



Three “Talks” On My Giving Journey

(The first two points are to be repeated several times a day to become comfortable with them and engage God via talk.)

Self-Talk: I know I can give \$X,XXX. I do not want to give what is comfortable, so I am going to give a higher amount.

God-Talk: God, if you have been listening to my monologue, you know the amount I intend to give. If it is pleasing and glorifies you, then show me a way, give me peace and let my spouse be in agreement.

Other-Talk: (e.g. to spouse): Honey, the amount I have been praying about is \$X,XXX. (It is important for the spouse at this point to just listen, not critique.)

God has given us the opportunity to communicate with those whom we love and also with Him (prayer talk). Now is a good time to make use of both. God is interested in helping us and really does desire for us to seek Him out. He will bless your giving in so many ways!

If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. James 1:5 (NIV)

“Three Sources for Creating a Generous Gift”

In the coming days, all of us will be asked to consider a special over and above gift. Perhaps these ideas will stimulate some thinking.

Rearrange Priorities in My Life – Am I planning some event / expense which I could do later after I give my over-and-above gift (three years)?

Changing My Lifestyle – Could I save money by doing something differently or give up some habit that has a cost?

Give Something of Value – What do I have besides cash, wages, savings, and investments that I could give and my ministry could convert into dollars?

Charitable Distribution Provision

A giving strategy for those who hold an individual retirement account (IRA) and are at or near the age of 70½, may utilize another source for a gift. In place of required minimum distributions, it is now legal for individuals (age 70 ½) to make gifts directly from qualified IRAs to their church. Such gifts do not increase the giver’s income, but still qualify for tax benefits. Please consult your tax adviser with questions.

