
MAKE CHURCH MATTER 16 August 2015

The Tithe

Over the last few years, we have helped members of our parish go deeper in understanding what God says about money by making solid resources available to them.

In First Kings, Elijah asks the people of Israel, “How long will you straddle the issue? If the Lord is God, follow him; if Baal, follow him” (1 Kings 18:21).

The people wanted to serve God *and* a false God named Baal. Elijah told them you can’t serve both. Choose one; otherwise you are just limping along in your faith. Next, he challenges the prophets of Baal to a contest, essentially to prove the truth of the living God. It is a funny story, but bottom line: Elijah wins, the people come to faith, and they give up their false God.

Don’t go limping along, straddling the issue. Fundraisers are easy, expedient, and time tested methods to raise money. They may seem essential. If you are a school or a hospital or some other kind of churches, they are a when we use them in tithes,, we are just crippling ourselves and our ministry efforts. The church of Christ is not a casino, caterer, or carnival. Our mission is making disciples, and fundraisers don’t help. They foster the consumer mentality that keeps demanding consumers consuming instead of growing disciples giving.

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