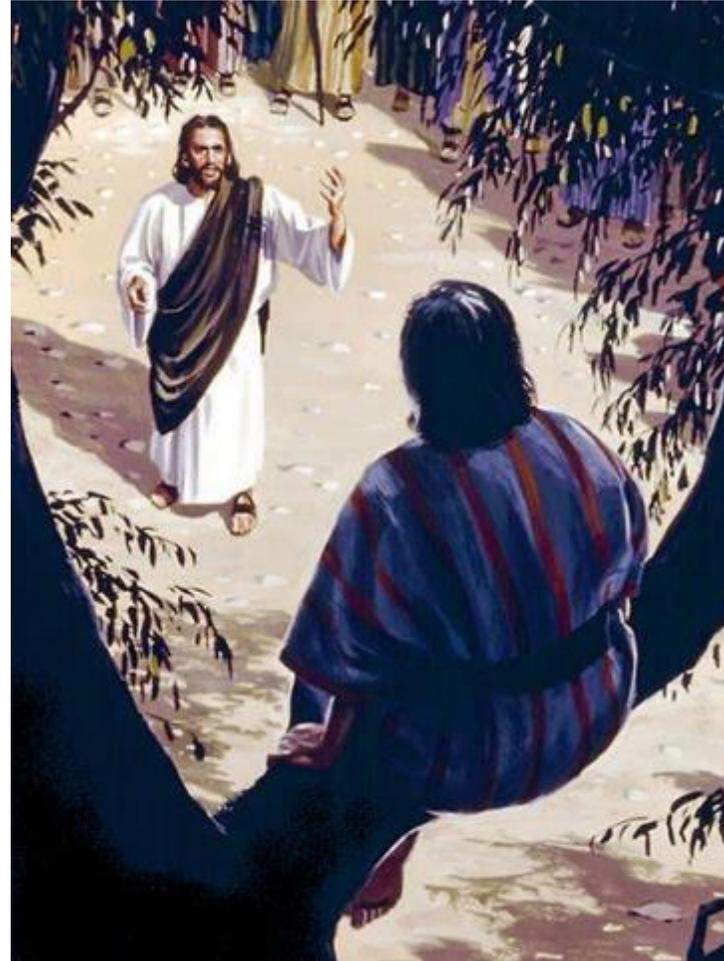
*Abundance of a  
Generous God*

*God's Grace is Limitless*

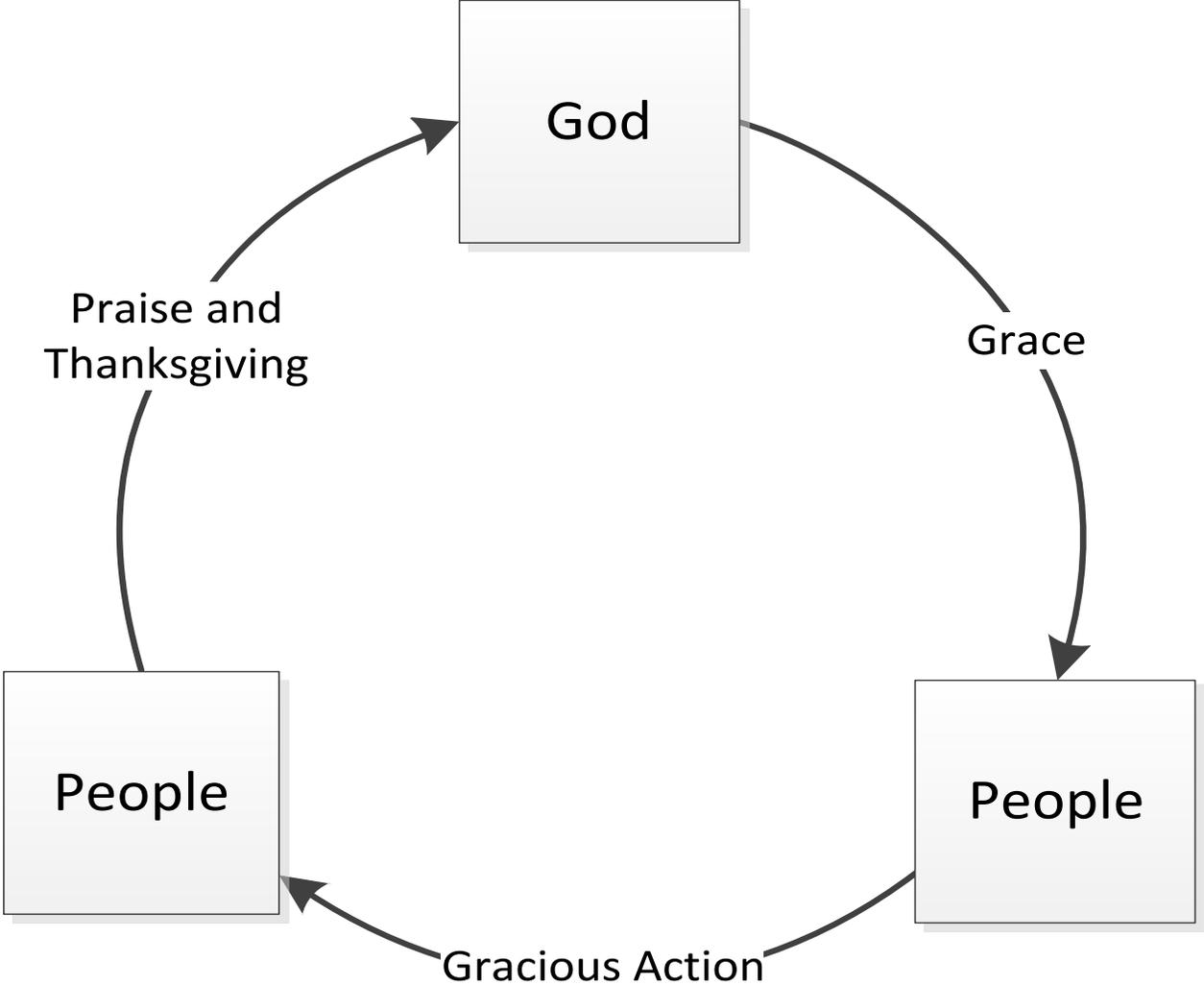
# Circle of Grace Model



# Zaccheus



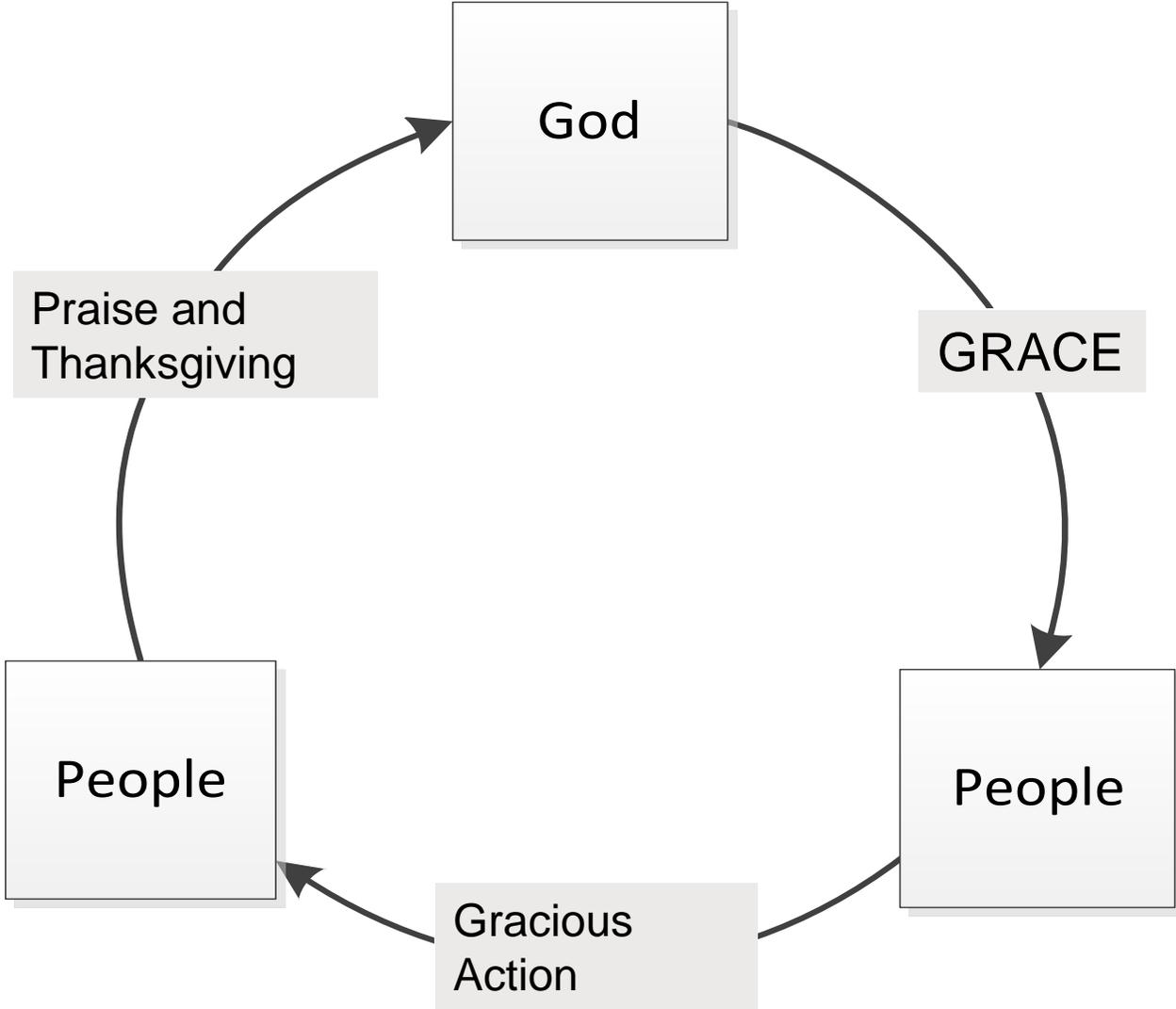
# Circle of Grace Model



# Matthew 18 – the unmerciful servant



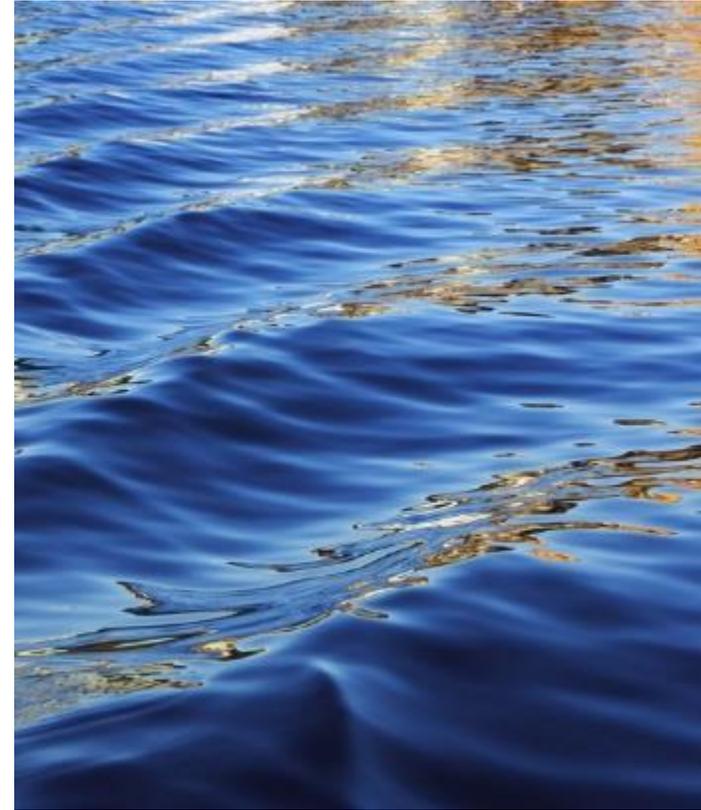
# Circle of Grace Model





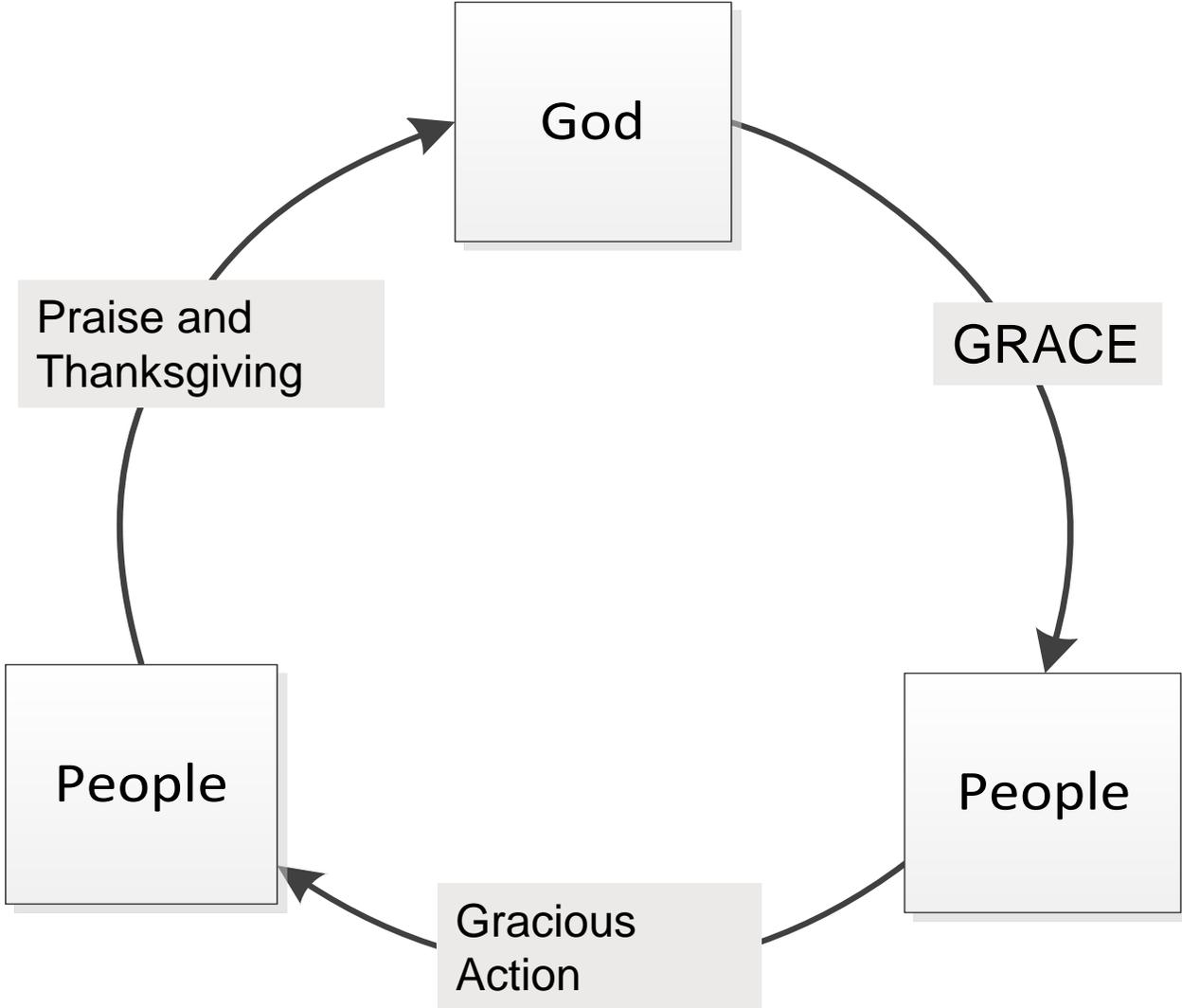
# Imago Dei

Give to God what is God's





# Circle of Grace Model



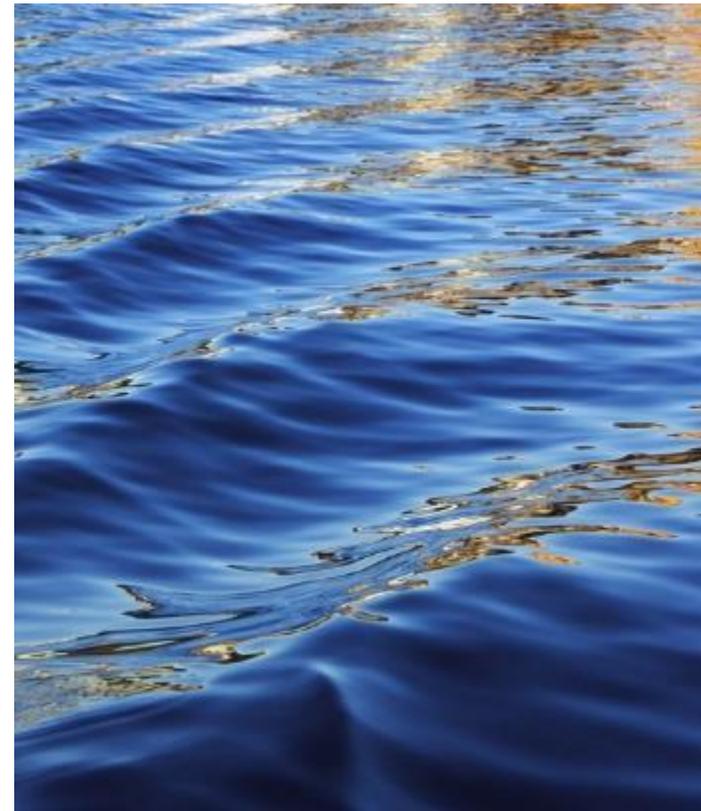


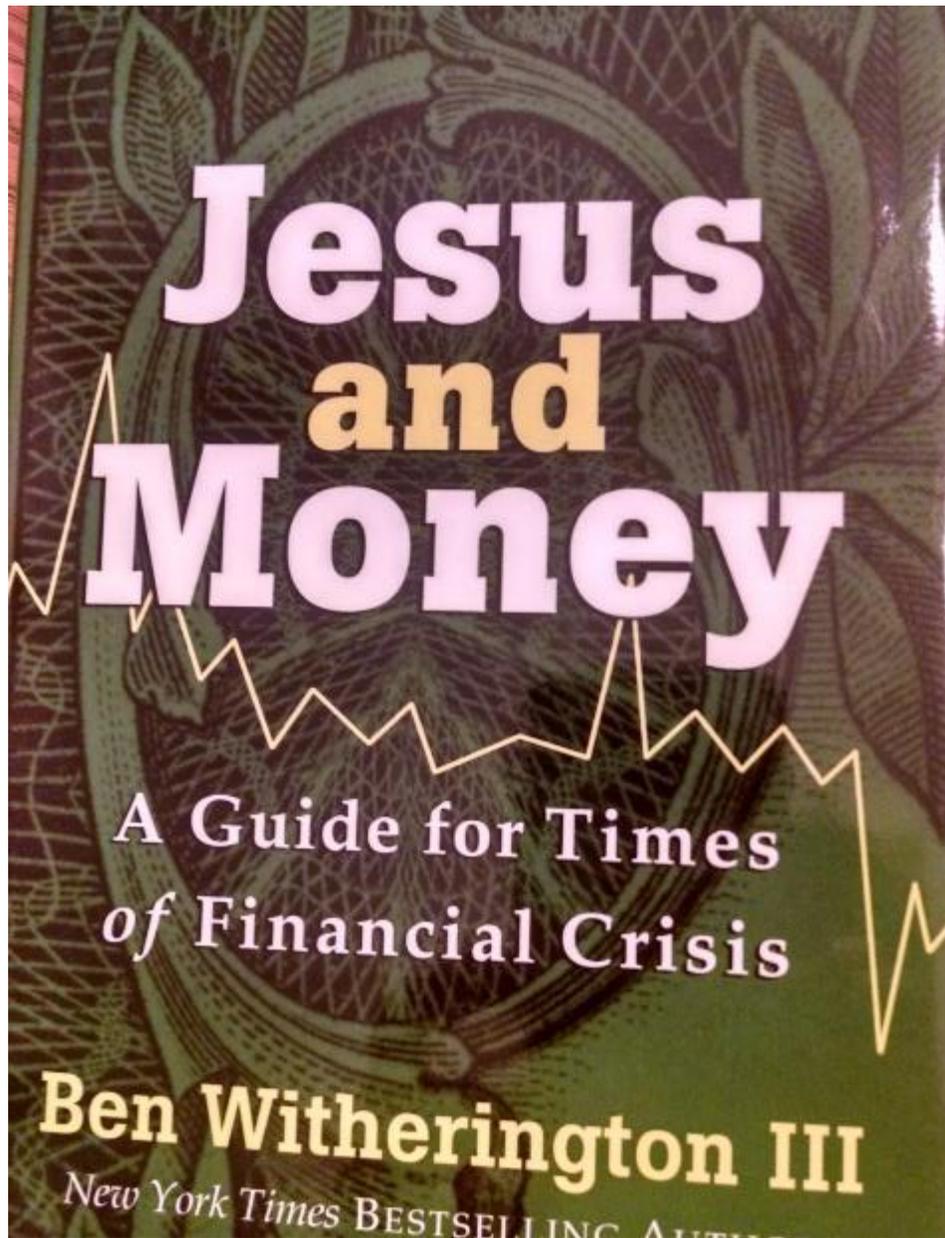
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# Resources





## Jesus and Money

Highlight is pp. 165-169 Ten Christian Myths about Money. Recommended by Craig Keener, another great teacher and author.

American context. A light read by theological standards but not by popular standards.

# GOD & MAMMON

*Asking for Money in the  
New Testament*

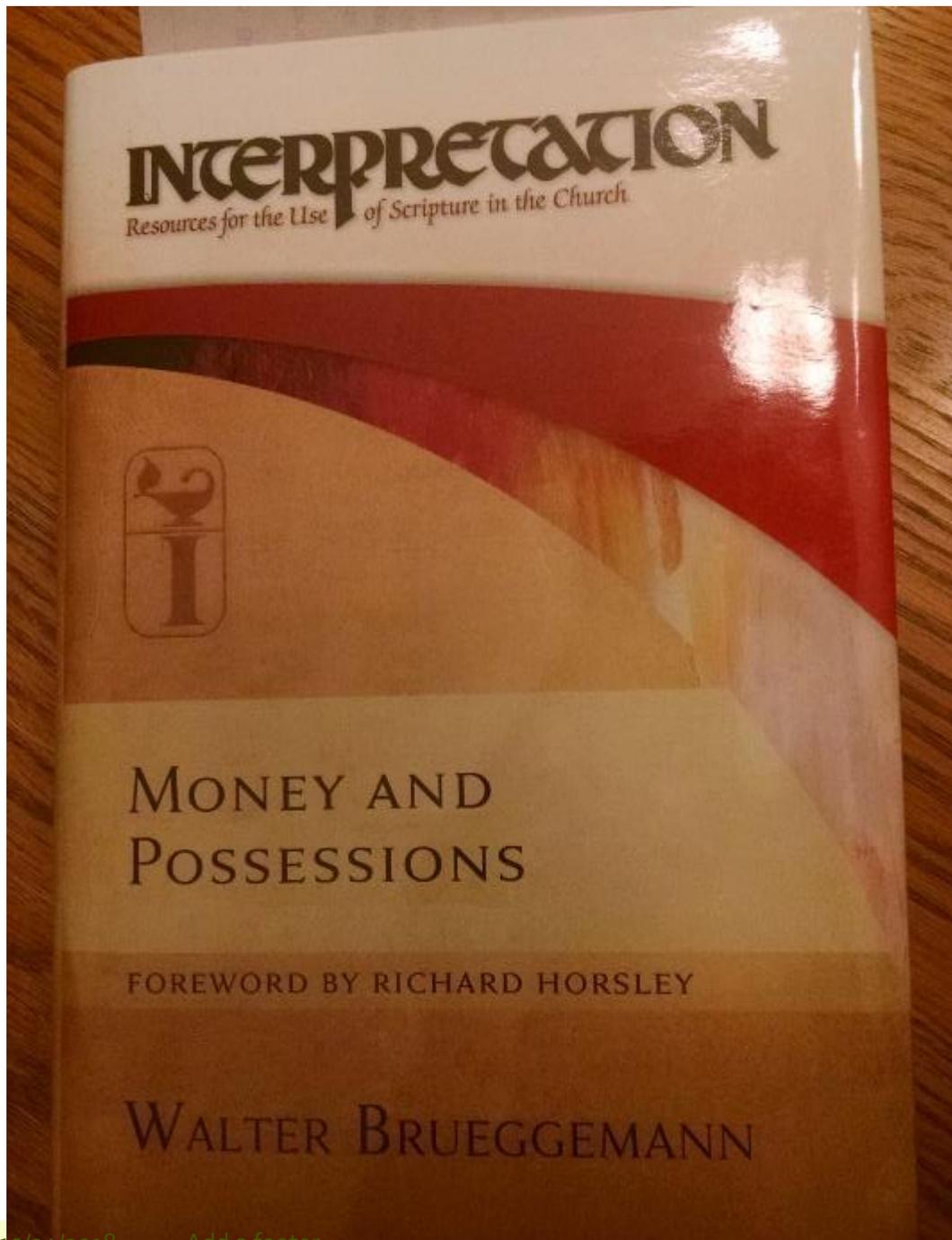


Jouette M. Bassler

## God & Mammon

This is specifically about asking for money and I haven't come across anything else quite like it. Great insights into Paul and money.

Bassler does not draw parallels into contemporary practice.

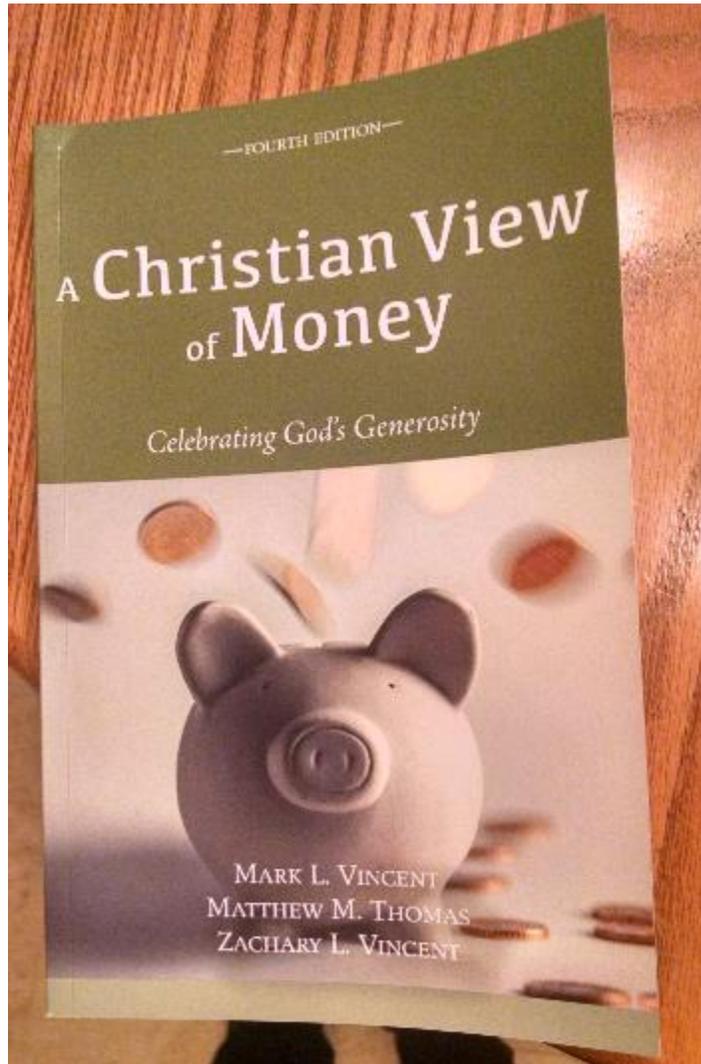


## Money and Possessions

Brueggemann is a master.  
Extensive treatment of money  
in OT.

He cites Luke Timothy Johnson  
as a NT source – *Sharing  
Possessions: What Faith  
Demands.*

The exegetical gold standard  
and a dense read.



## A Christian View of Money: Celebrating God's Generosity

**Fourth edition**, updated. Accessible with examples, case studies and questions in each chapter – all set for a group study.

Available on Amazon for \$23.30

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# Contact us

## Lori Guenther Reesor

### “Joyful fundraising for churches and charities”

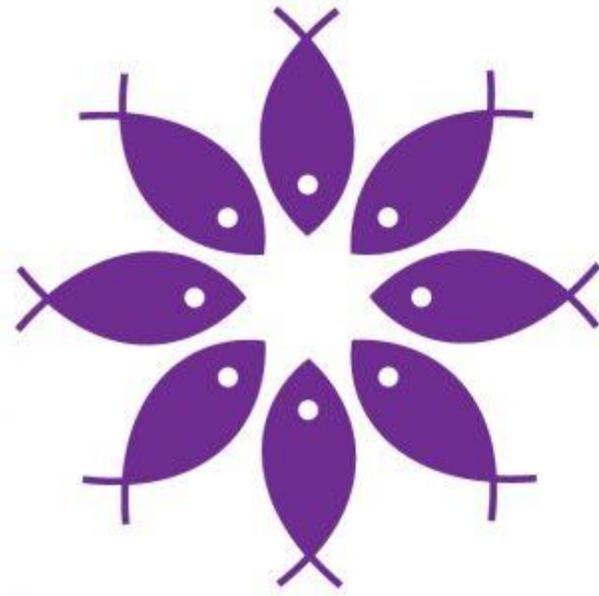
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THANK YOU!