

1. **MATCH** the Greek or Hebrew words and their English meanings:

Hebrew	English
uzzi	the LORD is my strength
Uzziah	my strength
asar	tithe, tenth part
maaser	ten, --teen (11-19)
mesheq	man, husband, servant, steward
iysh	riches (from ashar = enrich)
osher	steward

Greek	English
epitropos	steward, tutor, guardian
oikonomos	steward, manager, overseer
mammon	to give a tithe, pay tithe
apodekatoo	treasure, riches, wealth
apo	to exact or receive a tithe
dekatoos	wealth personified
mammonas	to separate parts

2. Write out **GEN 2:15** The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. (NIV)
3. **GEN 8:22** "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." (NIV)
4. **How** does the principle of **seedtime & harvest** apply to **BOTH** natural & spiritual matters? What we sow is what we reap, good or bad, natural or spiritual, financial or otherwise. Harvest comes sometime AFTER We sow, and after a period of growth or maturation, but the day of HARVEST will always come.
5. **GAL 6:7** Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. (NIV)
6. **GEN 12:1** The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. 2 "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." (NIV)
7. **GEN 24:34** So he (Eleazer) said, "I am Abraham's servant. 35 The LORD has blessed my master abundantly, and he has become wealthy. He has given him sheep and cattle, silver and gold, menservants and maidservants, and camels and donkeys. (NIV)
8. **GEN 26:1** Now there was a famine in the land—besides the earlier famine of Abraham's time—and Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines in Gerar. 2 The LORD appeared to Isaac and said, "do not go down to Egypt; live in the land where I tell you to live. 3 Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you. For to you and your descendants (seed) I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham. 4 I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and will give them all these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, 5 because Abraham obeyed me and kept my requirements, my commands, my decrees and my laws." 6 So Isaac stayed in Gerar. 12 Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because the LORD blessed him. 13 The man became rich, and his wealth continued to grow until he became very wealthy. 14 He had so many flocks and herds and servants that the Philistines envied him. (NIV)
9. **GEN 30:43** In this way the man (Jacob) grew exceedingly prosperous and came to own large flocks, and maidservants and menservants, and camels and donkeys. (NIV)
- Consider** the Scriptures from **Questions 6 to 8** about Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Discuss all the ways God blessed Abraham and his descendants and how He equipped each to be a blessing to others: God promised to give them Canaan land, to make them a great nation, to bless them so that they in turn could be a blessing to all the nations of the earth. God confirmed His covenant through much wealth unto all three of these.
10. Write out **DEU 8:18**: "And you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day."
11. **What** is the **purpose of wealth** as described in **DEU 8:18**? To establish or confirm God's covenant originally given to Abraham, that God would bless him so that he could be a spiritual and material blessing to all the nations and peoples of the earth.
- What Covenant** is God referring to? GEN 12:1-3, GEN 17:1-8, etc.
12. **Read** Scriptures # 6 & 7 in the handout. You may want to read **GEN 39-46** for more of the story. How might the 7 years of abundance followed by 7 years of famine apply prophetically in our time? The US & the world have experienced 7 years of unprecedented prosperity. These may be followed by 7 years of famine during the tribulation period under the antichrist. We should be preparing for those days physically & spiritually.
13. **LEV 25:23** "The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you are but aliens and my tenants (or stewards). (NIV)
14. **Define** a **steward**: a servant who oversees or manages a household, who is responsible for managing all the children, servants, and material assets of that household. A steward owns nothing, yet enjoys the use of and responsibility over ALL his master's assets. These assets are bought and paid for by the MASTER.
- How** does an owner differ from a steward? An owner must buy and pay for his assets, and is responsible for their upkeep and repair. An owner has no responsibility to another for those things he owns, nor does he enjoy another's protection of or insurance of these assets.
- Which** are you? I am a steward of my life, my wife, my family, my relatives, my church, my assets, etc. In reality, I own NONE of these things. They all are a GIFT from God. All that I have, including my very life, are GOD's. Therefore, to God I am fully responsible for how I manage ALL things all the days of my life.

15. Read **DEU 26:1-15**. Summarize the instructions given into three main points:
1. Take some of the firstfruits from all the produce of the promised land and put them in a basket.
 2. Take it to the place the LORD chooses for His dwelling, that is, the Tabernacle or Temple.
 3. Then SAY to the LORD your God: "I have removed from my house the sacred portion and have given it to the Levite, the alien, the fatherless and the widow, according to all you commanded. I have not turned aside from your commands nor have I forgotten any of them. I have not eaten any of the sacred portion while I was in mourning, nor have I removed any of it while I was unclean, nor have I offered any of it to the dead. I have obeyed the LORD my God; I have done everything you commanded me. 15 Look down from heaven, your holy dwelling place, and bless your people Israel and the land you have given us as you promised on oath to our forefathers, a land flowing with milk and honey."
16. Write out **LEV 27:30 & 32**: "A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD. 32 The entire tithe of the herd and flock—every tenth animal that passes under the shepherd's rod—will be holy to the LORD.
17. **What** does the word "**tithe**" mean? A tenth part What does it mean to say that the tithe is "**holy**" to the LORD? 'Holy' means sanctified to or set apart for a certain purpose. If something is 'holy' to the LORD, it should be used ONLY for the LORD's purposes, and not for personal purposes. It is truly HIS.
What does this tell you about its use? From NUM 18:26-32, DEU 12:17-19, DEU 14:22-29, 2CH 31:5-19, NEH 10:38-39, & NEH 13:12-13, what was the tithe used for? For construction and maintenance of places of worship, for the levites (priests), for the tools and utensils used in these places, for the sacrificial animals, & for the meals eaten by worshippers.
18. Read **LEV 26:3-13** and all of **DEU 28**. What is the **MAIN REQUIREMENT** for God to **BLESS** His people? That His people carefully OBEY God's commandments and decrees.
 What will cause **CURSES** to come on God's people? Any disobedience of God's commandments.
Can we expect blessing from God apart from obedience? No.
19. Read **1KI 2:1-3**, **2CH 1:7-12** and **1KI 10:1-29**. Explain how Jesus' promise in **MAT 6:33** was fulfilled in Solomon's life: Solomon sought FIRST the Kingdom of God and righteousness by faith, with the result that wisdom, honor, and riches followed automatically. They were the "proof" or result of obedience.
20. Read **1KI 17:8-16**. Why did God send **Elijah** to a poor widow at Zarephath to feed him? To bring God's blessing SO THAT SHE COULD BE A BLESSING in return to Elijah. That is God's way.
 Why did Elijah ask the woman for her last bit of food for himself? Wasn't that selfish of Elijah? NO.
God asks that we SOW what we have before we can reap. However, He will even give us the seed to sow.
 Was obedience required of the woman before blessing could come? Explain how this might apply to you. Yes. She had to give "precious seed" before she could reap a return. This requires FAITH, which is always manifest as OBEDIENCE. Faith without works (corresponding action) is no faith at all (not really faith!).
21. Read **2KI 4:1-7**. Elisha asked the widow "**what do you have?**" When she obeyed the prophet with the small amount that she had, God was able to bless and multiply it to give her an abundance. What she sowed is what he reaped. Explain how her FAITH determined the return AND its abundance: It required faith to obey the command of the prophet and the Word of the LORD given thru him; without obedience, however, the blessing would not have come. The SAME is true for us, without obedience of God's word, no blessing can come.
"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can." How can you apply this principle to your spiritual walk with God? I can begin with who I am, where I am at, with what I have, and do what I can for God. God does NOT expect anything more. Whatever I give, God will MULTIPLY back to me!!!
 To **tithing and your finances**? We sometimes wrongly think "If I were rich, I could give so much into God's work." The result is we never start giving. Jesus said the widow who gave 2 mites gave more than all the others, since she gave out of her need. I am sure she received an abundance of material blessing in return.
22. **ISA 55:10** As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, 11 so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. (NIV)
Note here that God from heaven gives both **SEED to sow** and **BREAD to eat**. Explain how this principle applies to finances and to other spiritual matters: God will give me seed to sow as well as bread to eat. Often, the seed comes first. Seed is for sowing, NOT for eating. If I eat my seed, bread will not be forthcoming.
23. **PRO 3:9** Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; 10 then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine.
 Write out **PRO 22:7**: The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.
 Write out **ECC 5:10**: Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless.
24. **T** **F** It's OK for you to have money, but not for money to have you.
T **F** Most people buy things they don't need, with money they don't have, to impress people who don't know or care.
T **F** Most people live far above their means financially, but far below their means spiritually.
T **F** A journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step.
T **F** A Christian tithes his or her way out of debt.
25. **How** will you apply what you have learned from this lesson in your life and family? Answer for yourself and for your family.