

The Giving Journey

Emerging Giver

Maturing Giver

Generous Giver

Reasons for Giving: (Why?)

- I give primarily because of relationships, tax savings, public recognition, or a feeling of obligation.
- My primary desire is to pass on assets to children and family.
- I follow the advice of trusted advisors -- not necessarily spiritual advisors.
- I may give in response to something that has personally impacted me.
- I may still be seek greatness in the eyes of man.
- I am not sure I understand Biblical stewardship.

- I have a growing desire to give as I further understand God's plan.
- I wrestle with a desire to pass on wealth to children or give to the Kingdom.
- I am open to listening to trusted advisors based on spiritual truth.
- I understand that everything belongs to God and I am simply a steward of His assets.
- I am beginning to view giving as an investment in others

- My giving is an outward material expression of my spiritual commitment, as God continues to mold my heart to willing obedience.
- I see assets as a sacred trust. I believe family estate decisions are to be made based on an intentional transfer of spiritual, character and financial capital.
- I actively seek spiritual guidance for all giving matters.
- I experience the blessing of generosity and of being a "cheerful giver".
- I am willing to give to people and/or organizations independent of tax benefits.
- I sometimes give anonymously.

Practice of Giving: (How?)

- I have more of a "here & now" mentality in my giving.
- I may provide a scheduled gift to church or charity.
- I may give 10% of my income.

- Developing short term giving strategies and goals is becoming more important.
- I have a deepening understanding of stewardship and ownership.
- I give a minimum of 10% and desire to give progressively more.

- I use systematic planning to accomplish the responsibilities of stewardship.
- I give generously (beyond conventional norms) out of both income and assets to multiple ministries/ people.
- I may give sacrificially.

Direction of Giving: (Where?)

- My giving is not based on planning or intentional strategies.
- I tend to give to those who ask.

- I am discovering more causes where I find joy in giving.

- I give intentionally and aggressively to causes God has given me a passion for.

Things to Read or Do: (What?)

- Randy Alcorn - "The Treasure Principle"
- Andy Stanley - "Fields of Gold"
- Leo Tolstoy - "How Much Land Does a Man Need?"
- Watch stories of Generous Givers (generousgiving.org/videos)
- Attend a Celebration of Generosity
- Attend a Journey of Generosity (JOG)

- John Piper - "Desiring God" (Chapter 7)
- Richard Foster - "Celebration of Discipline" (Chapter 6)
- Randy Alcorn - "Giving is the Good Life"
- John Rinehart - "Gospel Patrons"
- Go on a mission trip
- Attend a Celebration of Generosity
- Attend a Journey of Generosity (JOG)
- Participate in a Compass Charting Your Legacy group

- Ron Blue - "Splitting Heirs"
- Greg Baumer and John Cortines "God and Money"
- Richard Foster - "The Freedom of Simplicity"
- Attend a Celebration of Generosity
- Attend a Journey of Generosity (JOG)
- Go on a family mission trip
- Spend time investing in others - mentoring
- Serve on the board of a missional non-profit

Reflection Questions:

1. Who has had a spiritual impact in my life?
2. What cause / event has been meaningful in my life?
3. What giving opportunity has brought me the most joy?
4. What, if any, is my annual giving goal?
5. Why have I been given more than I need?

1. What is an appropriate lifestyle?
2. How much is enough?
3. What, if any, is my lifetime giving goal?
4. If time and money were no object, what would I do with my life?
5. Who is the next steward and are they prepared?

1. How do I steward all that God has entrusted to me?
2. What are the dangers and opportunities of wealth from a spiritual perspective?
3. How could my family be more involved in giving?
4. What does my eternal investment portfolio look like?
5. What are the benefits of simplicity?