



OCTOBER 2026 GENERAL CONFERENCE · SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Trusting the Lord Through Tithes and Offerings

Elder Patricio M. Giuffra · General Authority Seventy

Words to remember

- *“My wife often teaches a principle that has become very meaningful in our family: We keep the commandments because we love God, not merely because we hope to receive the blessings that come from obedience.”*
- *“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.”*

In Elder Patricio M. Giuffra's own words, from the talk.

Elder Patricio M. Giuffra, a General Authority Seventy, learned about tithes and offerings from the missionaries before his baptism. Afterward, with earnings from summer jobs, he paid a full tithing and fast offerings, though he admits he did not fully understand the meaning of the promises and blessings associated with obedience to this law. Understanding came on his mission, when he had to teach and testify of it himself.

In the Chile Osorno Mission, he and his companion taught a woman of about 70 who lived with her son, a member of the Church. She could not read and struggled to retain what they taught, so they repeated each lesson twice. When they reached tithing and its promised blessings, she said with great sadness, “Elder Giuffra, I clean houses and wash clothes for several families. What I earn is barely enough to pay the rent for the room where we live, buy a small amount of firewood to keep us warm, and provide some food.” She didn’t believe she would ever be able to pay. “Everything she said made sense from a worldly perspective,” he admitted. Though they testified of the blessings, she insisted she could not do it.

The next morning he called his mission president. Privately he wondered whether the Lord might make an exception for someone in her circumstances. The president read him the account of the widow’s mite (Mark 12:41–44) and 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.” Those words “Those words became engraved upon my heart.” The companions fasted and prayed, because they would return in two days to review the commandment before her baptism.

When they came back to tithing, she told them, “Last night I knelt in prayer and told Heavenly Father that I truly wanted to become a member of His Church and that He would need to help me live this law.” A profound feeling of peace and assurance filled the missionaries. “We knew that the Lord had

heard both her prayers and ours.” She was baptized the following Saturday. After his transfer, her bishop reported that she arrived every week with her tithing envelope, and on the first Sunday of every month, with her fast offering as well.

Over his life, Elder Giuffra has seen innumerable blessings come to his family as they have lived the law of tithes and offerings, some temporal, others spiritual, all strengthening their testimony that the Lord always fulfills his promises and that the windows of heaven are opened according to our obedience. But he added an important qualifier from his wife, a principle that has become meaningful in their family: “We keep the commandments because we love God, not merely because we hope to receive the blessings that come from obedience.” Commandments draw us closer to the Savior, protect us, and help us stay free from sin and many of the world’s challenges.

Obedience doesn’t exempt us from trials. “All of us will face moments of uncertainty, financial hardship, illness, or loss. 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.”

He cited President Russell M. Nelson’s teaching that tithing can break cycles of poverty in poor nations and families; the same poverty continues generation after generation until people pay their tithing. In his years of service in Central America, he has seen men and women prosper temporally and spiritually: families who once worried about their next meal now enjoying greater stability, and people who once couldn’t afford shoes now running successful businesses through faith and diligent effort. He has seen the Lord open doors for employment, provide education, strengthen marriages, and fill hearts with peace and hope.

He also cited President Dallin H. Oaks: paying tithing brings unique spiritual blessings, is evidence that we accept the law of sacrifice, and prepares us for the law of consecration and the higher laws of the celestial kingdom, fulfilled as we keep temple covenants that deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ.

He closed with Malachi’s challenge and promise: “Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. ... Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.” (Malachi 3:8–10). His testimony: 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 that we don’t expect.

Let’s talk about it

What did this talk teach us about the Savior? What is one small thing our family can do this week?

Kid-friendly summary in our own words · Read or watch the full talk: [churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2026/10/24giuffra](https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/general-conference/2026/10/24giuffra)