



BEYOND BLESSED

Who's the Owner? Robert Morris

Focus To live a life that is blessed or even *beyond* blessed, we must recognize the foundation of ownership. God owns everything in the world, but He appoints us as stewards to wisely manage it. We are not to confuse God's blessing with materialism. The blessed life is a life that blesses. When we follow God's principle of giving and are good stewards over what He gives us, the supernatural happens.

Fun Were you ever given an allowance as a child? If so, what was your favorite thing to spend it on?

Review Key Scriptures: Psalm 24:1; Exodus 13:2, 23:19; Leviticus 27:30

1. It all belongs to God.

Everything we have is God's. We get to enjoy what He sends us, but we do not permanently own these things. When God prompts us to share, we are not to grieve our loss. His principle of stewardship enables us to be generous.

2. The first belongs to God.

People were bringing their "firsts" to God even before the law was established. Today, we still bring the first 10 percent of our income, or our tithe, to Him. Although as believers we are not under the law, His principles still affect us. God does not change. He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

3. The tithe belongs to God.

We may not think we are robbing God when we withhold His tithe, but we are doing exactly that. When we are faithful in bringing our tithe to Him, He blesses us in order to bless others. God sees our hearts. Tithing is the only thing in the Bible where God says to test it (Malachi 3).

Group Dynamics Idea Discuss the ways we impact God's kingdom by returning the portion that God requires.

Discuss

1. According to God's Word, what belongs to Him (Psalm 24:1, 50:10–12)?
2. Explain what it means to give "the first of the firstfruits" (Exodus 23:19).
3. What was the significance of the "first" offering? Example: the first lamb versus the tenth lamb?
4. What is the definition of "tithe"? How should God's principle of giving work in our lives today?
5. Explain Pastor Robert's statement, "Your name may be on the temporary deed, but it's all His."
6. God blesses us supernaturally for giving, especially when we steward wisely. Give an example of how God supernaturally provided for you when you were obedient to His principle of giving.

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- Everything belongs to God.
- We are to bring Him the tithe.
- As we bless others, God blesses us.

Prayer Lord, I want to be a faithful manager of all that You give me. Help me to wisely use Your blessing to bless others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Be on the alert to identify future group leaders. You may be the encouragement that someone needs to step out in faith to serve the Lord in this way.