

乐于奉献

万军之耶和华说：“你们要将当纳的十分之一全然送入库房，好叫我家里有粮。在这方面试验我，看我是否会为你们打开天上的窗户，倾泻祝福给你们，甚至多到无处可容。” - 玛拉基书 3:10

嗨，孩子们！如果有一天，你收到这样一份大惊喜，是你的朋友非常隆重地送来了一份大礼物，相信你会大吃一惊，想知道这是怎么一回事！？原来你的朋友是想用这种方式来对你表达一个大大的“感谢”！



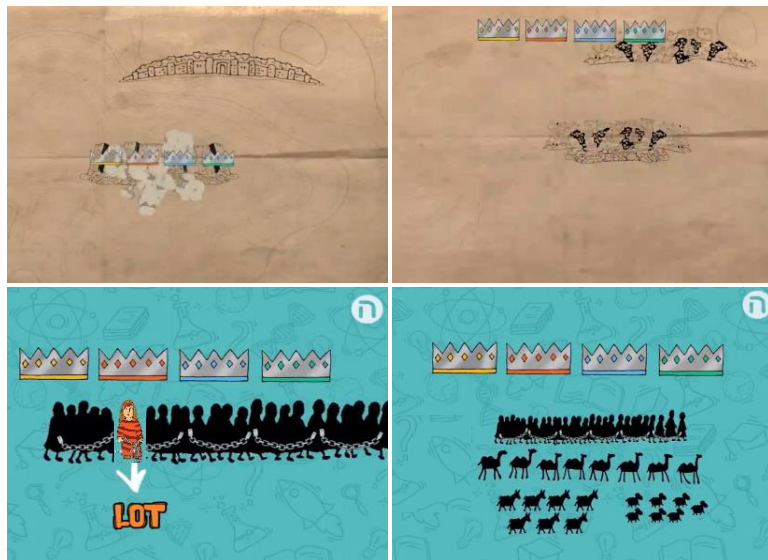
如果你也想感谢某人，你会怎么做？是自己制作感谢卡？还是送礼物？又或者你更喜欢用一个大大的拥抱来回报对方？



正如我们有不同的方式来感谢他人一样，我们也有不同的方式来感谢我们超级棒的天父上帝。我们可以在祷告时感谢主，我们可以在歌颂赞美时感谢主，我们也可以在举手敬拜时感谢主。相信这些你可能都知道了，但你知道我们还有另一种方式，来表达我们对天父的感激之情吗？一起来了解一下。



今天的圣经课程是从亚伯拉罕开始。你可以在创世记 14 章中了解到这一切。当时亚伯拉罕仍然是用他的旧名“亚伯兰”。在此期间，有四位敌对的国王攻陷了所多玛和蛾摩拉这两座城，而这两座城的王都逃跑了。这四位王俘虏了所多玛和蛾摩拉的人民，并带走了他们和他们所有的财物。这些俘虏中有罗得。罗得是亚伯兰的侄子。



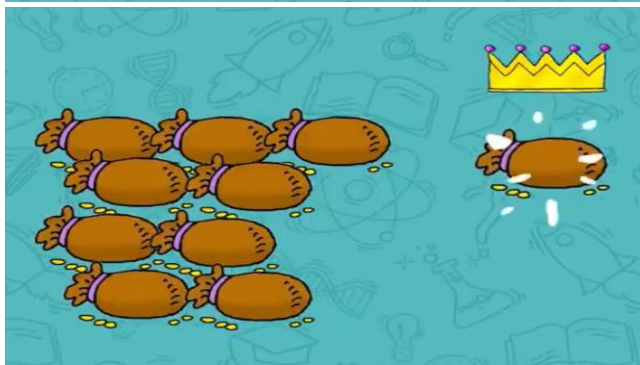
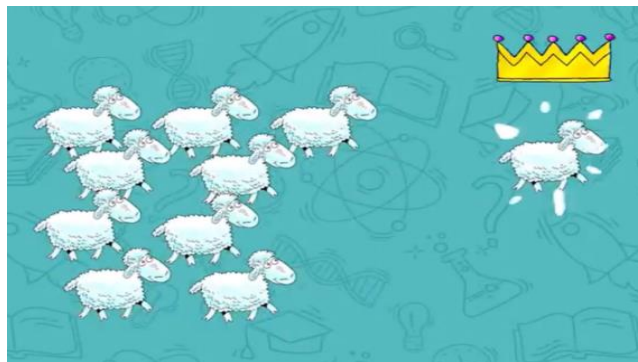
亚伯兰听说罗得被俘，就率领他家里的 318 名精练壮丁去追赶敌人。亚伯兰仅凭自己的 318 人就与四位国王和他们的军队作战，并击败了他们。那天，亚伯兰救出了他的侄子罗得，同时解救了他所有其他俘虏，并夺回了被敌人掠走的一切财物。



通常，在战场上有一方获胜了，战斗就会结束。但是创世记 14 章告诉我们，当亚伯兰从战场回来的路上，有两个截然不同的国王来见他，一个是“逃兵”，邪恶的所多玛王。另一个是敬神的撒冷国王，麦基洗德。我们知道麦基洗德是一位敬虔的君王，因为圣经告诉我们，他也是至高神的祭司。那天，麦基洗德带着饼和酒出来迎接亚伯兰，然后他为亚伯兰祝福，说：“愿天地的主，至高的神赐福与亚伯兰。至高的神把敌人交在你手里，是应当称颂的。”

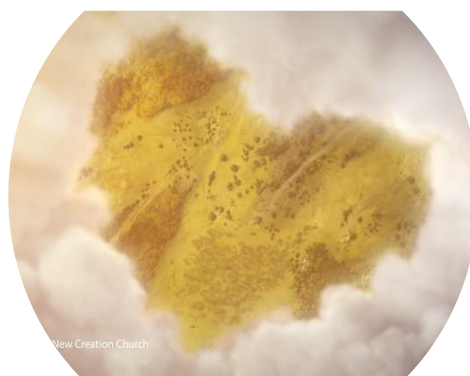


请猜猜看，亚伯兰接下来会做什么？令人吃惊的是，亚伯兰把战场中所得来的战利品，拿出十分之一给了麦基洗德。这意味着亚伯兰对每拥有的十样东西中，他就给麦基洗德一件。十分之一的动物，十分之一的金银袋，以及其他一切的十分之一。亚伯兰把财物分给麦基洗德十分之一，是当作敬拜主的行动表现，这就是亚伯兰对上帝赐给他胜利和他所得到的所有祝福说“谢谢”的方式。

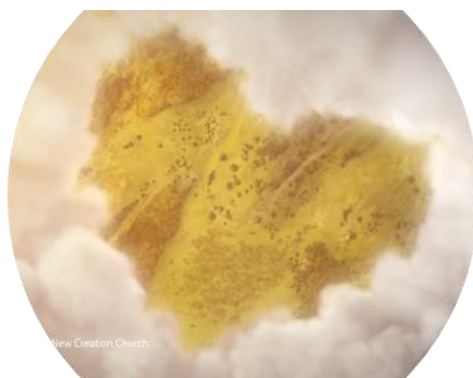


这时，“逃兵”所多玛王见亚伯兰把战利品分掉了那么多，他急忙跳出来说：“你把人口还给我，财物你拿去吧！”亚伯兰明白了他的心思，回答说：“不！我已经向天地的主、至高的神耶和华起誓，凡是你的东西，就是一根线、一条鞋带，我都不要，免得你说：‘是我使亚伯兰变得富足。’”哇！虽然这些战利品可以使亚伯兰变得非常富有，但是他非但不为自己留下任何属于所多玛王的东西，反而他还分了所得的十分之一给撒冷王，至高神的大祭司麦基洗德！

亚伯兰那天所做的真的很特别。你看，这是圣经中第一次记载有人献出他所得的十分之一给神。将神赐予我们的所有，留出十分之一来感谢神，圣经称之为“什一奉献”。“什一奉献”是如此特别和珍贵，以至于我们一直延续到今天。就像亚伯兰一样，我们以“什一奉献”为荣，把神先赐给我们的一切，然后留出十分之一来献给祂，以此来敬拜祂和感谢祂所赐给我们的一切！



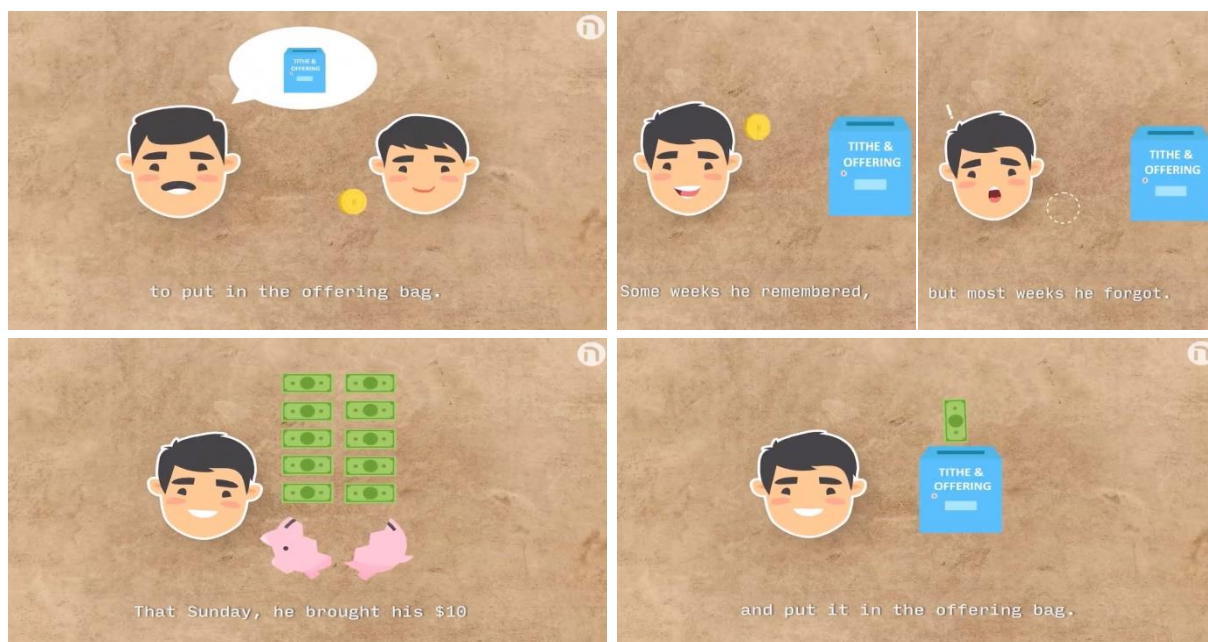
现在，我们来分享“什一奉献”最激动人心的部分，你准备好了吗？请仔细听，以免错过以下精彩的部分。关于“什一奉献”最激动人心的部分是一——上帝不需要我们的钱财！上帝并不缺钱，祂可是创造天地万物的主！我们进行什一奉献不是因为我们“必须”这么做，我们进行什一奉献而是因为我们“乐于”这么做，我们以此为荣！想想看，我们的上帝是如此强大无所不能、自有永有，祂并不需要我们的钱。我们献给神的每一样东西，没有一件不是祂先赐给我们的！那么，我们为什么还要什一奉献呢？我们进行什一奉献，是因为这是我们对主所赐予我们的一切，说“谢谢”的方式；我们进行什一奉献，是为了向主表达我们的敬意，是向祂表达我们的爱的一种方式！



当我们以这样的方式来对主说“谢谢”时，你猜，主会如何回应我们？答案在圣经里，请把你的圣经翻到玛拉基书 3 章 10 节，你可以把这节经文标记出来，是这样说的：“万军之耶和华说：‘你们要将当纳的十分之一全然送入库房，好叫我家里有粮。在这方面试验我，看我是否会为你们打开天上的窗户，倾泻祝福给你们，甚至多到无处可容。’”哇！当我们奉献时，我们的上帝会打开天堂的窗户，倒下多到装也装不下的祝福给我们，以这样惊人的慷慨来回馈我们！神还说：“在这方面试验我”，祂的意思是叫我们，“你自己去查证一下这个真相，带上你的什一奉献，看看我会如何祝福你。”哇！太奇妙了，我们的上帝非但不想从我们这里拿走，而是祂想继续给予我们更多，且要多到装不下；无论我们付出多少，我们所付出的永远都无法超越祂所给予我们的！我们的上帝就是这么慷慨和良善！



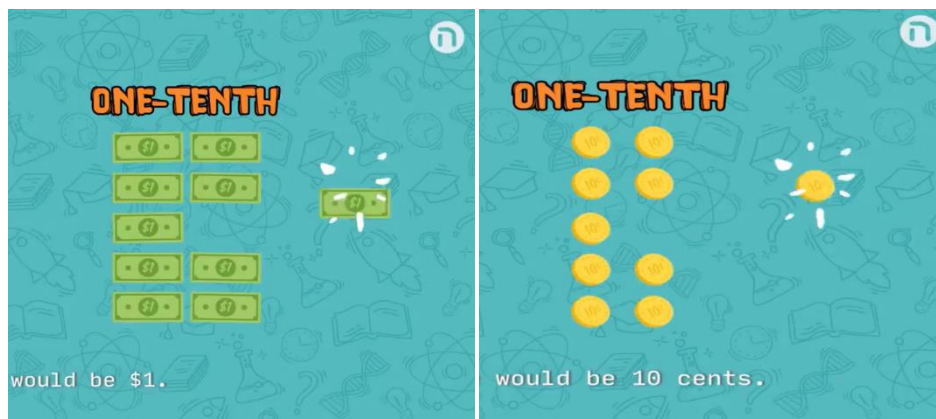
接下来，我们来分享一个见证。就是一位在我们教会上主日学的男孩，他开始进行什一奉献时发生的事。在他小的时候，他父亲每周日都会递给他一枚硬币，叫他放进奉献袋里。但是当他长大一些后，他的父亲说：“你是时候要开始为自己的什一奉献负责了，要记得带去教堂哟。”有些星期他记得，但大多数星期他都忘记了。到那年 12 月，男孩决定将当年储蓄的十分之一作为奉献。于是，他打破了他的储蓄罐，并数好他的钱刚好 100 元。那个星期天，他带了 10 元去教会，并把它放进了奉献袋。



在圣诞节期间，他的妈妈收到了一位住在海外的朋友发来的信息，说，“我想念你们！我要送给你两个孩子每人 100 元，作为我送给他们的圣诞节礼物。”当他妈妈告诉他这件事时，男孩很惊讶地说：“100 元？妈妈，你还记得我什一奉献的是 10 元吗？我给了主 10 元，但祂还给了我十倍！”哇，这个见证之所以这么可爱，是因为这个男孩很快就记起，这是上帝在祝福他！感谢耶稣！



孩子们，也许你们中有些小朋友想知道：我们所得的十分之一是多少呢？好，听我解释一下。如果你每周得到 10 元，那么十分之一就是 1 元；如果你每周得到一元，那么你的什一奉献就是一角或 10 分钱。或许你想问，“10 分钱这么少？能做得了什么呢？”请记住，上帝不需要我们的钱。对于祂来说，关键不在于你付出了多少，而是在于：你在你所得的方面有多信靠祂！如果你现在正担心，“但我只有 1 元，如果我给主十分之一，我就会更少了！”无须紧张！关键是你要知道天父上帝喜欢我们什一奉献的真正原因，真正原因是——因为祂喜爱我们倚靠祂并相信祂会赐给我们所需的一切！现在你明白了天父的心，是不是觉得心里好踏实了！？



但如果你根本没有任何零花钱，怎么办？如果你真的很兴奋，打算开始向主进行什一奉献的话，那你先祷告主，告诉祂来祝福你，这样你就可以享受为主进行什一奉献所带来的乐趣啦。永远记住，我们进行什一奉献不是因为我们“必须”这么做，我们进行什一奉献而是因为我们“乐于”这么做，我们这是在为我们所拥有的一切向我们善良而信实的上帝说“谢谢你”！当我们这样做时，主微笑着对我们说：“在这件事上试验我，看我如何倾泻祝福在你们身上，以至多到装也装不下！”我们拥有多么美好和奇妙的上帝！让我们把所有的颂赞都归给祂！



孩子们，如果你正在听这个故事，你从来没有邀请耶稣进入你的生命，成为你的主和救主，你现在可以这样做，跟着我重复这个祷告：“亲爱的主耶稣，感谢你为我死在十字架上。你是神的儿子，你死了，也被埋葬，第三天又复活了。你宝血洗去了我所有的罪，使我得以永远与阿爸天父在一起。我请求你现在进入我的生命里，成为我的主和救主，我永远是个义人，永远是有福的，永远是神的孩子。奉耶稣的名，阿门！”

BECAUSE WE GET TO

“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.” – Malachi 3:10, NIV

Hey Rock Kidz! If your friend sent this to you one day, what would you know? You’d know that your friend wanted to say a big “thank you”.

What would you do if you wanted to say “thank you”? do you make your own “thank you” card? Send a gift? Or do you prefer to say it with a big, big hug?

Just as there are different ways for us to thank other people, there are also different ways for us to give thanks to our very good and awesome God. We thank Him when we pray, we give thanks when we sing praises to Him, and we also give thanks to the Lord when we lift our hands in worship. You may already know this, but did you know that there is another way for us to express our thanksgiving and gratefulness to our good, good God? Let’s find out together.

Today’s Bible lesson starts with Abraham. You can read all about it in Genesis 14. And during this time, Abraham is still known by his old name, “Abram”. In Genesis 14, four enemy kings attacked the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. These four kings captured the people of Sodom and Gomorrah and took them and all their possessions away. Among these captives was Lot. Lot was Abram’s nephew.

When Abram heard that Lot was captured, he gathered his fighting men and chased after the enemy. With just 318 of his own men, Abram fought against the four kings and their armies and defeated them. That day, Abram rescued his nephew Lot, and along with all the other captives, brought back everything that the enemy had stolen.

Usually the action ends once the battle is won. But Genesis 14 tells us that while Abram was on his way back from the battle, two very different kings came to see him. One was the wicked king of Sodom. And the other was Melchizedek, the godly king of Salem. We know that Melchizedek was a godly king because the Bible tells us that he was also the priest of the Most High God. That day, Melchizedek brought Abram bread and wine. Then he blessed Abram and said, “Abram, may you be blessed by God Most High, the one who made heaven and earth. And we praise God Most High, who helped you defeat your enemies.”

Right after this, guess what Abram did? He gave Melchizedek one-tenth of everything that he had taken from the battle. This means that for every ten things that he had, Abram gave Melchizedek one. One out of every ten animals, one out of every ten bags of gold and silver and one-tenth of everything else. Abram gave Melchizedek one-tenth of everything that he had as an act of worship to the Lord. It was Abram’s way of saying “thank you” for the victory that God had given him and for all the blessings that he had received.

We know this because when the king of Sodom said, “Hey, just keep everything for yourself!” Abram said, “No! I promise to the Lord, the God Most High, the one who made heaven and earth. I promise that I will not keep anything that is yours – not even a thread or a sandal strap! I don’t want you to say, ‘I made Abram rich.’” Wow! Even though all the spoils from the battle could have made him very rich, Abram did not want to keep anything that belonged to the king of Sodom for himself. Instead, all he took one the one-tenth that he gave to Melchizedek, King of Salem and high priest of the Most High God.

What Abram did that day was really very special. You see, this was the first record in the Bible of anyone giving one-tenth of what he had. The Bible calls giving God one-tenth of everything that He has first given us “the tithe”. The tithe is so special and precious that we continue it to this day. Just like Abram, we get the privilege of giving to God one-

tenth of all that He has first given us. Just like Abram, we want to worship and thank our God for giving us everything we have.

Are you ready to hear the most exciting part about tithing? Listen carefully so that you don't miss what I'm about to tell you. The exciting part about tithing is that God does not need our money! We don't tithe because we have to. We tithe because we get to! Think about it. Our God is so big, so strong and so mighty that He doesn't need our money. There is nothing we can give to God that He did not first give to us! So why do we still tithe? We tithe because this is our way of saying "thank you" for all that He has given to us. It is our way to honour the Lord and show Him how much we love Him.

But Guess what? Our God is so amazing that no matter how much we give, we can never, ever out-give our God! Malachi 3:10 says, "you might get to highlight this as well, "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it." When we give, the Lord throws open the floodgates of heaven when our God gives, He gives in great style. "Test me in this!" says the Lord, this is the Lord saying, "Check it out for yourself that this is true. Bring your tithe and watch how I will bless you." Wow! Our amazing God does not want to take from us. He wants to keep on giving to us. What a good and generous God we have!

Let me tell you about what happened when a boy from Rock Kidz started to tithe. When he was little, his dad handed him a coin every Sunday to put in the offering bag. But when he got older, his dad said, "It's time for you to start being responsible for your own tithe. Remember bring it to church with you." Some weeks he remembered, but most weeks he forgot. That December, the boy decided he would tithe one-tenth of what he had saved that year. He broke his coin bank and counted his money. That Sunday, he brought his \$10 and put it in the offering bag.

During Christmas week, his mum got a text from a friend who lived overseas. "I miss you guys! I am sending both your kids \$100 each, as their Christmas gift from me." When he mum told him this, the boy was surprised. "\$100? Mum, remember the \$10 I tithed? I gave the Lord \$10, but He gave me back ten times more!" What makes this testimony lovely is that the boy is so quick to remember that it was the Lord who had blessed him. Thank you Jesus!

Maybe right now some of you are thinking, "So, how much is one-tenth of what we receive?" Well, if you get \$10 every week, one tenth would be \$1. If you get one dollar each week, then your tithe would be 10 cents. Maybe now you're thinking, "10 cents? What different does 10 cents make?" Well remember, God doesn't need our money. What's important to Him is not how much you give, but how much you trust Him with what you have received. If you are now asking, "But I only get \$1! If I give the Lord one-tenth, I will have even less!" This is why Daddy God loves for us to tithe. He loves us to depend on Him and trust Him to give us everything that we need.

Now that you know this, what happens if you don't get any money at all? How do you tithe? If you are really excited to start tithing to the Lord, tell Him about it! Tell Him to bless you so that you get the joy of bringing Him your tithe. Always remember, we don't tithe because we have to. We tithe because we get to! We get to say "Thank You" to our good and faithful God for everything that we have. And when we do, the Lord smiles at us and says, "Test Me in this, and watch Me pour out so much blessing on you that there will not be room enough to store it." What a good and amazing God we have! Let's give Him all the praise.

Hey Rock Kidz, if you are listening to this story and you've never asked Jesus to come into your life to be your Lord and Saviour, you can do so now. Just repeat this prayer after me, "Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross for me. You are the Son of God, who died, was buried and on the third day, you rose again. Your precious blood washed away all my sins making me forever right with Daddy God. I ask You

now to come into my life to be my Lord and Saviour. I am forever righteous, forever blessed, forever a child of God. In Jesus' name," and everyone say, "Amen."