GENERATIONS | *Making Room for Generosity*

Generosity often begins by seeing what God has already placed in our hands in a new way.

As you prayerfully consider your three-year **GENERATIONS** giving intention, you may discover opportunities to give that are not immediately obvious. A small change repeated over time can become significant. A purchase delayed, an expense reduced, or unexpected income redirected can create room for generosity without every dollar coming from your regular monthly budget.

There is no single formula and no expectation that every household will respond in the same way.

BEGIN WITH PRAYER AND ASK, "GOD, WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO?"
THEN CONSIDER THESE FOUR QUESTIONS.

1. WHAT COULD I GIVE?

Start with resources God has already placed in your hands.

In addition to regular income, consider whether there are other resources that could become part of your **GENERATIONS** giving:

- Savings you have already accumulated
- A bonus, commission, raise, or other additional income
- A tax refund
- Proceeds from selling something you no longer need
- Appreciated investments or other assets
- Resources already set aside for charitable giving
- A one-time gift combined with regular giving over three years
- Give smaller amounts more frequently to help you reach a larger goal by taking smaller steps.
- Ask your employer about a corporate-sponsored grant program that allows employees to designate a corporation's donation to a non-profit of their choice.

Your **GENERATIONS** response does not have to come from one source. For some households, combining several resources may make possible something they initially did not think they could do.

2. WHAT COULD I DECREASE?

Sometimes making room for generosity means choosing to spend a little less somewhere else.

Consider your regular expenses and ask whether there are things you could reduce for a season:

- Dining out or entertainment
- Coffee or other frequent purchases
- Vacations or recreational spending
- Subscriptions and memberships
- Shopping or discretionary spending
- Services you could reduce or perform yourself

A small monthly change can become meaningful over three years.

$25/month = $900 over three years

$50/month = $1,800 over three years

$100/month = $3,600 over three years

$250/month = $9,000 over three years

The goal isn't simply to spend less. It is to intentionally redirect something we value toward something we believe God is calling us to do.

3. WHAT COULD I DELAY?

Sacrifice does not always mean giving something up permanently. Sometimes it means choosing not yet so that we can say yes to something else.

Consider whether there is a planned purchase or project you could postpone during part or all of **GENERATIONS:**

- A vehicle purchase or upgrade
- A remodeling or home-improvement project
- A major vacation
- New furniture, electronics, or other significant purchases
- Another discretionary expense you had planned

For every household, the answer will be different. The question is simply whether delaying something today could create an opportunity to invest in ministry that will impact generations to come.

4. WHAT COULD I DO DIFFERENTLY?

Sometimes additional generosity can come from changing how we manage resources rather than simply spending less.

Consider opportunities such as:

- Redirecting a payment after a loan or other obligation is paid off
- Shopping insurance, utilities, or other recurring services for better rates
- Choosing Bill Pay from your banking institution or ACH rather than a credit card for online giving reduces processing costs incurred by the church so that more of your gift can be used to accomplish the **GENERATIONS** vision.

Look for opportunities that are realistic and sustainable for your household.

SMALL CHANGES. THREE YEARS. A LASTING IMPACT.

Generosity can grow when we begin to see everyday financial decisions through the lens of what God might do through them.

A sacrifice that seems small today can become significant when repeated over three years—and when joined with the generosity of an entire church family.

EQUAL SACRIFICE DOES NOT MEAN EQUAL GIFTS.

What represents sacrifice for one household may look very different from another. **GENERATIONS** is not about comparing amounts. It is about each of us prayerfully considering what God has entrusted to us and responding faithfully.

GENERATIONS | *My Generosity Plan*

Use this space as a starting point for prayer and conversation. These numbers are for your personal planning and do not represent your Statement of Intent.

WHAT I COULD GIVE

Savings, additional income, assets or other resources:

_____ $_____

_____ $_____

_____ $_____

GIVING FROM INCOME RESOURCES: $_____

WHAT I COULD DECREASE

Monthly expenses I could reduce:

_____ $_____ **/ month**

_____ $_____ **/ month**

_____ $_____ **/ month**

GIVING FROM MONTHLY SAVINGS: **Total Savings / month $_____ x 36 months = _____**

WHAT I COULD DELAY

Purchases or projects I could postpone:

_____ $_____

_____ $_____

_____ $_____

GIVING FROM THINGS I CAN DELAY: $_____

WHAT I COULD DO DIFFERENTLY

Other opportunities I could redirect toward GENERATIONS:

_____ $_____

_____ $_____

_____ $_____

GIVING FROM THINGS I CAN REDIRECT OR DO DIFFERENTLY: $_____

LOOKING ACROSS THREE YEARS MY POTENTIAL THREE-YEAR GENERATIONS GIVING AFTER CONSIDERING THESE FOUR QUESTIONS COULD BE $_____.

This worksheet is simply a tool to help you explore possibilities. Your GENERATIONS Statement of Intent should come after prayer, conversation, and consideration of what God is leading you to do.

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21