

May 25, 2020
Bringing Firstfruits
Read Proverbs 3:9-10; Malachi 3:10



Ashley was earning money by selling stationary, and she had a goal – she wanted to make enough money to buy the bicycle on sale in the department store. She was excited when her neighbor Mrs. Grimaldi purchased three boxes of cards. As Ashley accepted the money, Mrs. Grimaldi began to reminisce. “I’ll never forget the first money I earned,” she said. “It was a thrill to bring my tithe to Sunday school for the offering. And the Lord blessed me just like he promised. I think a tenth is the least the Lord expects of us, don’t you?” Ashley mumbled a reply and hurried away.

At last Ashley had enough money to buy the bike she wanted. Mom agreed to walk with her to the store to buy it. On the way, they passed Mrs. Grimaldi’s house, and it made Ashley think about tithing. She told her mother what Mrs. Grimaldi had said. Mom nodded.

“We’ve talked about that before, haven’t we?” Mom reminded her.

“But if I give a tenth of my money to God, I can’t buy the bike,” Ashley protested.

“Not right now anyway,” Mom said.

“So what shall I do?” Ashley asked.

“I’ll leave it up to you,” Mom told her. “This is your money; you’ll have to decide what to do with it.”

When they arrived at the store, a struggle took place in Ashley’s heart as she stared at the bike. Finally, she turned away. “I’ll just wait for the bike a while longer – until I’ve sold more cards,” she decided. She sighed as she trudged steadily towards home.

On the way home, Ashley and her mother noticed a “Garage Sale” sign, and they stopped to look around. As Ashley entered the garage, she saw a beautiful, bright blue, ten-speed bicycle! “Mom! Look!” she gasped. The bike was for sale – and even after giving her tithe, she’d have more than enough money left for it. With Mom’s approval, she promptly bought it.

Mrs. Grimaldi is right, Ashley thought as she rode her new bike home. When we obey God, he does bless us, just like he promised.

HOW ABOUT YOU?

When you earn your own money, do you give some to the Lord? He wants you to give to him before doing anything else with the money. He promises blessings to those who are willing to do this. Sometimes he may provide even more money; sometimes he may cause your supplies to last longer; sometimes he may give a special peace and joy and an ability to get along with less. But he will always bless when you give to him first.

Give to God First

Scripture Memory Verse:

**“Honor the Lord with your wealth and
with the best part of everything your
land produces.”**

Proverbs 3:9