

*#13 - From a Food for Thought Subscriber*

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I have never been a big tither ~ oh sure, when God has blessed me I felt compelled to give back - and sharing has always been second nature to me....but tithing? I pay taxes upon taxes, I give offerings to shelter and feed the homeless, giving is not a problem. Tithing? What's the difference between giving an offering and tithing?

I have rent, electricity, heat, TV, phone, car insurance, gas, food, not to mention the myriad of surprising bills that seem to pop up every other month, medical for myself, the odd vet bill, the ever currant car tune-up....and of course, I'm 'supposed' to put money into a savings account???? Really? How??? Then I asked God one evening. I was putting my 'tithes' in an envelope, and I was talking to God, and said "What good is this really going to do God? You ask me to tithe, but I never see what good it does! What's the point? I could use this money for myself."

***He SHOWED me!!!!!!***

You've probably seen the picture on TV of the starving children in foreign lands, with their bellies swollen from starvation.....***GOD TOOK ME THERE!***

I saw first hand how God uses the smallest amount of tithe to do the greatest good! He showed me how the children grew healthier, happier and into adulthood. I watched as the grounds grew green, and hills grew lush with vegetation. I saw a patch of mangy, starving animals multiply into acres and acres of healthy food sources....the flashes were continuous....I cannot recall every detail....I saw beauty where there was desolation, joy where there was no hope, the glowing smiles of fed and healthy children as they raised their heads to the sky. The entire 'episode' lasted only 30 seconds or so, and I found myself sitting on my sofa, tears running down my face, in gratitude and

abashment, for what I had just witnessed. How dare I diminish the works of my Holy Father? He who created this world, and He who loves each and every one of His creations....and I doubted that by simply following His direction and instructions I could help. God doesn't demand our money....He really doesn't need our money. He's God!!! God asks of us that we be willing to part with some of our money to prove as witness that we love Him! In doing so...He takes whatever amount we can offer, and multiplies it to fit wherever it needs to go!!! It's not the money, it's our willingness!!! Render unto God what is God's.....our willingness to love Him.....our willingness to be faithful and obedient to God renders the greatest amount of good.