

"Greater"

Unedited Notes from 11/26/17 Pastor Sean Fitch Mifflin County Community Church <u>mc3Church.org</u>

When you want to appreciate someone, you invite them to the feast. You don't serve them the leftovers.

Sean made a sandwich from all of his Thanksgiving leftovers [See Instagram pic from the Point <u>here</u>]. How often do we do the same with our offering to God? We don't give Him our best, we just serve Him our leftovers...

The Point: God is Greater; Our Job is to Worship

Exodus 25:1-2; 35:20-29 [More information about the Tabernacle is available from our *Dwell* Point series at <u>mc3Church.org/Dwell</u>]

I. Giving the Feast First

Giving is Worship Because:

-It Goes First <u>TO</u> God (v. 25:2a)

 Giving/Offering is NOT a donation, or to "pay the bills", it is an act of worship TO God

-It Comes from a Heart for God (v. 25:2b; 36:21)

 You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."

-2 Corinthians 9:7 (NLT)

-It Shows Dependence on God (v. 36:22)

- "wave offering" Heb. *tenupah* moving to and fro, shake, waving sacrifices before the Lord, wave offering
- a "wave offering" was used when the offering couldn't be physically sacrificed. It was a sign that the item being offered was going to God, and not being used for themselves.



II. When Is It Worship?

Remember, our heart = our treasure (Matthew 6:21). So how can

we tell if our giving is done with an attitude for worship? Ultimately, it comes down to our heart, but here are a few markers to see if you're on track.

It will be Costly

- 2 Samuel 24:18-25
- David was unwilling to offer a sacrifice that cost him nothing. If it's free, or left over then it's not a <u>sacrifice</u>.

It will be "Wasteful"

- Mark 14:3-9
- The woman offered expensive perfume as worship to Jesus, but those around her (Jesus' own disciples!) called it a waste!

It will be Personal

- Matthew 6:2-4
- When we give, it should not be for others to see how "spiritual" we are. Our offering is between us/spouse and God.

It will Glorify God

- 2 Corinthians 9:12-13; Malachi 3:12
- The whole point of giving is for <u>God's</u> glory, not ours...nor our church...nor our cause...etc.