Meet Ramón.

Ramón is a pretty cool laid back guy who loves his church. He’s in choir, Pathfinders Club, Youth Group… you name it, he is in it!

Well, it turns out that, lately, Ramón has become a bit frustrated because he’s never been visited by his pastor. The lack of attention by his church leader makes him think his tithe should not be returned in his church.

He would rather give it to charity. That way there will be no frustration and the money will still be helping those in need. All this sounds reasonable, right? But let’s see what the Bible has to say about it.

In Deuteronomy 12:5, 6 the Lord made it very clear where He expects us to bring our tithes and offerings:
5 But you shall seek the place where the Lord your God chooses, out of all your tribes, to put His name for His dwelling place; and there you shall go.

6 There you shall take your burnt offerings, your sacrifices, your tithes, the heave offerings of your hand, your vowed offerings, your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks.

Then, He made it even clearer:

“You shall not at all do as we are doing here today—every man doing whatever is right in his own eyes” (Deuteronomy 12:8).

This is The Storehouse Principle. A concept that is also endorsed by the New Testament as you can see in 1st Corinthians 9:13

Do you not know that those who minister the holy things eat of the things of the temple, and those who serve at the altar partake of the offerings of the altar?

Finally, the Lord explicitly tells where the tithes and offerings should go and He even makes us a very special promise.
Sometimes we feel tempted to follow our own desires based on apparent good reasons. But the Lord invites us to be 100% in support of His plan. Let us trust Him and bring our tithes and offerings to where He has told us to take them.

May we put our desires last and God first.