

**December 5, 2026**

## **Local Church Budget**

When it comes to the giving of one's finances to special church projects or tithes and offerings, you might have heard the phrase, "It's not equal giving, but equal sacrifice." This is true. Members are not expected to put the same amount of money into the offering plate (digitally or literally) each time they give to the cause of Christ. The fact is everyone's financial situation is different. However, each giver should give sacrificially, according to how God has blessed them. Sacrificial giving demonstrates where the giver's loyalty truly lies.

Sacrificial giving is demonstrated in the story of the widow's offering. Mark 12:41-44 says, "And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. And he called his disciples to him and said to them, 'Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on'" (ESV).

We can learn from this brief narrative that giving sacrificially is the kind of giving that gets God's attention and blessings.

Today, let us give sacrificially to please the Lord.