

2015: A Love That Does Answers the Call to plant CPCRH!

We know what **real love** is because Jesus gave up his life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters. If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion—how can God's love be in that person? Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions (Love Does). 1 John 3:16-18 (NLT)

A Love that Does...Gives

What giving to God and His family does:

It keeps God <u>first</u> in our lives. Deuteronomy 14:22-23, 1 Corinthians 16:2

It keeps us from becoming **selfish**. Luke 12:34

It takes care of God's family. Acts 2:45

It takes care of the hurting in our world. Luke 6:30-38

It takes care of those who take care of <u>us</u> (pastors and teachers). 1 Timothy 5:17-18

It helps advance the **work** of God. (Matt.13:24, Phil 4:14-18, 1 Tim. 3:15; Acts 11:22-26; 1 Cor. 14; 1 Thess. 1:8; 1 Cor. 9:6-14; 2 Cor. 11:8,9.)

The 4 types of "giving" in the Bible...

- 1. <u>Tithing</u> the basic form of <u>giving</u> to God. It is <u>10%</u> of our earnings. (Gen. 14:20-22, Deut. 14:23-24, Lev. 27:30, Mal. 3:10-12, Matthew 23:23, & Hebrews 7:6)
- 2. <u>First Fruits</u> a special gift of <u>gratitude</u>. (Proverbs 3:9-12, Romans 16:15 & 1 Cor. 16:2)
- **3. <u>Alms</u>** a gift of <u>compassion</u> to the needy. (Luke 6:30-38, Matt. 6:1-4, Lk. 11:41, and Luke 12:33)
- **4.** <u>Sowing Seed</u> <u>investing</u> in the advancement of God's work in the world. (Matt.13:24, Phil 4:14-18, 1 Tim. 3:15; Acts 11:22-26; 1 Cor. 14; 1 Thess. 1:8; 1 Cor. 9:6-14; 2 Cor. 11:8,9.)

Answering the call to give means...

- 1. Start, and grow in giving to God's work. (Obedience)
- If I currently give <u>nothing</u>, I should start giving <u>something</u>.
- If I currently give something, I should start giving <u>regularly</u>.
- If I give something regularly, I should start **tithing** regularly.
- 2. Intentionally start investing in the <u>advancement</u> of God's work. (Sow)
- Make a 52 week commitment to <u>give</u> above and beyond my tithe to help <u>CPCRH</u> get off the ground...

Go deeper on your own. Take time this week to prayer fully review the *Answer the Call* brochure. Read each scripture reference and then choose to commit to help advance God's Kingdom in Richland Hills. Come next week prepared to offer to God what He has placed on your heart.