



GIVING AT ANCHOR





WHY DO WE GIVE?

WE GIVE BECAUSE IT'S ALL HIS ANYWAY! GOD OWNS THE UNIVERSE AND EVERYTHING IN IT. EVERYTHING WE HAVE HAS BEEN GIVEN TO US BY GOD, AND WE ARE CALLED TO BE GOOD STEWARDS OF WHAT HE HAS GIVEN US FOR HIS GLORY.

But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.

1 CHRONICLES 29:14

WORSHIP

Giving is a spiritual act of WORSHIP that is the joy and privilege of every believer. Giving should not be seen as a duty or an obligation, but as the overflow of a heart that loves God. It is always in response to the lavish generosity of God in the gospel, that God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son Jesus who laid down His life for our salvation. Our culture worships money as a god. We worship God with our money. This is a radical, countercultural attitude towards money.

CALLING

The Bible teaches that God has CALLED every believer to give regularly, generously, cheerfully, and in proportion to what they have been given. This sacrificial kind of giving only makes sense in light of the sacrifice Jesus made for us on the cross. When we seek first God's kingdom with our finances it grows our faith, trusting that God will provide for our needs (Matt 6:25–34, Phil 4:19). As we invest in God's kingdom work, we are storing up treasures in heaven and participating in what the Lord is doing on the earth now (2 Cor 9:7, Matt 6:20, Prov 3:9).

PARTNERSHIP

Paul considers the financial generosity of the Philippian church a PARTNERSHIP in the gospel (Philippians 4:15). Anchor's vision is to see a city-wide gospel awakening in Sydney. We invite those who call Anchor home to partner with us in this mission. Your generosity plays a significant part in seeing this vision become reality.

HOW MUCH SHOULD I GIVE?

MANY PEOPLE USE THE OLD TESTAMENT PRACTICE OF TITHING AS A GUIDE FOR THEIR GIVING. IS THIS A GOOD GUIDE FOR NEW TESTAMENT BELIEVERS?

The word tithe simply means ‘one-tenth part’. Under the Law of Moses, the Israelites were required to give a tithe of their possessions and produce to the Lord. An additional tithe was also given once every three years to support the poor. Then there were voluntary free will offerings given above and beyond their normal tithes.

When it comes to the New Testament’s teaching on giving, tithing is never mentioned as a requirement for the people of God. Jesus does, however, speak a lot about money. He calls us to make an eternal investment in the kingdom of God (Matt 6:19-21), worship Him not money (Matt 6:24), and to seek first His kingdom by putting first things first; trusting Him to provide for our needs (Matt 6:25-33).

Concerning giving, Paul wrote, “whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his

heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.” (2 Cor 9:6-8)

When deciding how much to give, each person should consider a number of important factors, including providing for family and paying off debts. The New Testament never puts a percentage figure on our giving, but it does call us to give sacrificially and generously. For one person, 10% may be incredibly sacrificial and generous, and for another it may not. Each of us should prayerfully consider how we can be both generous and sacrificial in our giving towards the work of the kingdom.

Our attitude should not be ‘How little can I give?’, but ‘How can I excel in the grace of giving?’ (2 Cor 8:7). Generosity is one of the best ways to fight greed (1 Tim 6:6-10).



WHAT SHOULD BE THE MARKS OF OUR GIVING?

SINCE WE ARE NOT LONGER UNDER THE LAW, WE GIVE, NOT BECAUSE WE HAVE TO, BUT IN RESPONSE TO THE GRACE THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US.

In 2 Corinthians 8, Paul commends the believers in Macedonia for their sacrificial generosity, and identifies some of the qualities of their giving.

GENEROUS

In a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:2

GOD-DIRECTED

They gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:5

JOYFUL

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7

LOVE-MOTIVATED

I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:8

WILFUL

For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:3

OVERFLOWING

But as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you - see that you excel in this act of grace also.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:7

Our prayer is that these characteristics would mark our giving, that we would excel in the grace of giving (2 Cor 8:7)

HOW CAN I GIVE TO ANCHOR?



1. CASH GIVING

via our giving containers
at a Sunday gathering



2. CREDIT CARD

online OR by visiting the
Connect Desk



3. DIRECT DEPOSIT



4. PUSHPAY

(Smart Phone app)

DIRECT DEPOSIT DETAILS

ACCOUNT NAME

Anchor Church
Sydney Incorporated

BSB

062 264

ACCOUNT NUMBER

1028 5071

ONE-OFF OR REGULAR?

THIS IS A MATTER OF FREEDOM, OF COURSE, BUT THERE ARE SOME GOOD REASONS WHY YOU MIGHT CONSIDER REGULAR GIVING.

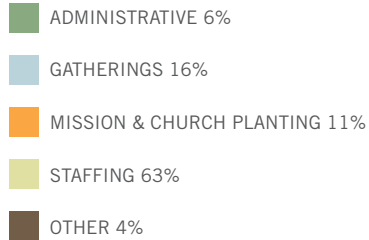
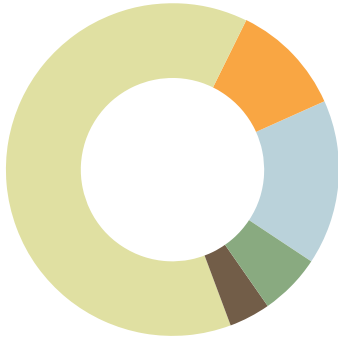
Regular giving helps the finance team to better manage cash flow. At the end of each calendar year we ask the Anchor Family to complete a pledge form to help us budget effectively for the following year. This allows us to be the best possible stewards of the resources entrusted to us.

One-off donations are still helpful, but harder to predict, as a result, make planning our cash flow more difficult.

IS GIVING TAX DEDUCTIBLE?

No. Whilst the Australian Taxation Office provides church groups like Anchor with a number of helpful benefits, tax deductibility (Deductible Gift Recipient) status is not one of them. This is the same for any religious organisation in Australia.

HOW IS MY CONTRIBUTION USED?*



*Figures from Aug. 2015

ANCHOR'S COMMITMENT

ANCHOR CHURCH SYDNEY IS COMMITTED TO BEING ABOVE REPROACH IN OUR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT.

We maintain an open-book policy and strive to uphold the core values of transparency, integrity, and accountability with our finances. As an incorporated association we are required to comply with the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and as a registered charity we are required to comply with reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC). We also

have ongoing reporting requirements with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and NSW Fair Trading.





We hope this information is helpful and inspires you to join us in the grace of giving. Please let us know if you have any questions by emailing finance@anchorchurch.com.au

Thank you for partnering with us!



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C H U R C H
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