

Trusting the Lord Through Tithes and Offerings

Elder Patricio M. Giuffra, *Seventy*

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION • SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026 • OCTOBER 2026 GENERAL CONFERENCE

THE BIG IDEA

Paying tithing shows I love and trust the Lord, and He keeps His promises in His own time and way.

You'll need: Ten coins (or ten small objects) and a donation slip, or your ward's online giving page.

1 HOOK

2 MIN

WHAT WOULD YOU DO? As a young missionary in Chile, Elder Giuffra taught a woman about 70 years old. She cleaned houses and washed clothes, and earned barely enough for rent, firewood, and a little food. When they taught tithing, she said she would never be able to live it. Ask: If you were the missionary, would you make an exception for her?

Then: Elder Giuffra wondered the same thing and called his mission president, who said: “Elder Giuffra, you are no one to deny this sister the blessings of the law of tithing. There are no exceptions to this commandment.” Two days later the sister told them she had prayed and asked Heavenly Father to help her live it. After her baptism, she brought her tithing every week and a fast offering every month.

2 KEY TEACHINGS FROM ELDER GIUFFRA

8–10 MIN

1 Tithing is a law of faith

“I testify that the law of tithing is a law of faith. As we obey it, we demonstrate our trust in the Lord and allow Him to work miracles in our lives, often in ways we do not expect.”

— Elder Patricio M. Giuffra • exact words

FOR AGES 8–11: MAKE IT CONCRETE

Tithing is one tenth. Line up ten coins: one goes to the Lord, nine stay with you. Ten dollars of birthday money means one dollar of tithing.

DEEP CUT • AGES 12–16

The sister in Chile is like the widow Jesus praised, who gave two small coins, all she had (Mark 12:41–44). Her mission president read Elder Giuffra that story. Why is it often the people with the least who show the most faith?

2 We obey because we love God

“We keep the commandments because we love God, not merely because we hope to receive the blessings that come from obedience.”

— Elder Giuffra, sharing a principle his wife teaches their family

FOR AGES 8–11: MAKE IT CONCRETE

It's like helping a parent because you love them, not only because there might be a treat later.

DEEP CUT • AGES 12–16

He was honest that paying tithing doesn't mean life will be free of hard times. “Yet even when we do not understand the purpose of our trials, we can have the assurance that the Lord knows our circumstances, honors our obedience, and fulfills His promises in His own time and way.”

3 The windows of heaven open

“Some blessings have been temporal, others spiritual, but all have strengthened our testimony that the Lord always fulfills His promises and that the windows of heaven are opened according to our obedience.”

— Elder Patricio M. Giuffra · exact words

FOR AGES 8–11: MAKE IT CONCRETE

In Malachi, the Lord says to prove Him, and see if He won't open the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing so big there's not room to receive it (Malachi 3:10). Temporal blessings are things like jobs and food. Spiritual blessings are things like peace and a stronger testimony.

DEEP CUT · AGES 12–16

President Oaks, quoted by Elder Giuffra: “Tithe paying is evidence that we accept the law of sacrifice. It also prepares us for the law of consecration and the other higher laws of the celestial kingdom.” Tithing is practice for giving everything to God.

3 INTERACTIVE MOMENT

2–3 MIN

TITHING MATH, THEN A TRICK QUESTION Quick quiz. Tithing on: \$10? \$25? \$7.50? (Teens: \$180 from babysitting?) Then the trick question: Is tithing really about the money?

Reveal: \$1, \$2.50, 75 cents, \$18. And no, not really. Elder Giuffra called it a law of faith: it's about trust. The Lord doesn't need our money; we need to learn to trust Him.

4 TALK ABOUT IT

3 MIN

YOUNGER (8–11)

What would you say to a friend who says, “I can't afford to pay tithing”?

OLDER (12–16)

Why do you think the mission president said there are no exceptions, even for someone very poor? Is that harsh or loving?

5 RECAP: THE KIDS EXPLAIN IT

2 MIN

Ask the kids to explain: What is tithing? Why is it called a law of faith? Why do we obey, according to Elder Giuffra's wife?

Listen for: One tenth. Shows trust in the Lord. Because we love God, not just for blessings. He keeps His promises in His time and way.

6 TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST

1 MIN

A parent shares a blessing (temporal or spiritual) your family has received from paying tithing, and how it helped you trust the Lord.

7 THIS WEEK, AS A FAMILY

1 MIN

ONE THING TO DO This week, help each child figure tithing on any money they've earned or received and pay it together, and explain that tithing helps build temples and meetinghouses and support missionary work.

☐ Mon ☐ Tue ☐ Wed ☐ Thu ☐ Fri ☐ Sat ☐ Sun

Scripture: Malachi 3:8–10; Mark 12:41–44; Doctrine and Covenants 119:4 · **Full talk:** [churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2026/10/24giuffra](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2026/10/24giuffra)

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