

# Belonging to a local church

## GIVING

- Governance
- Gatherings
- **Giving**
- Growing
- Going

- ***Giving***

- **Commitment is spelled G-I-V-E**

- Time
- Treasures
- Talents
- NOTE: Giving of our money is one of the greatest challenges of commitment, and it will test our hearts like nothing else will!

- **Giving is a heart attitude**

- We are persuaded by our hearts and not manipulation by man
- God convicts through His word and Holy Spirit. Our response then is out of: -
  - Obedience - tithe - Malachi 3:6-12
  - Generosity - 2 Corinthians 8:6-8 *6 The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. See also 2 Corinthians 8-10*
  - Thankfulness - Matthew 10:8 *Freely you have received, freely give!*

- **We are each called to serve God in the local church with our unique contribution**

- God's desire for every believer is to be INTEGRATED and FUNCTIONING, now this point, giving, is about FUNCTIONING in the church.
- Each of us has something to give, and God requires it of us! The priesthood of all believers! We live out our christianity from the inside out! The parable of the talents: Matthew 25:14-30
- Our unique contribution is a combination of the grace given to us in our time, talents and treasures!
- Using our spiritual gifts to build up the body of Christ, and reach out to the world in love (loving because we are loved)

- Our hearts, homes and wallets are open to God - generous hospitality