



Key Principles for Christian Giving

1. Giving is rooted in the character of God, who is the Giver of all good gifts

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. John 3:16

“Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights...” James 1:17

2. Giving joyfully is part of our worship.

“Yours, O LORD, are the greatness, the power, the glory, the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in the heavens and on the earth is yours...For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you...” 1 Chronicles 29: 11,14

“I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.” Philippians 4: 18b

3. Generous giving is part of Christian discipleship – as we grow in the likeness of Jesus, we grow in the grace of giving.

For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.’ 2 Corinthians 8: 9

4. Giving is part of our stewardship of God’s creation, using all that he gives us to his glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own wellbeing.

“Then God said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth.’ “Genesis 1: 26

5. God is not a God of scarcity but of abundance, and God is able to supply all our needs to overflowing as we reflect his generosity to others.

“give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.” Luke 6: 38

6. Giving is an act of faith, and God often takes us to the edge in our resources that we may depend on him not on ourselves.

“Then he called his disciples and said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.’” Mark 12: 43 & 44

7. Giving within the diocese is an expression of our mutual dependence as the Body of Christ. Parish share is an expression of our commitment to maintain a Christian presence in every local community across the diocese.

“I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance.” 2 Corinthians 8: 13-14

8. Giving in the New Testament is a response to grace rather than a matter of rules, but many Christians find joy in following the Old Testament principles of giving both tithes (the first tenth of income) and freewill offerings.

“bringing there your burnt-offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and your donations, your votive gifts, your freewill-offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and flocks. And you shall eat there in the presence of the LORD your God, you and your households together, rejoicing in all the undertakings in which the LORD your God has blessed you.” Deuteronomy 12: 6-7

9. We enable and channel the giving of the willing, we don't put anyone under pressure. Our role is to offer wonderful people amazing opportunities to invest in the work of God's kingdom, if God so moves them.

“And they came, everyone whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, and brought the LORD's offering to be used for the tent of meeting, and for all its service, and for the sacred vestments. So they came, both men and women; all who were of a willing heart. “ Exodus 35:21-22a

10. In prayer, we seek God's guidance, surrender our worries, and offer gratitude for His provision.

“Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. “Philippians 4:6