

# GIVING *Journey*

This tool is designed to help you move money from being an idol to money being a tool for God's Kingdom. The journey focuses on the condition of our hearts further transforming us into the likeness of Christ.

Each step of the journey represents growth in a lifestyle of generosity and sacrifice.

**INITIAL GIVER**  
Partnership in the gospel.  
*Philippians 1:5-6*

An **INITIAL GIVER** is someone who decides to give for the first time, out of a response to God's Word about giving. This is someone who decides to give something and trust God and the leaders of the church with this gift.

**QUESTION TO ASK:** God, do I trust You as my Provider? Show me how to demonstrate to You my trust in You by starting somewhere and beginning to give.

**CONSISTENT GIVER**  
Since you have excelled, excel here too.  
*2 Corinthians 8:7*

A **CONSISTENT GIVER** is someone who decides to give something and to give it on a consistent basis to exercise the discipline of giving. Often, someone who decides to make their gift an online recurring gift will be someone who is learning the behavior of consistency. Non-online givers can be consistent givers as well of course; it just requires more discipline.

**QUESTION TO ASK:** The apostle Paul says we should excel in this grace of giving. God, am I giving on a consistent basis that shows my desire to excel in this area of discipleship? Show me how to become more consistent and disciplined in my giving.

**INTENTIONAL GIVER**  
Making your giving purposeful/planning.  
*Luke 14:28-30*

An **INTENTIONAL GIVER** is someone who thinks about their giving in relation to their other financial priorities. This giver starts to make their giving an intentional choice that reflects how they prioritize it in relation to other things on which they spend their money.

**QUESTION TO ASK:** Does the relation of my giving to my other financial priorities accurately reflect how I feel about God? Or do some changes need to be made? God, show me what it looks like to truly recognize You are one and that I should give in such a way that puts You first.

**SURRENDERED GIVER**  
Jesus went first and gave it all, so we surrender our lives to him.  
*Colossians 1:15-20*

A **SURRENDERED GIVER** is someone who recognizes the power of the gospel and is surrendered to honoring God with 100% of their resources as a result. A Surrendered Giver is someone who gives in a way that changes them, in a way that reflects that their giving is governing their spending/saving rather than their spending/saving governing their giving. A Surrendered Giver isn't just concerned with what they ARE giving, but is more concerned with what they're NOT giving and why, and they seek to honor God with ALL He has given them, whether that means direct monetary giving or a God-honoring use of an existing resource.

**QUESTION TO ASK:** God, what am I NOT giving and why? Am I truly honoring You with 100% of what You have given me, not just a portion? God, show me what it looks like to honor You with all of my heart, soul and might.

**ETERNAL GIVER**  
Our hope is not in earthly things, but eternal things.  
*1 Timothy 6:6-19*

An **ETERNAL GIVER** is someone who is thinking about the longer tail of generosity rather than just the shorter term of month-to-month generosity or even year-to-year. An Eternal Giver makes decisions in the short term that have longer term effects as it relates to their generosity capacity. They think of what home they buy, what car they purchase, how much savings they choose to keep, all in relation to their generosity capacity. An Eternal Giver is driven by the things of eternity, putting their hope in God and not in the things of this Earth.

**QUESTION TO ASK:** God, do I make large resource decisions in light of eternity or in light of my time here on Earth? God, show me how to better recognize that You are one and all things are submissive to You and driven by my love and devotion for You — not for the purposes of merely this moment, but for the purposes of eternity.