

Anonymous (Giving)

I have an interest in a piece of property which has been in my family for over 100 years, and my cousin and I have a formal agreement by which we split the proceeds from sale of timber on the property. My friend Matt, who is a consulting forester, had walked it with me and we selected and marked the trees to be sold. Matt tallied the sale up and told us about what the timber would sell for.

All of this occurred over several months and as we approached the time when the sale would go out for bid, I sensed the Lord leading me to give beyond a 10% tithe for my portion of the timber sale proceeds. After praying about it, I sensed God leading me to give a tithe of 10% for the entire sale amount....my cousin's half and my half. I committed this to the Lord and planned to give the additional amount to the building expansion fund, as I had felt led to do.

The day the bids were due for the timber sale, Matt called me. I could sense disbelief in the tone of his voice as he proceeded to tell me what the low bid was - an amount that was more than he previously thought the timber would sell for. I continued to listen in disbelief as he listed bid amounts in ascending order. The high bid (the amount that we received for the timber) was more than double what he had expected. Even my friend Matt, a consulting forester, who makes his living selling timber was surprised. I remembered my commitment to the Lord and knew that He had made this possible.