

C. **Moses** consecrated tithing.

“And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's: it is holy unto the LORD.”
Leviticus 27:30

D. **Jesus** commanded tithing.

“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.”
Matthew 23:23

E. **Paul** confirmed tithing.

“And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth.” Hebrews 7:8

Step Up To God's Tithe Challenge

“Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this,” Says the LORD of hosts, “If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.”
Malachi 3:10

I want to challenge everyone in our congregation to commit to giving at least 10% of their gross income to the general fund for four months (February, March, April and May).

STEP UP: TAKING YOUR LIFE TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Step Up For Generosity

Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. Are you ready to take your life to the next level in the New Year? Action is required to make that happen, you must step up! Right now there is a lot of advice going around about how to change and improve your life. However, the best source and the only perfect source is found in the Bible.

“Direct my steps by Your word, And let no iniquity have dominion over me.”
Psalm 119:133

B. In this series you are going to learn from the Bible what you can do to take your life to the next level in six specific areas.

Jan 3	Step Up For God
Jan 10	Step Up For Faith
Jan 17	Step Up For Health
Jan 31	Step Up For Finances
TODAY	Step Up For Generosity
Feb 14	Step Up For Church

Come and hear these messages and discover what actions are needed to take your life to the next level!

C. **TEXT:** Proverbs 11:25 (Pew Bible/Pg. 618/Old Testament)

The generous person is the blessed person!

“...And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”
Acts 20:35b

HOW TO STEP UP FOR GENEROSITY

I. GIVE **ETERNALLY**

The duration of your life matters, but the donation of your life matters even more.

“19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:19-21

II. GIVE **CHEERFULLY**

God cares about the amount you give, but He also cares about your attitude in giving.

“6 But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

7 So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.” II Corinthians 9:6-7

III. GIVE **HIGHLY**

You cannot say God is first in your life when He is last in your budget.

“Honor the LORD with your possessions, And with the firstfruits of all your increase;” Proverbs 3:9

“3 And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD.

4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering,

5 but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.” Genesis 4:3-5

IV. GIVE **SYSTEMATICALLY**

Giving should be routine, not random.

“I Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also:

2 On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.” I Corinthians 16:1-2

V. GIVE **AUTOMATICALLY**

Automate your giving through online giving with recurring donations or bill pay at your bank.

“Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.” I Corinthians 4:2

VI. GIVE **OBEDIENTLY**

Truly give at least **10%** of your total **gross** income.

A. **Abraham** commenced tithing.

“18 And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God.

19 And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:

20 And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.” Genesis 14:18-20

B. **Jacob** continued tithing.

“:And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.” Genesis 28:22

