

Small Group Meeting Campaigns

THE MISSING PIECE TO SPIRITUAL MATURITY: STEWARDSHIP OF MONEY

By William M. Easum

Stewardship based on **Tithing** as the missing piece.

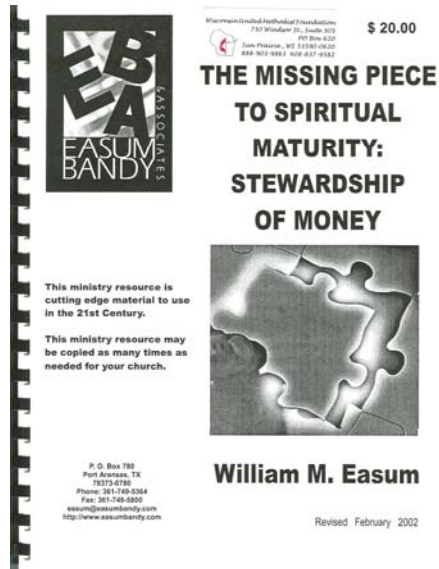
This stewardship campaign is totally centered on tithing and includes seven strategies:

1. Dividing the membership and regular attenders into small groups based on level of giving (because different groups are facing different challenges in their lives) and inviting them to house parties at the pastor's home or in members' homes.
2. Planning Consecration Sunday and a Missing Piece Banquet.
3. Preaching four sermons on stewardship beginning 4 weeks prior to Consecration Sunday.
4. Organizing a 24-hour Prayer Vigil two weeks prior to Consecration Sunday.
5. Utilizing an outline for adult church school lessons on Stewardship.
6. Printing and mailing 4 generic letters to the entire church and 1 detailed mailing to five separate groups, developing a mailing list database, and placing posters around the church.
7. Using as many people in the campaign as possible – set a goal of involving approximately ¼ of your worshipping congregation.

Newsletter articles, speakers for each worship service during the three weeks prior to Consecration Sunday, and teams of callers to contact those who do not RSVP to the house parties are some of the jobs to be delegated to members of committees.

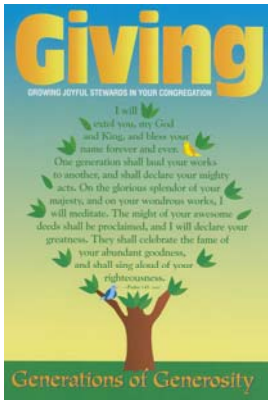
This program is available through Easum, Bandy & Associates, PO Box 780, Port Aransas, TX 78373-0780, Phone 361-749-5364 or email easum@easumbandy.com.

Cost: \$20.00 for hard copy, including copyright permission or \$12.00 to download in Adobe Acrobat format at www.easumbandy.com



In this Campaign, members are invited to move one step closer to DISCOVERING the Missing Piece to Spiritual Maturity, which is TITHING! Members are invited to house parties based on their giving:

- a. *Tithers – Goal: Ensure they continue to tithe or become double or triple tithers*
- b. *Pledgers over \$2,000 (but not recorded as tithers) – Goal: 1 in 3 moves up to a tithe*
- c. *Pledgers between \$1,000-\$1,999 – Goal: Each moves up 1% toward the tithe*
- d. *Pledgers between \$500-\$999 – Goal: Raise pledge by 25%*
- e. *Pledgers between \$0-\$499 – Goal: Raise by 50%*
- f. *Non-Pledgers – Goal: 25% to pledge*



GENERATIONS OF GENEROSITY: Telling our Story

“Giving” Magazine 2005

Generations of Generosity is a 4-5 week program built on the connection between storytelling and stewardship. People share remembrances and their hopes for the future through Conversation Groups and a Congregational Storytelling Event.

Members gather in Conversation Groups of 8-10 people once a week for three weeks. The three topics are: Generations, Generosity, and Storytelling. Guidelines are given for developing Teen Conversation groups. Some facts on how different generations respond to giving are also provided.

The congregational storytelling event revolves around food, storytelling presentations from the conversation groups, and a short summary that relates the storytelling presentations to the church’s budget. The meal can be potluck or catered. Following the Congregational Storytelling Event, members present their individual commitments for the coming year in worship. A sample commitment card is included with the program outline.

We also suggest sharing the Grow One-Step Chart and a Percentage Giving Chart at some point during this program. This program is available through the Ecumenical Stewardship Center, 1100 W. 42nd St., Suite 225, Indianapolis, IN 46208
Phone: 1-800-835-5671 or www.stewardshipresources.org

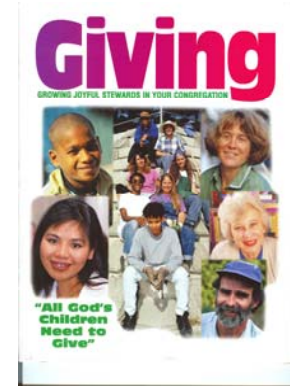
Cost: \$7.00 for a copy of the 2005 “Giving” Magazine

Letterhead and other supporting materials are available through Cokesbury. Posters, bulletin cover, bulletin inserts, letterhead, Bible bookmarks, envelopes, and Commitment cards are all available at www.cokesbury.com or by calling 1-800-672-1789.

ALL GOD’S CHILDREN NEED TO GIVE

“Giving” Magazine 1999

“Joyful Stewards Respond to God by Giving” is the theme of this stewardship education program. Members are invited to small group meetings that last 1-1/2 to 2 hours.



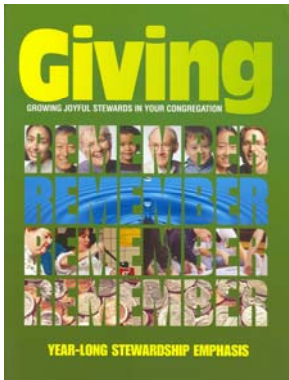
The agenda includes an opening prayer, sharing an early experience with money, a Bible Study and time of reflection on one or more stewardship principals, discussion of sample commitment cards, and a closing hymn and prayer. Commitment cards are brought to the Commitment Sunday service held on the Sunday after the small groups have met.

The program outline also includes plans for an Intergenerational Stewardship Event.

This program is available through the Ecumenical Stewardship Center, 1100 W. 42nd St., Suite 225, Indianapolis, IN 46208
Phone: 1-800-835-5671 or www.stewardshipresources.org

Cost: \$5.00 for a copy of the 1999 “Giving” Magazine
OR

\$5.00 for the Collection of all 5 models which appeared in the 1999-2003 issues of “Giving” Magazine. Each 8-page piece offers a simple model for an annual stewardship emphasis in the congregation.



REMEMBER
A Year-Long Stewardship Emphasis
“Giving” Magazine 2002

This program invites members to come together in groups, according to the anniversary of their membership in the church. After receiving a letter that specifically outlines what members have given to the church in the past year and the ways they have served over the previous year. The letter also

briefly describes the congregation’s ministries and invites them to consider their giving and involvement for the year to come.

A different letter is sent to members who could not or did not participate in the congregation’s finances. It discusses the congregation’s mission and goals and includes an invitation to become involved in the year to come.

Membership celebrations and re-consecration Sundays are held on a monthly, quarterly, or even an annual basis. Members meet in groups, according to the month of the anniversary of their membership to discuss a reconsecration of their membership vows. At the appointed time in the reconsecration Sunday service, these people stand and renew their commitments as disciples of Jesus Christ.

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Phone: 1-800-835-5671 or www.stewardshipresources.org

Cost: \$5.00 for a copy of the 2002 “Giving” Magazine
OR

\$5.00 for the Collection of all 5 models which appeared in the 1999-2003 issues of “Giving” Magazine. Each 8-page piece offers a simple model for an annual stewardship emphasis in the congregation.

CLAIM THE VISION
A House Meeting Approach to Stewardship

“Claim the Vision!” includes beautiful full-color photography of hot air balloons as the backdrop for the program.

The vision of Christ’s reconciling ministry is the focus that ties together ministry and stewardship. As members participate in this program they will come to understand Christian ministry as the basic motivation for their generosity.

Prior to Commitment Day, active members participate in small group meetings to affirm the present ministry of the congregation and to suggest new possibilities. Members are invited to express gratitude for what is, and share their vision of what might be.

A ten-week program, “Claim the Vision” invites members to read a meditation booklet and visioning process. As the next year unfolds, it will be important to keep before the congregation the new programs being implemented as a result of the ideas and funds generated through “Claim the Vision.”

Members who do not turn in their estimate of giving cards on Commitment Day will be contacted by their small group leaders.

Cost: \$49.95 Sample Packet, which includes leader’s guide and samples of all materials, plus materials, mailings, and a breakfast.

Available from CSS Publishing Co., PO Box 4503, Lima, OH 45802-4503, 1-800-537-1030 or www.stewardship@csspub.com

