

## AN INCONVENIENT GIFT

Why do you give? Do you give because your church needs the money? Do you give because you want to support a particular program or activity in your church? Or do you give as an act of worship?

People give or don't give to their church for many different reasons, and there are several kinds of givers. Which one best describes you?

- Lamenting givers give out of guilt or obligation
- Legalist givers give the tithe and judge those who do not
- Latent givers have great undeveloped potential
- Lazy givers give when they get around to it and usually don't
- Leftover givers give to God from the leftovers
- Logical givers give to get prosperity
- Lavish givers often give big amounts for recognition
- Loving givers give from their hearts out of God's abundant blessings



John 3:16 clearly shows that God gave Jesus Christ out of God's deep love for each of us. Was it convenient for God to send Jesus to die for our sins? I think not! Think about the love,

the sacrifice, the generous inconvenient gift God gave us in Jesus Christ. Then think about your giving.

Do you give only when it is convenient, or do you give generously and consistently? Do you give as an act of joyous worship and thanksgiving or only when you have the urge? Do you give your first fruits to God, or does God get only what is left over?

Each of us has been blessed with abundance from God. Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians 9:11 that we have all been blessed by God with enough to be generous on every opportunity we have to give.

We should give freely even when it may be inconvenient because of God's generosity to us. We can only stop giving when our eternal God stops giving to us. Truth be told, our giving is a true reflection of our relationship with God.

> Nurturing generous disciples to serve as the hands and feet of Christ



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