

A THEOLOGY OF

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# GIVING

A BRIEF GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING  
OUR OPPORTUNITY



LEGACY | CHURCH

GOD OWNS IT

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I MANAGE IT

*The time we have is allotted to us by the Creator of time. The abilities we have are imparted upon us by the Giver of all good things. The money and possessions we have are graciously entrusted to us by the Sustainer of the universe. God gives you what is His, and He instructs you to use those things well, to use them in ways that are consistent with His desires and His purposes.*

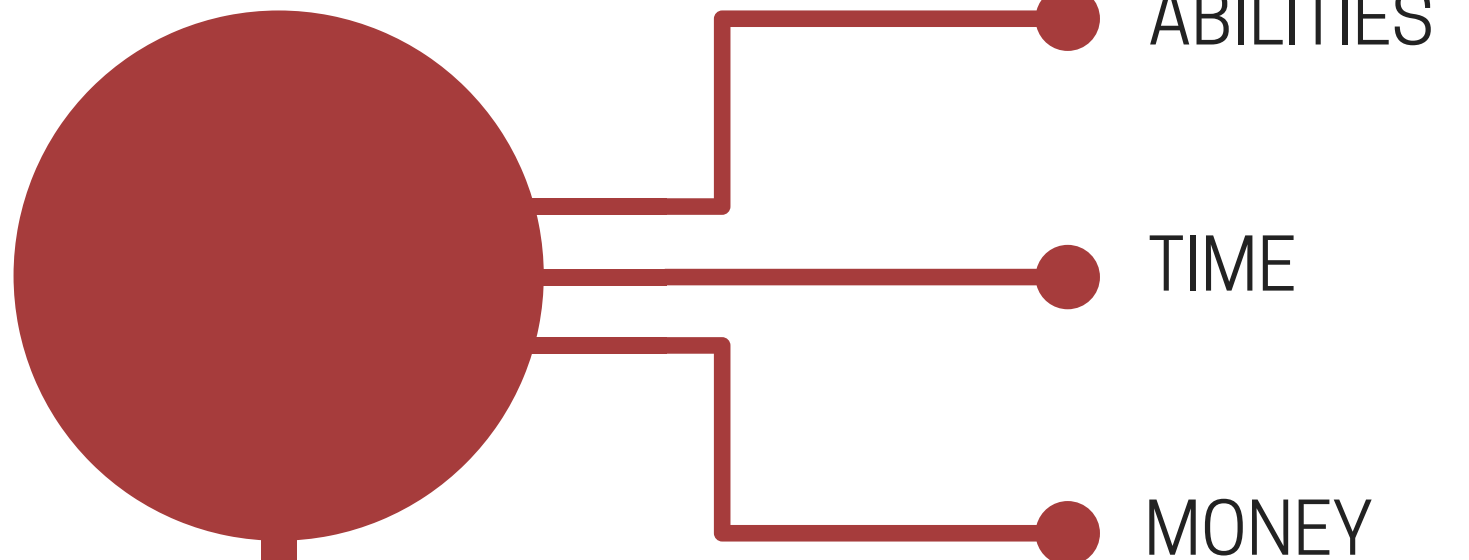
A THEOLOGY OF GIVING

GOD OWNS IT

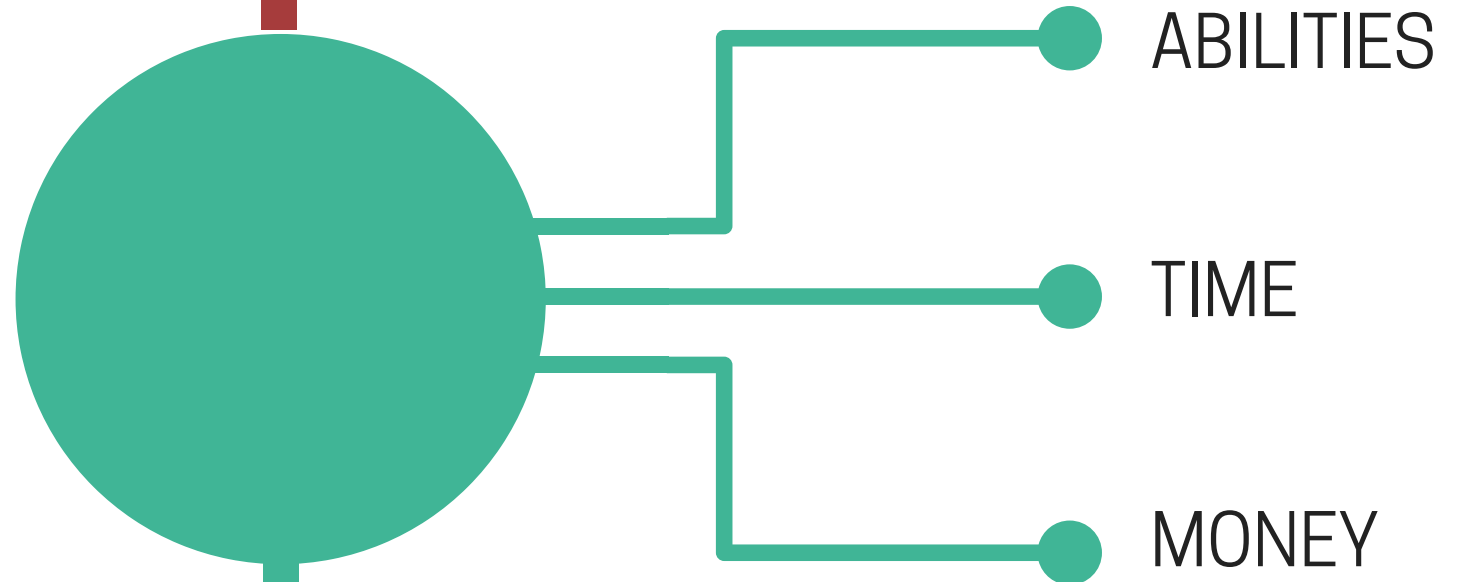


I MANAGE IT

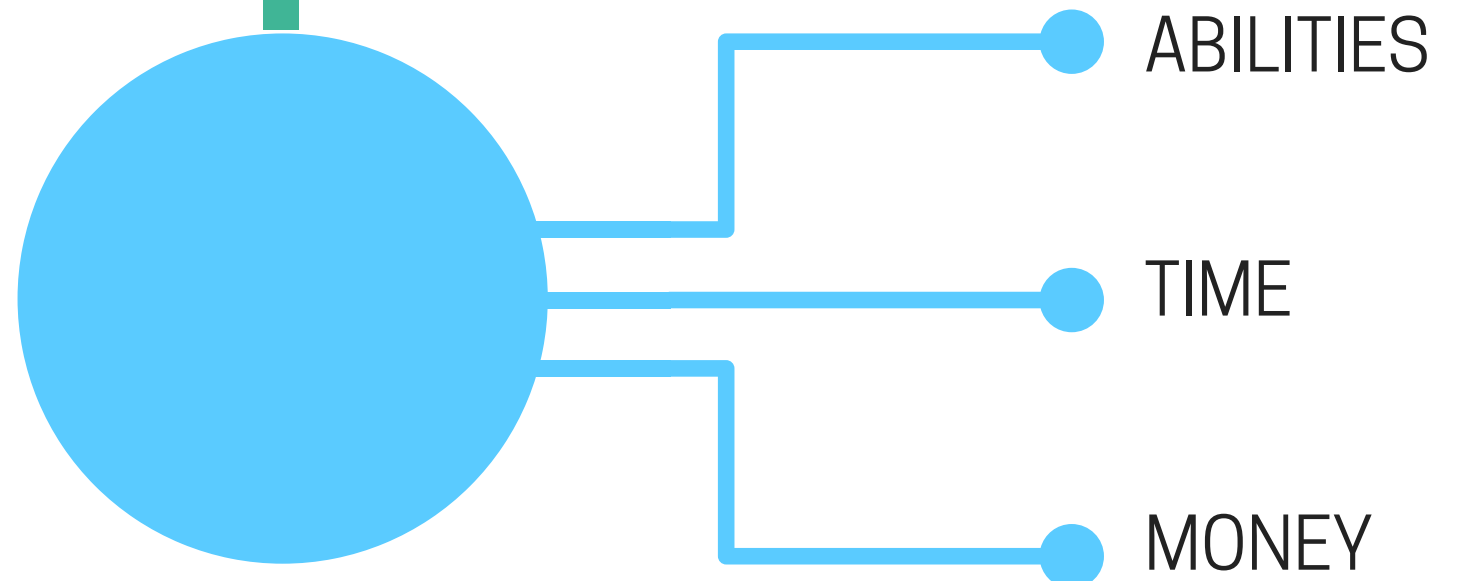
**Focus on the Gospel**



**Live Generously**



**Invest in Eternity**



**“As the rain falls  
from the heavens,  
so does every good  
gift fall from the  
God of the  
heavens.”**



**Abilities** - God made me. Everything I am and can do comes from Him. He has given me abilities, experiences, passions, and gifts to enjoy and to employ for His pleasure.

**Time** - My time is not my own. My time was bought by Jesus on the cross. The gospel arrests my days, weeks, months, and years. It gives me the greatest purpose of all with my time; to know and follow my Lord at all times and in all things.

**Money** - My value is not tied to my money. God values me, loves me, and I am confident that God will take care of me.



Transforming Question:

***Am I allowing the truth of the GOSPEL to affect my daily life?***

Memory Verse:

***Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.***

(James 1:17)

Make it Active:

***Make a list of 20 things God has given you. Can you list 50? More?***

Prayer:

***Thank God for the many ways He has loved and invested in you!***



**“We make a living  
by what we get.**

**We make a life by  
what we give.”**

**(W. Churchill)**



**Abilities** - Since God made me with purpose, I will see my talents and experiences as God's resources, I will learn about my spiritual gifts, and I will use each for God's pleasure and others' good.

**Time** - My days are numbered, and I will seek to not waste even one. Rather than hoarding for myself, I will give away my time to help others in need.

**Money** - I will give generously in a significant way. This helps me to remember I'm trusting in God's provision (which never runs out) and growing to grasp the depth of God's generosity to me in Jesus. I will give consistently (and not haphazardly) to make generosity a lifestyle that reflects the faithfulness of God's generosity.





Transforming Question:

*Am I allowing Jesus to make me a radically  
**GENEROUS** person?*

Memory Verse(s):

*Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of  
**Christ.***

(Galatians 6:2)

*Give, and it will be given to you.*


(Luke 6:38)

Make it Active:

*Make a list of your talents, abilities, and spiritual  
gifts. Take a look at your monthly calendar and  
your monthly budget. Evaluate yourself to discover  
how you are managing what God has given you.  
Look for new and undiscovered ways to see the  
gospel at work in your daily life.*

Prayer:

*Thank God for giving you such a great purpose in  
life. Ask God to help you see new and different ways  
to help others trust Jesus.*



**“The real measure  
of our wealth is  
how much we  
would be worth if  
we lost all our  
money.”**

**(J. Jowett)**



**Abilities** - God made me and formed me and wants to use me while I am able. May everything about me praise the Lord, and may the ways I serve others give God all the glory and help others to trust Jesus.

**Time** - It's easy to focus on the present and lose sight of where the present is headed. I will invest my time in others' lives to help them find their identity in Jesus, to see His mission for their life, and work with them to make an impact in this world.

**Money** - I will remember I can't take it with me when I'm gone and that God wants (and expects) a return on His investment.

He has given to me so I can be a blessing to others and advance His kingdom. Helping others trust Jesus is the highest use of my money.



Transforming Question:

***Am I investing my abilities, time, and money in ways that make an eternal impact?***

Memory Verse(s):

***Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”***

(Matthew 6:19-21)

Make it Active:

***Talk with a Christian friend, family member, or a pastor. Ask them to brainstorm with you, ways you can invest in eternal things.***

Prayer:

***Ask God to continually make you concerned with eternal things.***



# FAQS

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**WHY *give*?** - God has been infinitely generous with me. Everything I have in life is because of God's generosity. I wouldn't have anything (or even be alive) if He hadn't given everything to me. God's gifts are meant not only to bless us, but for us to use to bless others (1 Peter 4:10). God wants me to be generous like Him.

**WHAT *happens*?** - When I give, I reflect and reveal the image of God (just as I was created to do). This pleases God (Luke 21:1-4)! When I give, it makes me a partner with God in His mission. When I give, I grow in appreciation for both, God's provision and for the needs around me (2 Corinthians 8:9).

**HOW?** - The Bible says I should be ***wise*** (Proverbs 16:16), ***cheerful*** (1 Corinthians 9:6-7), ***faithful*** (Luke 16:10-13) and ***impactful*** (Matthew 25:14-28) in how I give. I should give in ways that honor God, further His kingdom, and make a difference.

# A GUIDE FOR FINANCIAL GIVING

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There is a pattern of giving a tithe (10%) found in the scriptures and throughout church history for even voluntary contributions, making it a principle worth considering and a possible starting point for our giving today. However, we should guard against the tithe becoming a LAW or a LID on your giving.

For some people, giving away 10% may mean they are giving generously and significantly. If you've never given before, 5% of your income would feel incredibly significant as a starting place. For others it may come when they are giving 75%. My encouragement is to keep raising the amount you give until you feel it...until it matters. Pray that God would help you know how to start and that He would give you the encouragement to trust Him in this decision.

Here is a sample of giving percentages and how you could give financially *based on \$50,000 annual income:*

	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Annually</b>
<b>5%</b>	<b>\$48</b>	<b>\$208</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>10%</b>	<b>\$96</b>	<b>\$417</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>15%</b>	<b>\$144</b>	<b>\$625</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>

# HOW TO GIVE AT LEGACY CHURCH

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***In person*** - Every Sunday, we dedicate a portion of our worship celebration to respond to God through giving. We pass plates around the room during this time so that you can make an offering.

***Church App*** - To make a one-time donation, or to set up recurring giving, our app is available for free in the App Store and Google Play as "LEGACY CHURCH PLANO TX".

***Online*** - Visit us on the web at: [www.LegacyChurch.org/give](http://www.LegacyChurch.org/give).

***Text-to-Give*** - Text "LEGACYPLANO" to 77977 for one-time or recurring gifts.



Then He said to them, “Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions.” And He told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man was very productive. And he began reasoning to himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years to come; take your ease, eat, drink and be merry.”’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night [i]your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?’ So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

(Luke 12:15-21)