

Local Church

Some people receive a regular income for their work, such as pastors and teachers, bank tellers and other hourly or salaried employees. They can plan accordingly. Their tithe remains constant, and their offerings might also be constant, even though some expenses might fluctuate while others remain steady. Other people might get paid in bursts with irregular amounts each time—like farmers who harvest their crops, salespeople on commissions, restaurant waiters, and Uber/Lyft drivers. Their tithes and offerings fluctuate, just like their income.

The Jews gathered for three major religious festivals each year in Old Testament times. According to Deut. 16:16-17, “no one should appear before the LORD empty-handed: Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the LORD your God has blessed you.” Notice this last sentence, “Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the LORD your God has blessed you.”

How much has God blessed you? Bring God a gift in proportion to His blessing. Tithing makes that pretty simple—one-tenth of your paycheck. The same can be said of your offerings—give in proportion to the way God has blessed you.

Appeal: Maybe we need to pause and count our blessings! Don’t give what you “can’t” or merely give what you “can.” Instead, give according to God’s blessings to you.

Prayer: Thank you, God, and please accept our gifts to You today, just as You have blessed us. In Christ’s name, Amen.