



[guardrails] “Fender Mender”

Pastor Bob Botsford

Main Scripture: 1 Corinthians 9:1-18

Referenced Scripture: Proverbs 11:24-25, Malachi 3:8-10

OPEN:

1. What in particular spoke to you from Pastor Bob’s message?
2. In what way are we stewards, and not owners of all that we have? What effect might this understanding have on the way we live our lives?

DIG DEEPER:

1. In **1 Corinthians 9:4-11** Paul is counseling the church to pay their Christian workers. What responsibility do we have to care for our pastors, teachers, and others serving in the ministry?
2. When it comes to tithing, we have five important reminders. Reminder #1- *An off the top reminder that God owns everything*. How does this help to clarify our responsibility in giving (**1 Chronicles 29:14**)?
3. Reminder #2- *Tithing is a legacy lasting through the ages of church history* (**Genesis 14:18-20**). Why is the principle of tithing still misunderstood by many Christians?
4. Reminder #3- *Tithing is a spiritual thermometer* (**Mark 12:30**). How does tithing reveal our spiritual health in much the same way taking our temperature reveals something about our physical health?
5. Reminder #4- *Tithing is a universal principle*. In what way do we align our attitude and actions with principles originating with God Himself, as the great Giver (**Matthew 10:8, 19:21, 20:28, Luke 6:38, 12:32, Acts 20:35**) and God as Creator and Provider?
6. Reminder #5- *Tithing is a serious deal to God*. What does **Malachi 3:8-10** reveal to you about the sins of stewardship, and God’s heart about willful giving?

REFLECT:

1. What has the Lord shown you about money being simply a tool, and a reflection of your affection?
2. What has hindered you from even more boldly supporting the preaching of the gospel and honoring God through your giving (**2 Corinthians 9:6-8**)? How do you want to the Lord to grow you in this area?

MEMORY VERSE:

Proverbs 11:24

*There is one who scatters, yet increases more;
and there is one who withholds more than is right, but it leads to poverty.”*

