## **Our Finances**

Giving is one of the central themes in the Bible - Jesus talked more about money than heaven, hell, or even prayer! To understand what it means to follow Jesus, we must also understand what it means to give.

At Numa. Church, we practise the principle of tithing for the support of the church. As such, we recognize that giving 10% of our income is a Biblical standard for giving.

'Be sure to set aside a tenth of all that your fields produce each year.'

- Deuteronomy 14:22

'Every Sunday, each of you make an offering and put it in safekeeping. Be as generous as you can.'

- 1 Corinthians 16:2

The Bible teaches us that the **tithe** (literally 'the tenth') is the 'first fruits' of our labour or income that belongs to God. Giving the first 10% of our income to the local church is the primary, practical way we acknowledge that God is first in our lives. (Proverbs 3:9-10)

An **offering** is a gift over and above the tithe. The Bible says that by giving generously, we are able to "take hold of the life that is truly life." In other words: generosity is the gateway to a God-blessed life. (1 Timothy 6:18-19)

The **gift of giving** is a spiritual gift that God gives to some people (Romans 12:8) and is a Holy Spirit-given capacity and desire to serve God by giving your material resources, far beyond the tithe, to further the work of God.

Each form of giving is an act of worship - an expression of gratitude to God rather than a financial transaction. Many people love to give to God and, as they do, they want to feel confident in the church they are giving through. (Note that as you give, you are giving to God, through the church).

Our finances are managed externally by Horizon Church's accounts department, reviewed throughout the year by our Overseers, and audited annually by an external accounting firm.

At least 10% of what we receive is given to support local, national, and global missions organizations to help further the work of God beyond us.