

Engaging Our Givers

The Heart of the Matter

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross!

- Philippians 2:5-8

The Heart of the Matter (con't)

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.


- Philippians 2:9-11



1. Giving is a Journey.

A Giver's Journey

- 8 Giving should be part of our financial picture (golf ball business)
- 13 Giving is a response to God's generosity to us (confirmation)
- 16 Giving should cost us something (first budget)
- 19 Generosity is the anecdote to materialism (poverty simulation)
- 23 We are to honor God with ALL, not just our giving (releasing savings)
- 27 Giving to the poor is at the heart of God's desire for us (trip to Uganda)
- 29 Our giving should drive our other financial priorities (first home purchase)
- 35 Unity in a household around giving is essential (marriage realities)
- 37 Money isn't our idol; it reveals what our idols are (fear and worry with children)



**2. Our role is to lead and disciple
people in their inputs, not their
outputs.**

Inputs



Outputs

First

\$ %

Eternal Perspective

Output Pride

Trust

Output Oppression

Surrender

Theological Truths That Guide Our Giving

- ▶ Eternal perspective – We give in light of the fact that our hope is in eternal things, not in earthly things. (1 Timothy 6:6-19; Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 12:13-21)
- ▶ Pre-eminence of Christ – We give in light of the fact that Jesus is pre-eminent and first in all things. (Colossians 1:15-20; Genesis 4:2-5; Matthew 6:25-34)
- ▶ Gospel-driven – We give in light of the fact that Jesus died on the cross for our sins and our lives are fully surrendered to Him. Plainly put, we give in light of the gospel. (2 Corinthians 9)
- ▶ Privilege – Generosity is our privilege, and we give out of joy – not out of obligation. We don't have to give; we get to give. (2 Corinthians 8-9; Luke 18:9-14)
- ▶ Conduit of God's grace – We have been enriched in every way to be generous on every occasion, and through our generosity it produces thanksgiving to God. (2 Corinthians 9:11). It is by God's grace that we are even able to do this. (2 Corinthians 9:14)
- ▶ Trust in God - Our investment in God's economy over the world's economy is a reflection of where our trust truly lies. (Mark 10:17-31)



3. Believe the best.

Current Condition | Hopeful Future

Non Giver

Sporadic Giver

Leftover Giver

Complacent Giver

Earthly Giver

New Giver

Consistent Giver

Priority Giver

Surrendered Giver

Eternal Giver

Philippians 4:15-19

¹⁵ ...As you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; ¹⁶ for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need.

¹⁷ Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. ¹⁸ I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.

¹⁹ And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.