

“STEP UP TO THE PLATE”

Share any special baseball experiences people might have, when they played ball as a kid or an adult.

How does stepping up to the plate as a batter relate to stepping up to the plate in giving?

Read 2 Timothy 1:1-8. What can you learn about Timothy? Why did Paul have confidence in Timothy?

What was Timothy afraid of? How do power, love and self-discipline have to do with the Holy Spirit? (The gifts are the power to do; the fruit are the power to live.) Discuss each one and how these characteristics relate to financial giving, especially tithing.

Someone might be afraid of stepping up to the plate to bat, because they have been hit by the ball before. Why would someone be afraid of giving (or even giving a tithe)? How can someone get through this fear?

Why is financial giving a spiritual issue? Why do people dislike talking about money in church?

How would you relate different kinds of giving to the different kinds of baseball leagues (t-Ball, little league, semi-pro, big league).

Why aren't the “big hitters” of giving those who give the most money?

How does our church mission statement help us understand giving better: “Passionately seeking to know, love and serve God”?