

CONNECTING TO SCRIPTURE

**THIS STUDY CAN HELP YOU
DISCERN BOTH YOUR HEART
AND GOD'S HEART
FOR GIVING GENEROUSLY.**

Spend some time reflecting on God's heart for generosity. What does God have and how has God used what he has?

*Psalm 24:1; Genesis 1:29; 1 Chronicles 29:14;
1 Corinthians 4:7; 2 Corinthians 8:9; Romans 8:32*

Consider how God is working, and how this gift might strategically participate in furthering God's work.

Matthew 28:19, Luke 17:20-21, 1 Kings 5:5

What is your heart telling you to do? Describe it.

Exodus 25:1-2, 35:4-29; 1 Corinthians 13:3, 2 Corinthians 9:7

Spend time in Prayer. Ask God: How do you want me to participate? What barriers might be keeping me from obeying you? What resources have you given me that I am not even aware of?

Luke 11:9-10, 12:15; John 17, Matthew 6:5-13

What does "sacrifice" mean to you?

Define it.

2 Samuel 24:24, Romans 12:1-2, Luke 21:1-4

What can you do to give sacrificially?

Start a list.

*1 Chronicles 29:1-10, Acts 2:44-47,
Acts 4:32-37*

PERSONAL COMMITMENT GUIDE

A TOOL FOR DISCERNMENT

Am I making the "right" decision?

Ask yourself:

Will this commitment make a difference in my life?
Does it increase my faith in God and sense of being
used in his service (Matt 5:19-33; 2 Cor 9:10-13)?

Have I sought God in this decision and how God
wants to work through me (cf. Luke 12:16-21)?

Is this a decision I will have a significant
conversation about with my family and with my
larger family of faith (Prov 15:22)?

Am I thinking creatively about a comprehensive
giving plan (Matt 25:14-30)?

Will this decision require some kind of sacrifice
in my life? Do my priorities reflect my
commitment to God's church
(2 Cor 8:1-5; Matt 5:33; Hag 1:2-11)?

Am I discovering a new joy in giving
as I increasingly learn to depend on and
reflect the generosity of God (2 Cor 9:7)?

NEXT CHAPTER

PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S
DOWNTOWN STORY

COMMITMENT GUIDE





NEXT CHAPTER

Our hope is that every person who commits to our Next Chapter does so from a deep sense of personal calling. Only you can determine how God is calling you to steward what He has given you. Although there is no mathematical formula, this guide is a tool to help you...

Connect with Scripture

Study what God says about generosity and let God’s word shape you.

Connect with God

Prayerfully seek God’s will and wisdom. What might proportional, sacrificial generosity look like for you?

Connect with the Church

Ask: what is God calling this church to do and to be? How is God working through CPC to affect people’s lives?

Connect with Others

Include family, friends, and trusted financial advisors in the process.

Consider Your Stewardship Potential

Consider what resources and opportunities you have been given. Think outside the income-stream box.

But since you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in the love we have kindled in you—see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

2 Corinthians 8:7

WISE GIVING

CONSIDERING OPPORTUNITIES

INCOME & GIVING

Income-stream giving: Is there regular income or bonuses that I could give? Can I give through my personal business?

Sacrifice: Are there lifestyle changes I could make to create additional resources?

Delaying Expenditures: Can I postpone purchases?

Freedom from Debt: Am I retiring a debt that could free up resources?

Income-producing Assets: Do I have interest earned, income from rental properties, or monies from other income-producing assets?

GIVING ASSETS

Giving Appreciated Assets: Are there assets I can transfer (stocks, real estate, etc)?

Sale of Assets: Are there things I can sell?

Savings & Investments: Are there investments that would be better “invested” in this kingdom ministry?

TIME & TALENT

Additional Income: What skills or additional work might produce additional income?

Gifts in Kind: What services and/or materials could I donate to decrease the cost of this project?

APPRECIATED ASSETS

If an investment—like stocks, real estate and business holdings—*has increased in value since its purchase and has been held for more than one year*, then there are significant tax advantages for both the donor and the church to transferring ownership (part or whole) to the church rather than first selling and then donating the proceeds.

Wondering how an asset can become a charitable contribution or how to give most efficiently? Contact Tim Townsend (ttownsend@pcanet.org) for free advice.

DISCOVERING YOUR POTENTIAL FOR GIVING

USE THIS CHART TO EVALUATE WHAT YOU HAVE AVAILABLE TO GIVE

| INCOME & SACRIFICE Analyze your projected income and spending patterns for the next three years and determine how much could be given and when. Alter your lifestyle in order to give what you save or don't spend. | POSSIBILITIES | AMOUNT |
|--|---------------|--------|
| | | \$ |
| | | \$ |
| | | \$ |
| | | \$ |
| GIVING ASSETS What accumulated assets in your life could be transferred to the church? What assets could be sold so that their value could be permanently invested in ministry? | POSSIBILITIES | AMOUNT |
| | | \$ |
| | | \$ |
| | | \$ |
| | | \$ |
| TIME & TALENT Determine what you could do to earn extra resources that could be given during this period. Are there “gifts in kind” of services and/or materials you could give? | POSSIBILITIES | AMOUNT |
| | | \$ |
| | | \$ |
| | | \$ |
| RESULTING THREE-YEAR POTENTIAL COMMITMENT: | | \$ |