



## **A Guide To Discerning God's Will In Deciding Your Giving Commitment**

The most important decision you or your family will make during our *We Give, God Builds* campaign will be the decision about your own giving commitment. This sheet gives suggestions on how to decide what your commitment will be.

As you begin praying about your commitment, keep in mind that our theme is "EQUAL SACRIFICE, NOT EQUAL GIFTS." Obviously, God has not given everyone the ability to give the same amount in dollars. However, God does call us to make that same *quality* of commitment.

Remember that your *We Give, God Builds* commitment can include **both an initial gift on Commitment Sunday (December 12) AND a 36-month giving commitment.** Most of us can give far more than we initially think by giving it over a three-year period. You will help your church most by making *both* gifts.

Each of us has a choice to make:

1. I can give based on REASON. This means I look at what I have, figure out that is "reasonable," and commit that amount. It takes no faith to give by reason. Reason simply asks, "What can I afford?"
2. I can give based on REVELATION. This means I determine my gift by praying, "Lord, what do you want to give through me?" This requires faith. When you make giving a matter of prayer, your decision becomes an act of worship. Revelation giving is asking, "How much am I willing to trust God?"
  - Paul said of the Macedonians, "They gave not only what they could afford, they gave even more than they could afford!" 2 Corinthians 7:3

### SUGGESTED STEPS FOR DETERMINING GOD'S WILL

1. **Begin by praying every day**, "Lord, I want to give sacrificially. Now please show me how to give a gift that will stretch my faith." If you're married, pray together with your spouse.
2. **Give yourself time!** Don't rush your decision. You'll find that the longer you genuinely pray "Show me HOW," the more ways God will show you, and you'll be able to give more than the first amount that popped into your head.
3. **Plan a family conference** to discuss ways to give. Ask your family members to be thinking of ideas in advance. Be sure to involve your children, no matter how young they are. This is a great opportunity to teach giving and faith.

**For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.**

**Hebrews 3:4**



4. At your family conference, read the following Bible promises and instructions and make a list of what you learn:

**Proverbs 3:9-10; Proverbs 11:24-25; Luke 6:38; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2;  
2 Corinthians 8:1-12; 2 Corinthians 9:6-12; Matthew 6:19-20.**

5. In your family conference, ask yourselves these questions aloud:

Regarding our INITIAL gift:

How much cash could we gather by December 12, 2010, Commitment Sunday?

Is there anything we can sell or convert to cash?

Do we have any assets or tangible items we could give?

Regarding our 36-month commitment:

Are there ways we could **decrease our expenses** in order to make a larger commitment?

Are there ways we could **increase our income** in order to make a larger commitment?

6. Decide as a family the total amount you'll give, hold hands and have a prayer of commitment similar to this:

*"Father, this is a big step for us. We're asking you to strengthen our faith and help us grow spiritually through giving. We thank you for all you have given us. We know we wouldn't have anything if it weren't for you. We want to be cheerful givers. We're claiming the promises you've said in your Word that you'll take care of our needs if we trust you. Thank you for this opportunity to grow. Thank you for our church. Help us to reach our goal to build our multipurpose ministry building. In Jesus name, Amen!"*

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