



CONGREGATIONAL
STEWARDSHIP
WORKBOOK

Tithes and Offerings



**Congregational Stewardship
Workbook 2000**

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Notes

The case of the poor widow—Mark 12:41-44

Jesus taught Peter and the other disciples about offerings. When Peter was dealing with Ananias and Sapphira, he may have recalled the lesson of the poor widow. She brought a contribution to the church and Jesus was honored by it. He used it to teach us a lesson. How was the situation of the poor widow different from the situation of Ananias and Sapphira?

Does this make a difference in receiving God’s approval for their offerings?

How did the size of the widow’s offering differ from the offering of Ananias and Sapphira?

Does this make a difference in God’s approval of their offerings?

Compare how the poor widow might have viewed her future security with the view Ananias and Sapphira seemed to have.

Did this make a difference in God’s approval of their offerings?

When is an offering not an offering?

Why is faith so important in God’s acceptance of our offerings?
See Psalm 50 and Heb. 11:6.

In a general sense, everything we give in worship is an offering. However, from God’s viewpoint, some of our contributions are not acceptable as an offering. Explain.

In prayer ask the Holy Spirit to rule your heart so that you don’t test Him by your offerings.

Lesson 4—Offerings under the Old Testament

Some of the rules for a God-pleasing offering have changed since the days of Noah, Abraham and others. What a relief that we no longer are required to butcher and burn a specified animal on an altar to satisfy God. Jesus changed all that by sacrificing Himself once and for all.

But we need to get in step with the New Testament offerings. We would be most ungrateful to accept all the benefits of Jesus’ sacrifice yet never find ways to express our praise and thanksgiving for His unbounded love.



