

God's Grace and Your Giving

Big Idea

Your giving is motivated by and a reflection of what you've been given. We will know that we have money in the right place in our hearts when the culture of acquisition is replaced in our hearts with a culture of generosity, where joy of giving overwhelms joy in getting.

Generosity Story

For God so loved the world that he gave...

John 3:16

The Generosity of Creation

- God created a magnificent world for us to enjoy
- God created the means by which we can know him

The Generosity of the Law

Is the law contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given the could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. So then, the law was our guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

Galatians 3:21-26

The Generosity of the Incarnation

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.

Philippians 2:5-7

The Generosity of the Cross and Forgiving Grace

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of God.

Hebrews 12:1-2

The Generosity of Accepting Love

*So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son,
then an heir through God.*

Galatians 4:7

The Generosity of Scripture

All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence.

2 Peter 1:3

The Generosity of Daily Mercy

The Generosity of Eternity

Where to Give

- Local Church
- Charities
- Community Organizations
- People

How Much to Give

- Generously
- Sacrificially
- Obediently

How do I Give?

- Directly
- Bank Transfer
- Giving Fund
- Asset Transfer

Directly

- Cash
- Check
- Online

Bank Transfer

- Electronic or Check from bank
- Allows for automation

Giving Fund

- Contribute long-term appreciated assets
- Reduces realized capital gains
- Decreases capital gains tax liability

Asset Transfer

- Durable goods
- Tax deductible at market value
- Liquidate complex assets

Giving & Tax Stewardship

- Gifts to non-profit organizations
 - Charitable Tax Deduction (if you itemize)
 - Cash
 - Non-cash assets
 - Long term assets = basis + growth
 - Short term assets = basis only
 - Property
 - Expenses

Giving & Tax Stewardship

- Gifts to non-profit organizations
 - Limited to 20% AGI
 - Recordkeeping
 - < \$250
 - > \$250

Giving & Tax Stewardship

- Gifts to people
 - Not tax deductible
 - Limited to \$15,000 / person / year
 - Gifts >\$15,000 / person / year deducted from lifetime exemption from estate tax

Benefits to Giving

- Orients our Hearts
- Reorients our priorities
- Demonstrates our obedience to God
- Allows us to engage in God's work
- Stores up joy for ourselves

Benefits to Giving

- Personal Benefits
- Improves your commitment/engagement with your community
- Tax benefits
- Models biblical values to your children
- Models God's grace to the world.