

# BEGINNING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY

## RECOGNIZE YOUR NEED TO GIVE

It is a fundamental spiritual and psychological principle that life and its gifts are to be used and shared. Life cannot be hoarded or it turns in upon itself and you lose it. “Whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it (*Matthew 16:25*). We each have a deep inherent need to give. To give is to live!

But unfortunately, instead of focusing on our own need to give, all too often we center on the need of the church to receive. The church does seek our support, but we must remember it is God’s Church, and it will prosper and flourish in God’s own good time - whether we give to it or not. The wonder of it all is what God invites us to be a part of--God’s church--and to experience the joy and blessing of generously supporting and extending its mission.

Just as a coin, Christian giving has two sides. For too long, we centered mostly on the side entitled “The Need of the Church.” We need to begin concentrating on the side headed “My Need to Give” for giving is an integral part of spiritual life and growth.

