



## Firstfruits Giving

*Honor the Lord with your wealth,  
with the firstfruits of all your crops;  
then your barns will be filled to overflowing,  
and your vats will brim over with new wine.  
-Proverbs 3:9-10*

*But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness  
and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.  
-2 Corinthians 8:7*

In the Old Testament, when God delivered His People from slavery in Egypt and led them to the Promise Land, He instructed them to give their “firstfruits” to charity and ministry.

The word firstfruits means exactly what it sounds like: the first fruits of the harvest. God was instructing His People to give from the top: to give God the very first and the very best of their resources. This was an act of faith. To give your first fruits to the Lord is to say to Him, “I trust that you will continue to provide for my needs.”

### ***Giving from the Bottom***

The opposite of giving from the top is giving from the bottom: giving God whatever we have “leftover” after taking care of ourselves first. Giving from the bottom is casual giving. We open our wallets as the plate is being passed, and put in whatever we find. When we give from the bottom, we make God’s Kingdom an after-thought, instead of something we “seek first.”

### ***Giving from the Top***

When we practice firstfruits giving, we give from the top. We plan ahead. We give God the first and the best of our resources and trust Him to supply all of our needs. What might this look like?

- Plan a Budget and start with your giving.
- Commit to your giving in advance, regardless of your circumstances.
- [Set up a recurring gift online.](#)