

Why Be Generous?

If you struggle to be generous, you're not alone. Here are some things we want you to know and remember:

- We give because God is so good—He is generous to us, so we are firstly to be generous for his sake.
- We give because the mission is so big—we give for the sake of others.
- We give because greed pierces us (1 Tim. 6:9-10) while generosity blesses us (Acts 20:35)—we give for our own sakes.

How Should We Be Generous?

Cheerfully

Giving should be a cheerful act of worship, not a compulsory chore (2 Cor 9:7).

Sacrificially

In keeping with the Old Testament concept of firstfruits, we should give out of our best. If it isn't pinching us, it's probably not a sacrifice.

Responsibly

As stewards, we should pay careful attention to the resources we have been given to oversee. Giving should be thoughtfully and prayerfully done, not haphazardly, lazily, or inconsistently.

Tips on How to maintain Cheerful, Sacrificial and Responsible giving habits

Create and maintain a budget. Keeping track of your resources is the first step in managing them well, enabling proactive, proportional, and responsible giving. [There are plenty of software tools that can help you here.](#) Or talk to a friend about how they do it. Finances are often private, but we would encourage you to ask for help if you need it—budgeting is a skill some people have naturally, and others don't.

Set up automatic drafts with non-profits you support. Whether you give to One Harbor or another ministry, an automatic draft is helpful if you tend to forget. Note that giving is supposed to be worshipful, so still be mindful of those dollars when reviewing your budget!

Get out of consumer debt! Though this did not come up in the sermon, the reality is that unhealthy debt levels are sabotaging too many Americans. Consider taking a personal finance course to help you get out of debt.