

# Local Church Budget



“One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.” Proverbs 11:24-25 (NIV)

Many people believe and teach that when we return our tithe and give offerings that only spiritual blessings will result. Others believe and teach that if you give, you will get in return. But is this the right attitude to have when we give? When we

give we should do so with a sense of expectancy that God will provide all we need and that it is from His eternal resources that material and spiritual increase comes! What we never know is when or how the Lord may choose to provide. But as we faithful give and trust in His timing we will be richly rewarded!

Ellen G. White in Testimonies for the Church, Volume 2, p. 240, says, “When Christians are controlled by the principles of heaven, they will dispense with one hand while the other gains. This is the only rational and healthy position a Christian can occupy while having and still making money.”

As we give, remember the impact of what we are returning for ministry, and let’s pray that many will be able to experience the blessings of stewardship this morning.

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## Appeal

Let us hold onto the promise of Proverbs 11 this morning as we return life-giving offerings to our local budget collection.

## Prayer

Dear God, thank You that You give both spiritual and physical blessings when we are faithful. Amen.