

During this series...

- Pray for God to prepare you to practice your faith.
- Worship at our services each week, online or in-person, and worship daily by reading the devotions.
- Connect with others in a small group, generously sharing yourself with the group.
- Seek opportunities to respond in service.
- Complete your 2023 Estimate of Giving card by mailing it back to us or by filling it out online at www.AnkenyFirst.org/give.htm as one way to practice your faith.

Preparing to Practice Faith

- Read the daily devotional written by Ankeny First members and pray for God's guidance in your personal finances.
- Reflect on the understanding that stewardship is following Jesus.
- Between now and the end of January, examine your personal giving and how it reflects your commitment to Christ.
- Decide what percentage of your income to give consistently.



Use your smart phone to capture this QR Code to find campaign resources.

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2023 Generosity Campaign

God, let your light shine through me so that others can know you.





WHY Talk about Money

It's a Spiritual Issue

Stewardship is directly linked to our practice of faith. How we use our resources is primarily a spiritual issue, not a financial one. The quality of that decision is determined by the spiritual condition of our hearts, which is shaped by practicing the Method.

Jesus Talked About It

Jesus spoke openly about money and possessions. About two-thirds of the parables and about one in every ten verses in the Gospels address this very issue. As followers of Jesus, we should not be reluctant to talk about giving as an outward expression of our love for Christ.

It's Not About the Budget

In stewardship campaigns, it can be tempting to approach the financial needs of the church as if we were simply funding the budget. In "Practice," we acknowledge that living generously is an inseparable part of our following Christ, a part that makes following Jesus even more exciting. God does not need our money; rather, we need to give it as an act of gratitude and trust.

It's About Trust

As we learn to trust God more fully and follow Christ's teaching more faithfully, we learn to depend less on ourselves and more on God, finding the courage to transform the theory of our faith into tangible action.

WHY move along The Giving Path?

It is God's intention that we grow more generous and take bigger steps in our giving as we become more aware of how richly God has blessed us in Christ.

The Giving Path

As we practice our faith, we grow stronger in our connection to Jesus and our trust for God grows. Jesus said that "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Steps along the Giving Path:

First Time Giver

- Begin to give a specific amount.

Intentional Giver

- Give a planned percentage of income.

Growing Giver

- Increase the percentage of income given.

Tithing Giver

- Give 10% of income.

Extravagant Giver

- Give beyond the tithe (10+% of income).

The Practice Goal

Stewardship is not our way of raising a budget. It is God's way of raising disciples.

Practice is an opportunity to discover the joy of growing in your relationship with God as you experience living generously.

1 Peter 1:13

Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed.