

Not Equal Gifts, but Equal Sacrifice

You may hear the phrase “*Not equal gifts, but equal sacrifice*” used in our ***Break the Bonds - Imagine the Possibilities*** Debt Reduction Campaign, but what does this mean? The first part of the phrase means that there will be various dollar amounts dedicated through our campaign; however, no comparisons will be made among what each of us is willing to give for our church. But what about “sacrifice”? Sacrificial giving is the act of making sacred – or setting apart – our financial resources for God. It means to dedicate that which is precious to us for that which we value deeply—the future of our church and its ministries.

The Scriptures make it clear that God measures our gifts not in relationship to others, but in relationship to the degree of individual sacrifice based on how one has been blessed. St. Paul said, “*For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has.*” (2 Corinthians 8:12). And Jesus said, “*From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required.*” (Luke 12:48).

As a church, we are called to pray in these crucial weeks of stewardship emphasis. Each of us must seek God’s guiding, confident that God will lead us in discerning how we can give sacrificially. As you make your commitments to both the annual ministry program of our church (your “regular offering”), as well as to our capital building fund through the ***Break the Bonds - Imagine the Possibilities*** Campaign, give thanks, for, as St. Paul said, “*You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God!*” (2 Corinthians 9:11)

ANNUAL INCOME	Approximate <u>Monthly</u> Commitment Proportionate to Income			
	15%	10%	7%	6%
300,000	3,750.00	2,500.00	1,750.00	1,500.00
250,000	3,125.00	2,084.00	1,460.00	1,250.00
200,000	2,500.00	1,668.00	1,168.00	1,000.00
150,000	1,875.00	1,250.00	875.00	750.00
125,000	1,565.00	1,040.00	730.00	625.00
110,000	1,375.00	920.00	642.00	550.00
90,000	1,125.00	750.00	525.00	450.00
75,000	940.00	625.00	440.00	375.00
60,000	750.00	500.00	350.00	300.00
50,000	630.00	420.00	300.00	250.00
45,000	565.00	380.00	270.00	225.00
40,000	500.00	340.00	240.00	200.00
35,000	440.00	295.00	205.00	175.00
30,000	375.00	250.00	175.00	150.00
25,000	315.00	210.00	150.00	125.00
20,000	250.00	167.00	117.00	100.00