

## **Tithing - It is simple, but it is not easy.**

The "Freed Up" program is up and running at Holy Comforter, and I heartily encourage you to join a group. New groups will begin in the fall, but a group can begin any time a group of 6-8 are ready to get started, and we will offer summer options. Our church is willing to pay the lion's share of the cost for each participant... it's THAT important. One of the first points they tackle is generous and thankful giving. It is powerful teaching and keeps gratitude to God upfront when dealing with money. Most don't do that very well. I know I didn't. Today, for me it is simple. I love showing gratitude and generosity toward God, who has been so generous with me.

How I determine my pledge: ten percent of my income. I take a random paycheck (I get paid monthly, and since our pledge campaign is in October, I usually choose that check), then I slide the decimal one place to the left, multiply that number by 12 (months in the year)... and "voila!" there's my pledge. Simple.

But that is NOT to say that it was easy to get there. How did I get there, once I decided I was going to do it? I figured out what 10% of my income actually was, determined what % of my income I was actually giving at that time, and then divided the difference by the number of years I gave myself to get there, then increased my pledge for that year accordingly, moving toward that goal. The first year was HARD. The second... not quite so hard. The Third? Well, since I was already enjoying the spiritual benefits of putting money in its proper place and my momentum was building, I just decided to jump all the way there. I've tithed ever since. (It is made easier when you believe in the mission and ministry of your church... and I do!)

Now? I would never go back to not tithing. As my dad is wont to say, "I can do quite well living on 90% my income; if I ever tried to spend it all, I would never have enough." And it's true. Try it yourself and you will see. *(And see me if you'd like to have a personal and confidential conversation on how to get there. Hint: Freed Up can help!)*

Grace and Peace,

Fr. Greg+

Annual Income	Annual											
	Beyond Tithe		Tithe									
	15%	12%	10%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%	2%	1%
\$20,000	\$3,000.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,000.00	\$800.00	\$600.00	\$400.00	\$200.00
\$25,000	\$3,750.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,750.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,250.00	\$1,000.00	\$750.00	\$500.00	\$250.00
\$30,000	\$4,500.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,100.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,200.00	\$900.00	\$600.00	\$300.00
\$40,000	\$6,000.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,200.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,200.00	\$800.00	\$400.00
\$50,000	\$7,500.00	\$6,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
\$60,000	\$9,000.00	\$7,200.00	\$6,000.00	\$5,400.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,200.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,400.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,200.00	\$600.00
\$70,000	\$10,500.00	\$8,400.00	\$7,000.00	\$6,300.00	\$5,600.00	\$4,900.00	\$4,200.00	\$3,500.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,100.00	\$1,400.00	\$700.00
\$80,000	\$12,000.00	\$9,600.00	\$8,000.00	\$7,200.00	\$6,400.00	\$5,600.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,200.00	\$2,400.00	\$1,600.00	\$800.00
\$90,000	\$13,500.00	\$10,800.00	\$9,000.00	\$8,100.00	\$7,200.00	\$6,300.00	\$5,400.00	\$4,500.00	\$3,600.00	\$2,700.00	\$1,800.00	\$900.00
\$100,000	\$15,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
\$120,000	\$18,000.00	\$14,400.00	\$12,000.00	\$10,800.00	\$9,600.00	\$8,400.00	\$7,200.00	\$6,000.00	\$4,800.00	\$3,600.00	\$2,400.00	\$1,200.00
\$130,000	\$19,500.00	\$15,600.00	\$13,000.00	\$11,700.00	\$10,400.00	\$9,100.00	\$7,800.00	\$6,500.00	\$5,200.00	\$3,900.00	\$2,600.00	\$1,300.00
\$140,000	\$21,000.00	\$16,800.00	\$14,000.00	\$12,600.00	\$11,200.00	\$9,800.00	\$8,400.00	\$7,000.00	\$5,600.00	\$4,200.00	\$2,800.00	\$1,400.00
\$150,000	\$22,500.00	\$18,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$13,500.00	\$12,000.00	\$10,500.00	\$9,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$6,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00
\$175,000	\$26,250.00	\$21,000.00	\$17,500.00	\$15,750.00	\$14,000.00	\$12,250.00	\$10,500.00	\$8,750.00	\$7,000.00	\$5,250.00	\$3,500.00	\$1,750.00
\$200,000	\$30,000.00	\$24,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00
\$250,000	\$37,500.00	\$30,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$22,500.00	\$20,000.00	\$17,500.00	\$15,000.00	\$12,500.00	\$10,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00