



# Living in the Blessing of God

Sunday, 09.09.2012. Luke Brough

## Placing God First

*As we climb the ladder of success  
we find privileges come with it.*

- a. Surprise
- b. Self Esteem
- c. Satisfaction
- d. Selfishness

**1. We must**  
understand  
**the principle of**  
**firstfruits**

**Genesis 4:2-5 (NLT)** Later she gave birth to his brother and named him Abel. When they grew up, Abel became a shepherd, while Cain cultivated the ground. When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the LORD. Abel also brought a gift—the best of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The LORD accepted Abel and his gift, but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected.

**Deuteronomy 8:17-18a (NLT)** He did all this so you would never say to yourself, ‘I have achieved this wealth with my own strength and energy.’ Remember the LORD your God. He is the one who gives you power to be successful,

**Joshua 6:19 (NLT)** “Everything made from silver, gold, bronze, or iron is sacred to the LORD and must be brought into his treasury.”

**Revelation 1:10a (NLT)** It was the Lord’s Day, and I was worshiping in the Spirit.

**Acts 20:7a (NIV)** On the first day of the week we came together to break bread.

**1 Corinthians 16:2a (NLT)** On the first day of each week, you should each put aside a portion of the money you have earned.

## 2. We must

Practice

### the principle of firstfruits.

**Proverbs 3:9 (NIV)** Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops;

**Genesis 14:20b (NIV)** Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

**Leviticus 27:30 (NIV)** “A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.

**v32** Every tithe of the herd and flock—every tenth animal that passes under the shepherd’s rod—will be holy to the Lord.”

## 3. We must \_\_\_\_\_ pass the \_\_\_\_\_ test \_\_\_\_\_ of the principle of firstfruits.

**Malachi 3:7b-10 (NIV)** Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the Lord Almighty. “But you ask, ‘How are we to return?’

“Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. “But you ask, ‘How are we robbing you?’

“In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

**Proverbs 3:9-10 (NLT)** Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.

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