

A GENEROUS SURPRISE
2 Cor 9:6-12 and 1 Tim 6:13-21

- i. There are 1.5 Million not-for-profits in the USA today.
- ii. Brand loyalty is gone.
- iii. Called to be stewards.
- iv. Stewardship is the use of money, assets, time, abilities, buildings and property to be used as a tool for gospel good and not to become the tool for an institutional idol.
- v. Move from church-centric to Giver-specific.
- vi. From line item to narratives of transformation.
- vii. From scarcity to abundance.
- viii. In practice from maintenance of legacy programs to everything we do in the church is mission.
- ix. In outreach from a social club to a Kingdom of God community on the move in the world.
- x. In worship from performance to participation in what the spirit of God is doing to enliven new generations.
- xi. In relationship from come and be like us to come and we will all be changed.
- xii. From preserve the past to unleash the future.
- xiii. From fundraising to discipleship.
- xiv. From obligation (have to) to gratitude (want to).
- xv. From limited resources (not enough) to generosity (abundance).
- xvi. From “rainy-day-funds” (need to save) to blessings (use it to pay the movement forward into Gods future).

I PERSONALLY GIVE FOR THESE 3 REASONS ...

- I. I GIVE OUT OF TOTAL GRATITUDE FOR WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR ME 1 Tim 6:13-16**
- II. I’VE PERSONALLY EXPERIENCED GENEROSITY AND WANT TO PAY IT FORWARD 1 TIM 6:17-19**
- III. I WANT TO BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS WHO ARE COMING BEHIND ME 1 Tim 6:20-21**
 - a. This is directed to Timothy—he is younger
 - b. This is about coming alongside the church of today and tomorrow. It is a future gaze. Healthy discipleship looks forward. Fear looks back!

Call to action:

You can be part of this cycle by filling out your pledge card and return Nov 19 and 26:

1. Read Prov 3:5-6
2. Pray.
3. Begin with something or go deeper- it takes time to work toward a tithe and more.
4. Step out in faith and watch what happens.
5. Give the first of every month as a surrender to the Lordship of Christ in your life, before you pay any other commitment.