

## Setting a Personal Financial Stewardship Goal

By Terry Johnson to  
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*“And God is able to provide you with every blessing  
in abundance, so that by always having enough of  
everything, you may share abundantly in every good work!”*  
– 2 Cor. 9:8

Campbell UMC has been blessed with generous givers, and that was proven by the large amount of funds that was given in December. For this we thank you for giving from the abundance that God has given you.

Last time I shared “Five Reasons for Tithing.” Tithing was part of the life of the Israelites when they moved into the Promised Land. The Levites were to receive a tithe (10%) from the bounty of the land to take care of the tabernacle and priestly duties, including care for widows and orphans. That was a goal. What is your goal in caring for the ministry and mission of our church?

Setting new goals for giving is not easy to do. Because of fear, many people do not increase their giving. Their fear may come from feeling that they won’t have enough to go around – but God has promised us that we will have enough! To reach a new goal, pray and give thanks for the blessings God has given you.

One way to approach a giving goal is to give **in proportion** to the way you have been blessed. For some people a tithe isn’t enough because of the manner in which they have been blessed in life. They might end up giving 12, 18, or 20% to charitable causes, including their church. What a fun way to use one’s abundance!

Let’s talk about setting your goal. Do you have a financial stewardship goal? Are you growing your giving forward? Do you want to experience the joy and blessing of generosity? Set your personal goal to increase your giving by 1%, 2%, 3% or 5% or whatever fits your financial situation. You might not be able to reach your goal in a single year. That’s no problem. Give from your abundance.

The Apostle Paul put it like this:

*“The point is this: they who sow sparingly will reap sparingly, and they who sow bountifully will reap bountifully. Each of you must do as you made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work”*  
– 2 Cor. 9:6-8

**That’s a promise!**