



# “How To Prosper”

## A Message on Tithing

Pastor Ron Carpenter Jr. | Redemption Church

### MESSAGE SUMMARY

In this foundational teaching on biblical prosperity, Pastor Ron Carpenter Jr. unpacks God's design for financial stewardship and kingdom blessing. He challenges the notion that tithing is simply a church fundraising tool, revealing instead that the tithe is God's reserved portion—already set apart before it ever reaches your hand. Drawing from Genesis, Malachi, and the “parable of the sower,” Pastor Ron teaches that the tithe functions as a spiritual mechanism to break the “spirit of the world” off of our finances, while offerings (seed) position you for supernatural multiplication. The message calls believers to move beyond religious obligation into a revelation of identity: we are meant to be the “windows of heaven” through which God blesses the earth. Let's get started!

### DISCUSSION POINTS

#### 1. Releasing Your Potential Through Divine Blessing

**Scripture: GENESIS 1:28, 2 Timothy 4:6**

- In Genesis 1:28, God first blessed humanity and then released their potential with a mandate.
- The blessing is not a VERB, it is a NOUN and the key that unlocks what was already placed inside us.
- The graveyard is the richest place on earth because it is filled with unrealized dreams, visions, and gifts that were never released.
- God's goal is that we die empty—fully poured out like Paul, who described himself as a “drink offering” at the end of his life.

#### Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to “die empty” in the way Pastor Ron described? What dreams, gifts, or potential do you feel are still unreleased in your life?
2. God blessed humanity before He gave them a mandate. How does receiving God's blessing first change the way you pursue your purpose or calling?

#### 2. The Tithe: God's Reserved Portion

**Scripture: Malachi 3:8-11**

- The tithe is not generosity—it is simply returning what already belongs to God. (Ex: handing someone back their own wallet is not a generous act)
- From the Garden of Eden (the one reserved tree) to the Levites set apart from the twelve tribes, to the Holy of Holies behind the curtain, God has always carved out a reserved portion for Himself.
- Malachi 3 confronts Israel for robbing God in tithes and offerings, warning that withholding the tithe places a “lid” on your life.

- The invitation to "test God" in this is not a fundraising pitch—it is a covenant promise: bring the full tithe, and God will open the windows of heaven over your life.

### Discussion Questions

1. Why is it significant that tithing is described as returning God's portion rather than giving a gift? How does that reframe your view of the tithe?
2. Have you ever felt like there was a "lid" on your finances or life? In what areas might withholding from God—financially or otherwise—be connected to that limitation?

### 3. We are The Window of Heaven

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- Most people picture "windows of heaven" as supernatural rainfall of money from the sky—Pastor Ron reframes it: God says "I will open YOU up."
- When the tithe breaks the spirit of poverty and lack off your finances, you move from surviving to surplus.
- El Shaddai—the God of more than enough—does not just bless you for you. He blesses you to become a conduit of His blessing to the world.

### Discussion Questions

1. How does the idea that "you are the window of heaven" change the way you think about financial blessing? Does it feel more like responsibility or privilege—or both?
2. Can you think of a time when someone else was a "window of heaven" for you? What did that mean to you? How did it point you to God?

### 4. Tithe vs. Seed – Understanding the Difference

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#### Scriptures: Mark 4:14-20, Ecclesiastes 10:19

- The tithe is not seed—it is what you return to God as His own. Only after the tithe do you begin to sow.
- For those who sow offerings without tithing, the seed eater shows up immediately (as in Mark 4) and steals every seed before it can grow
- The tithe brings covenant protection. Once the seed eater is rebuked, your offerings can produce thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold return.
- You can also name your seed—designating your giving toward specific outcomes, because money has no identity of its own; it takes on the spirit and intention of the one who holds it.

### Discussion Questions

1. Before this message, did you think of the tithe and offerings as the same thing? How does understanding them as distinct categories change your approach to giving?
2. What does it mean to "name your seed"? What would you name your seed toward right now—a relationship, a freedom, a financial breakthrough, a family situation?

## CONCLUSION & CHALLENGE

Prosperity is not an accident, and it is not merely the result of hard work or good fortune. When we sow offerings as seed—named and intentional—we activate the laws of multiplication. And when the blessing of God is fully released in our lives, we do not just accumulate wealth; we become windows of heaven, conduits through whom God blesses entire communities. The invitation is to stop treating giving as a transaction and start treating it as a covenant lifestyle.

**Group Challenge:** As a group, discuss openly where each person currently stands with tithing and giving. Without judgment, share your experiences, doubts, and testimonies around financial stewardship. Then

## Personal Challenge

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1. **Take the 90-Day Test:** Commit to tithing faithfully for 90 days, as Malachi 3:10 invites. If you are not currently tithing, make a concrete plan to begin. Track your finances and document what you observe—in your peace, provision, and opportunities.
2. **Become a Window:** Ask God to show you one specific way to be a blessing to someone in your circle this week—financially, practically, or through your time and encouragement. Follow through and note what God does through the act.
3. **Name Your Seed:** Identify a specific breakthrough you are believing God for. Write it down. The next time you give an offering beyond the tithe, name your seed toward that outcome and give it with faith.
4. **Audit Your Giving:** Honestly evaluate whether you are tithing first or sowing seed into unprotected ground. Make any necessary adjustments and approach your next giving moment with intentionality and declaration.

### Closing Prayer

*Father, we thank You that You are not a God of lack but of more than enough. Forgive us for the ways we have withheld what is Yours, and for the seasons we have sown seed into unprotected ground. Today, we choose alignment. We return the tithe as an act of covenant faithfulness, trusting that You are breaking every spirit of poverty and lack from our finances. We declare that the devourer is rebuked, the lid is removed, and the windows of heaven are open over our lives. Let us not merely receive Your blessing but become Your blessing—windows through which You pour out favor, provision, and grace on everyone around us.*