

I Dream of a Tithing Church

I dream of a **tithing church!**

Not because the church's leaders want more money, but
Because **God** commands that God be foremost in our lives.

As **children** of God, you and I **need** God to be first in our lives.

Not **excessive materialism**, but God.

Not **extreme consumption**, but God.

Paul encouraged us to be **transformed**,

to **know** and do the will of God,

not **conformed** to our culture.

God gives us countless gifts,

But we choose **many** uses for those gifts before we stop and think

about even expressing our **gratitude**,

let alone **sharing** those gifts **generously**.

I dream of **tithing congregations**,

where **one third** of the members tithe,

and where the congregation shares 10% or more with Disciples Mission Fund.

I dream of pastors, elders, diaconate, trustees, and other **leaders** of congregations who **lead** ---

by example, through teaching and by encouragement ---

to make the Disciples of Christ a **tithing church**.

-- David Coatsworth, July 2007