



Matthew 6:33



GC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

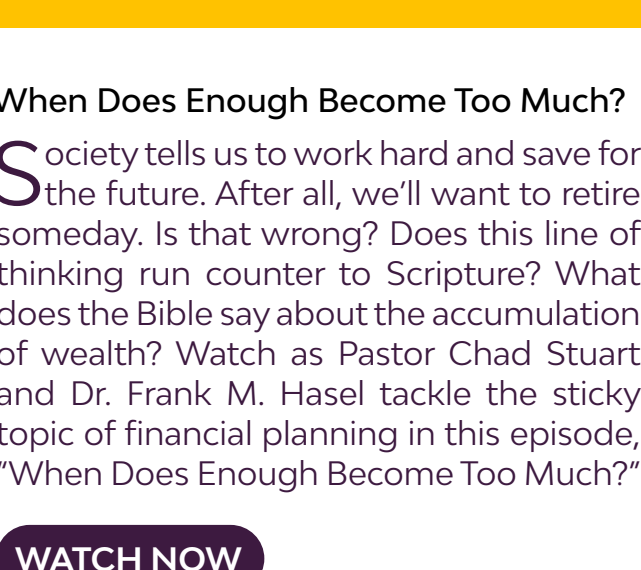
April - June 2023

We are delighted to share a special GC Executive Committee Newsletter edition! The lead article looks in-depth at a story that has circulated around the world for many years regarding what happened the day the banks closed and how the church finances were preserved. The story has been told in multiple versions, and in this article, Merle Poirier . . .

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CHOSEN FOR MISSION: CELEBRATING 160 YEARS



Meeting house at Battle Creek, where the Seventh-day Adventist Church was organized on May 21, 1863. [Photo: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Archives]

Focusing on Unity, Identity, and Mission

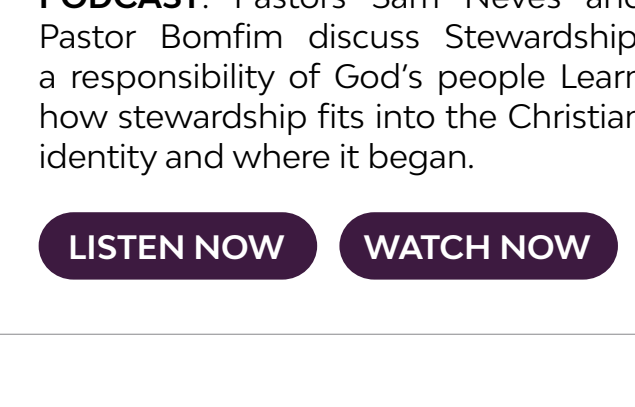
The Seventh-day Adventist Church celebrated its 160th anniversary on May 21, 2023. Despite challenges, the Adventist movement has now reached communities worldwide with the Gospel message—all due to its missional efforts over the last 160 years. Aptly themed “Chosen for Mission,” the celebration is an invitation for all members of the World Church to pledge...

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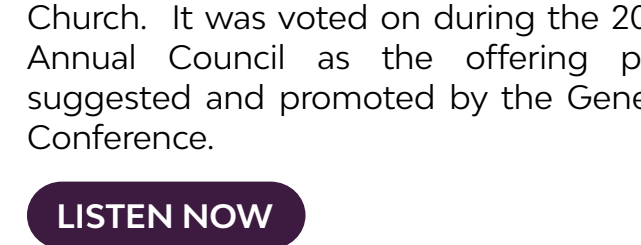
BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES ON STEWARDSHIP

When Does Enough Become Too Much?

Society tells us to work hard and save for the future. After all, we'll want to retire someday. Is that wrong? Does this line of thinking run counter to Scripture? What does the Bible say about the accumulation of wealth? Watch as Pastor Chad Stuart and Dr. Frank M. Hessel tackle the sticky topic of financial planning in this episode, “When Does Enough Become Too Much?”



WATCH NOW



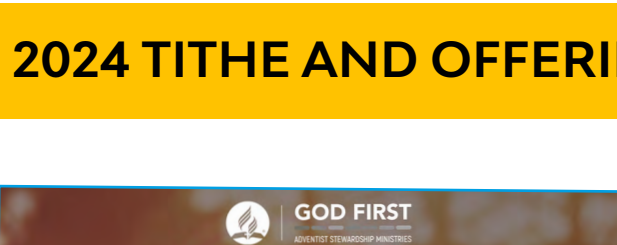
Courtesy of Adventist News Network.

PODCAST: CREATED AS STEWARDS

PODCAST: Pastors Sam Neves and Pastor Bomfim discuss Stewardship, a responsibility of God's people. Learn how stewardship fits into the Christian identity and where it began.

LISTEN NOW

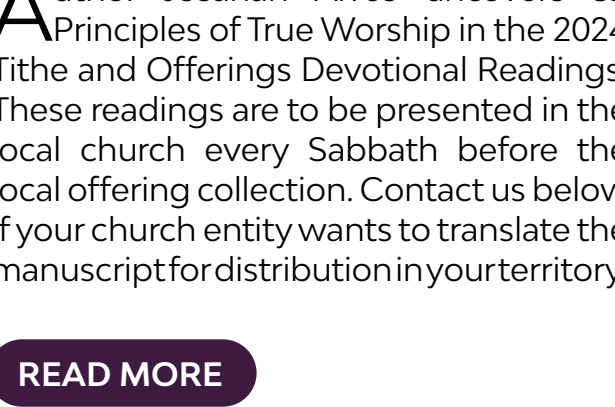
WATCH NOW



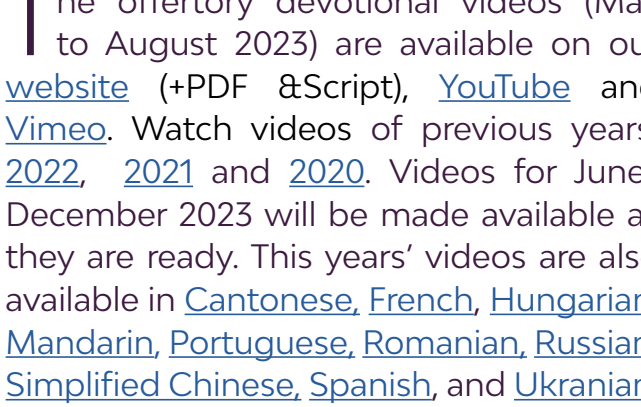
PODCAST: THE ESSENTIALS OF THE COMBINED OFFERINGS PLAN

PODCAST: The Combined Offering Plan (COP) is a financial stewardship initiative suggested and promoted by the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It was voted on during the 2002 Annual Council as the offering plan suggested and promoted by the General Conference.

LISTEN NOW



2024 TITHE AND OFFERINGS DEVOTIONAL READINGS

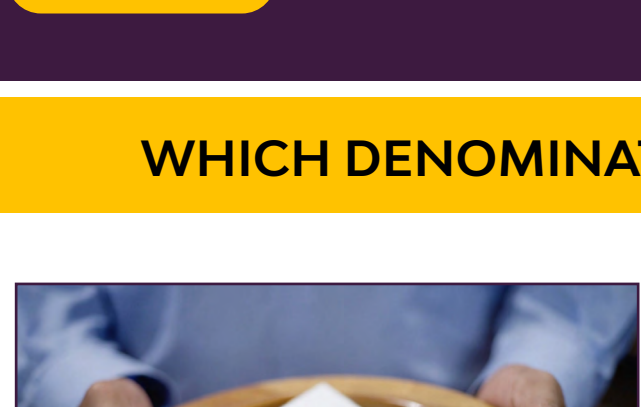


Principles of True Worship

Author Josanan Alves uncovers 52 Principles of True Worship in the 2024 Tithe and Offerings Devotional Readings. These readings are to be presented in the local church every Sabbath before the local offering collection. Contact us below if your church entity wants to translate the manuscript for distribution in your territory.

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2023 OFFERTORY DEVOTIONAL READINGS



English, French, Spanish and Portuguese

Lighting Up All Corners is a collection of true stories written by Charlotte Ishkanian—stories of people around the world who have heard the voice of God and answered “Yes” to His call, “Follow me.” The Lord asks, “Whom shall I send, and who shall go for Us?” Will you go? Contact us below if your church entity wants to translate the manuscript for distribution in your territory.

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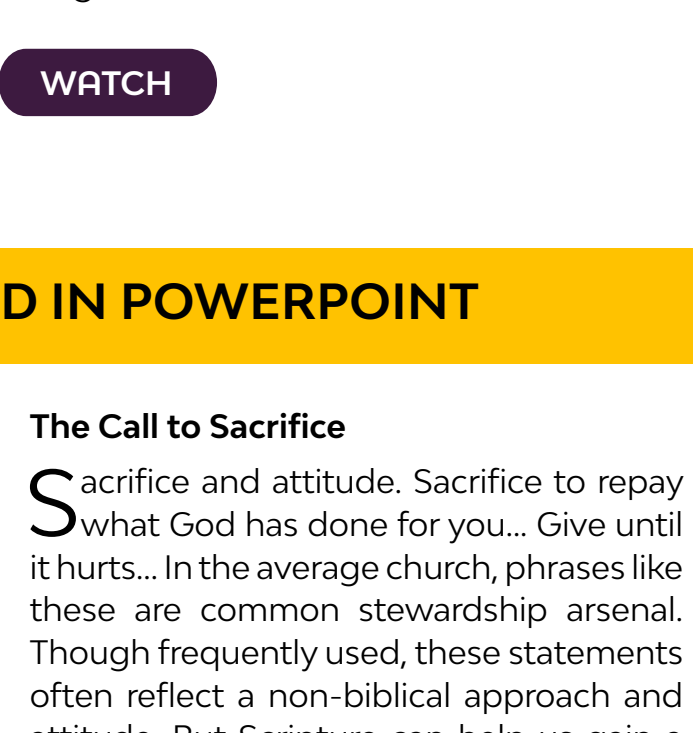
MONTHLY OFFERTORY DEVOTIONAL VIDEOS

The offertory devotional videos (May to August 2023) are available on our website (+PDF &Script), YouTube and Vimeo. Watch videos of previous years: 2022, 2021 and 2020. Videos for June-December 2023 will be made available as they are ready. This years' videos are also available in Cantonese, French, Hungarian, Mandarin, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish, and Ukrainian.

VIMEO

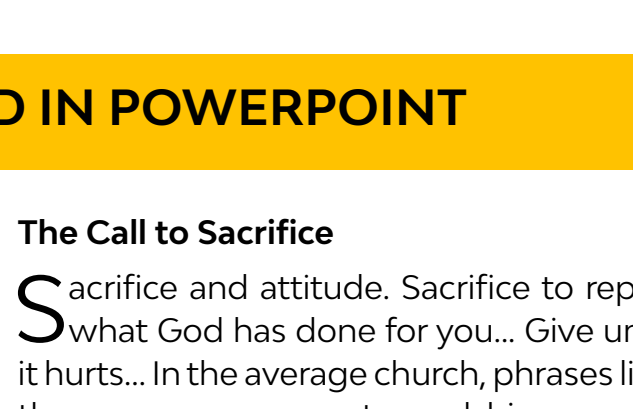
YOUTUBE

June 2023 Offertory Devotional Videos



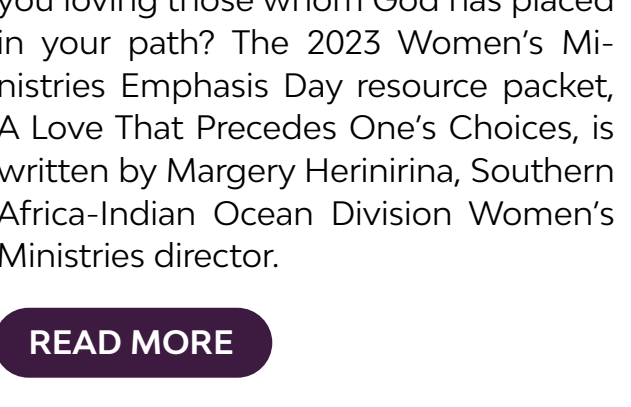
DO GENEROSITY AND STEWARDSHIP MEAN THE SAME THING?

In recent years generosity and generosity ministry has gained popularity in the Church and non-profit organizations. Many church leaders have begun to use generosity in place of stewardship. This may seem like a better way to communicate the same thing for some, but do generosity and stewardship mean the same thing?



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WHICH DENOMINATION TITHES THE MOST?



This article written by Samantha Kamman, Christian Post Reporter.

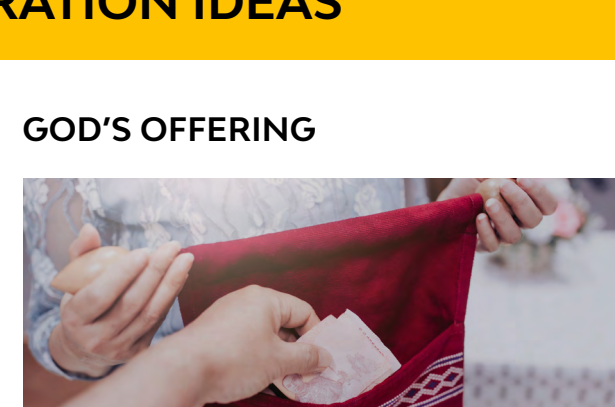
Whether churchgoers believe that tithing — giving 10% of one's income — is a biblical commandment varies depending on age and denomination, according to a recent study. Lifeway Research, an organization that examines ongoing church ministry trends, published a study on April 25 that found more than 3 in 4 American Protestant churchgoers (77%) view tithing as a biblical command that the faithful must abide by today.

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ELLEN G. WHITE AND TITHE

An analysis of four controversial statements

Although the Seventh-day Adventist tithing system was in place by the end of the nineteenth century, controversies have arisen recently about its practical application. Members who lose confidence in the church organization sometimes divert tithes to independent groups. They justify this by citing a few quotations from Ellen White describing...



Article written Alberto Ronald Timm and appeared in the Ministry Magazine, February 1994.

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WE SERVE BECAUSE YOU GIVE



Courtesy of the Adventist Mission.

The All Inclusive Church

In 2016, church members in Ragusa, Italy, appealed to Adventist members around the world to help them build a new church. Let's visit to see how the 13th Sabbath Offering was used!

WATCH

DYNAMIC STEWARD IN POWERPOINT



This article was written by Benjamin C. Maxson, former GC Stewardship director, previously published in the Dynamic Steward magazine, in the October-December 2000, vol 4, no. 4, pp. 4-5. Read the article: <https://stewardship.adventist.org/articles/EZ3803@call-to-sacrifice> and the complete magazine here: <https://issuu.com/dynamicstewardship/docs/00octdec>.

The Call to Sacrifice

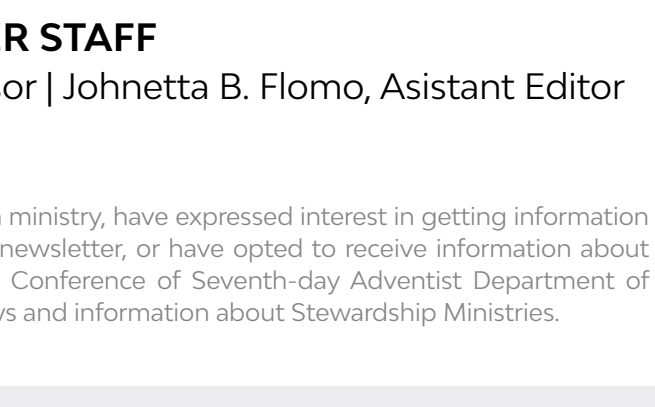
Sacrifice and attitude. Sacrifice to repay what God has done for you... Give until it hurts... In the average church, phrases like these are common stewardship arsenal. Though frequently used, these statements often reflect a non-biblical approach and attitude. But Scripture can help us gain a wider and better understanding of what sacrifice really means.

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WOMEN'S MINISTRIES EMPHASIS DAY—JUNE 10, 2023

A Love That Precedes One's Choices

What choices are you making to love? That is the question you are choosing to love those whom you think are lovable or are you loving those whom God has placed in your path? The 2023 Women's Ministries Emphasis Day resource packet, A Love That Precedes One's Choices, is written by Margery Herinirina, Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division Women's Ministries director.



Prepared by Margery Herinirina, Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division Women's Ministries director

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STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES ITINERARY

STW SEMINAR IN SONG-SAN CHURCH APRIL 29, 2023

IN PHOTOS

PRESENTATIONS

SERMON ILLUSTRATION IDEAS

AN ACCIDENTAL OFFERING

(Photo Credit: GETTY IMAGES)

Illustrates Stewardship

A Conyers, GA., resident is out \$6,500 after his plan to hide a wad of cash backfired. After 27-year-old Devon Silvey sold his car, he took the cash to his mother's house for safekeeping. Rather than tell his mom about the money...

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GOD'S OFFERING

(Photo Credit: GETTY IMAGES)

Illustrates Giving

A family came home from church one Sunday and after they had lunch they sent their 6-year-old son off to play. After awhile, his mother realized that they hadn't heard much from him, which any parent knows is a recipe for disaster.

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SUGGESTED RESOURCES

Book—Growing Your Life: Reflections on Personal Stewardship from the Lives of Joseph and Jesus. This personal devotional focuses on the exemplary faithfulness in the lives of Joseph and Jesus.

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Book—Model Steward Canvas Book, Workbook and other resources. This book provides a simple framework for starting a Christian business with a Kingdom Purpose.

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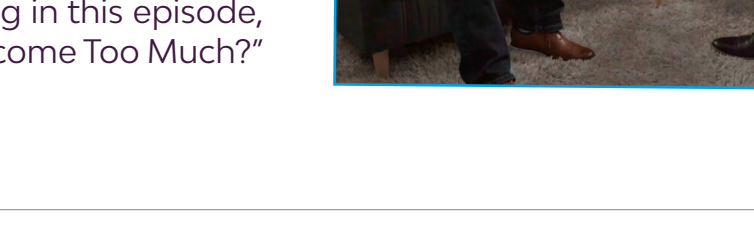
E. G. WHITE'S QUOTATIONS

If our people had the love of God in the heart, if every church member were imbued with the spirit of self-sacrifice, there would be no lack of funds for home and foreign missions; our resources would be multiplied; a thousand doors of usefulness would be opened; and we should be invited to enter.—Counsels on Stewardship, p. 36

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Please send us stories, photos, and videos of stewardship events in your region or innovative stewardship ideas. You could be featured in future newsletters! [SUBSCRIBE here](#) to the monthly God First newsletter and stay informed about stewardship news.

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