

Basics of a good Stewardship Campaign

(as easy as 1, 2, 3)

1. Biblically Based:

The congregation should provide teaching and a structured program to help people live out God's plan for how we manage and give our money. Here are some foundational ideas that should undergird every stewardship appeal:

- Everything is God's, he entrusts us to manage some of it for a while
- Giving is not to pay bills, it is to show our love for God and our neighbor. It is to exercise our faith and to live out our identity as people created in the image of a generous God.
- Faithful Giving is always:
 - o Proportionate – It is a percentage of what we receive, and so the amount will be different for everyone.
 - o Planned – If we don't plan it in advance and pray about it, then our giving won't be an act of faith done out of love, but an act of obligation done out of guilt.
 - o Regular – It should happen as a part of our weekly worship life.
- Stewardship is discipleship; it is orienting our lives in God, who calls us through Jesus Christ. Stewardship is... Everything I do after I say, "I believe."

2. Well Planned:

Time should be taken to recruit a team of leaders who are themselves growing stewards and who will commit to the success of this program for the time it is offered.

- About 2 weeks of planning is required for each week of the public campaign: If there will be three weeks when the congregation is hearing about the campaign then planning should begin 5-6 weeks before the first public event or worship service.
- Have a communications plan – how will we ensure everyone knows what we are doing and why?

3. A Relational Invitation to Grow:

People should be invited to grow in their generosity, just like we invite people to grow in every other aspect of faith. The best way to invite them is in relationship – from people they know: in person, in a small group or in a gathering with a meal.

For help with your congregation's stewardship, contact Pastor Bill Tesch at:
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