Successfully Funding Your Church's Work For Christ

How to Develop and Maintain a Giving Membership



Over the years, churches have used many methods to promote their annual operating budgets. Most of these require a sizeable investment in time, effort, and expense to execute. Some are successful. Many are not.

The method contained in this program will work for you if you implement it as recommended. It has been successful for tens of thousands of churches of every size, from all denominations.

Because it reaches members of your congregation in the privacy of their own homes, and with carefully worded messages, each contact creates a great impact.

The decision to give then becomes a personal matter between the giver and our Lord, not the giver and his pastor or stewardship committee. If your members are not giving as they should, whether of their time, talent or treasure, it is because they lack either education or motivation. You have the opportunity to give them both.

It is our desire to enable you to educate and encourage God's people to experience His best. To that end, each component has been carefully written to prepare the hearts of your members to listen for the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

It is our prayer that by using this year's stewardship emphasis, your church will succeed in its efforts to serve, honor, and glorify the Lord.

On the following pages you will see the program manual's Table of Contents, a sample Letter, Brochure, Bulletin Insert and Faith Commitment Card for

Because He Gave First...
We Offer Him Our Best

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Letters

The four-week program is built around letters that have been prepared especially for this campaign.

Each message incorporates the campaign's theme.



Dear Friend in Christ,

It's an exquisits, delicate bottle filled with an expensive perfume her husband brought her from Paris. I sats in a place of bonor on her dresser where the sanlight can shine through the beautiful umber liquid. The fragrance is heavenly. But the seal is unbroken because she's afraid she'll run out.

Her flushand often encourages her to use his gift. It would give him great pleasure if she would wear it. Her gift to him, he laughs. After all, that's why he gave it to her - for her to wear. And she needn't worry about emptying the bottle, because he would love to give her more.

She says she believes him. Still, she just can't bring herself to open the bottle. So the divine gift, intended to bring pleasure to the man who gave it and to the woman who received it, sits unused instead as a coulty-orizament. And although it is a lovely size to use with the sanflight shining through it, the sparkling liquid in the unopened bottle will never bring the same pleasure as the fragrance of the perfume lingering on the air when she passes by

What a striking illustration of stewardship! God has given us exquisite gifts that He wants us to use in His bono: But often, just as the woman with the perfume, we are afraid that once we begin to use what He has given us it well run out. And even though we say that we believe God when He assures us He will replexish what we give to Him, our actions often suggest otherwise.

Paul assures us in Philippians 4:19 that when we give to God's work through the church God will meet all of our needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

In fact, in 2 Corimhians 9.8-15 we learn that God will give us everything we need and more so that there will not only be enough for our own needs, but plenty left over to give to others. In truth, the reason God gives to much is so we can give much away.

That's stewardship in action,

This week marks the beginning of our church's annual budget campaign. If s the time of year we set aside to ask our Lord what He would have us do to support His work through our church in the coming year.

Please prayerfully consider your financial commitment to Him during the coming year. Then record your decision on the ecolosed commitment card and return it in the church this week. It's one way we can thank God for His Son - His Gift too wonderful for words.

In His Service,

SAMPLE



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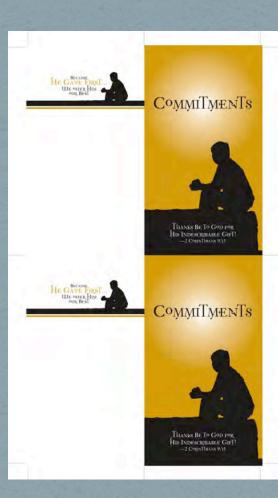
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Brochures

The brochures, the second element of the contact package, reinforce the warm, personal message of the letters with messages of stewardship education.



COMMITMENTS

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Faith Commitment Card

The purpose of the commitment card is to move your members to action. Each letter mentions the card and asks for it to be returned before the next Lord's Day.

If you decide to do an email campaign, they are a must for church pews!

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My FINANCIAL COMMITMENT



OF ALL THAT YOU GIVE ME I WILL SURELY GIVE...

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-GENESIS 28:22

Yes! In gratitude to God for what He has given me, I want to make a commitment to return a portion of my income to Him during the coming year. As a statement of my faith in His ability to provide for me,

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NAME ADDRESS

My Financial Commitment



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CITY	STATE	ZIP	

PHONE

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ADDRESS	

Bulletin Inserts



SAMPLE



SETTLING FOR LESS

Every year hundreds of flocks of wild genee cross portions of the U.S. on their semi-annual migrations. The sound of their wings pumping the air, and their calls of encouragement to one another as their v-formations fly overhead are inspiring.

In one south central plains state some winters have been mild enough in recent years that many geese stop over on urban ponds and remain so long that what began as a temporary respite becomes permanent residence. Grain is plentiful in nearby fields, and area residents often feed the handsome birds.

So instead of the perential temperate weather they should have been experiencing, because of their complacency they often find themselves suffering through extremely hot and dry summers, or below-zero ice storms that are normal for the region.

Each year other wide flocks continue to pass over, regularly heading north in the spring and south in the fall. On one community college-point, students have noticed an interesting phenomenon. When the formedy wild grees hear the lonking calls that were once their own, they flutter their wings in response. But they don't take to the air and fly away. They have become contented. The desire to fly may make them uncomfortable, but not for long, because by settling for what was convenient they have forgotten what it was like to do that for which they were created.

Amazing how like those birds we Christians can be, isn't if? Sometimes we, too, become so complacent that we are unwilling to move out of our comfort anne, even if it means were settling for less than God's best for us. We may experience a slight sthring deep in our bearts occasionally, but it passes. And as a resulf, we miss the opportunity to become the people God intends.

God has given us so much. We must be willing to step out of our control zones and give in return. Now is just such an opportunity. Our church is in the midst of its annual financial campaign. This is the time of year we ask our members to decide what they will do to support the Lord's work through our church in the coming year. It woot a time to be complacent.

Our Lord stepped out of His comfort zone to offer you His best. He doesn't want you to settle for less.

Don't ask Him to settle for less than your best.

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Our Lord stepped out of His comfort zone to offer you His best. He doesn't want you to settle for less.

Don't ask Him to settle for less than your best. Bulletin Inserts are the most convenient way to reach members during your service with an entirely new message.

Remember, the goal is to educate and motivate.



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Other Components

In addition to the components you have seen here, this program includes files for envelopes, thank you letter, bookmarks, poster, banner, and lapel stickers.



Thank you for your interest in our Stewardship program.

To place an order, please return to our website.

Or, send your order with check to:

Grace Publishing

PO Box 1233

Broken Arrow, Ok 74013-1233