



Living Passionately, Deeper Spiritually, Generous Community

May 2009

Giving at The Journey

When someone is baptised and/or calls The Journey "home" they make promises. These promises aren't like a contract that we sign. That would be law. These promises are rather love responses to God's grace in Jesus and his people to offer what we can in Christ for the benefit of God's kingdom. They are as follows:

Christian Faith: In response to God's kindness in Jesus Christ:

Do you turn away from all sin and turn to Jesus?

Do you trust God as Father, Jesus as Saviour and Lord and the Holy Spirit as Counsellor and Guide from this day on?

Journey Family Membership: In response to God's grace:

Do you commit daily to walk with Jesus, to pray and read his Word?

Will you worship God and serve as part of The Journey with your time, gifts and money?

Will you serve God alone and be part of Jesus' ministry to the whole world?

Will you support all of Christ's people, the leaders and vision and refuse to gossip but rather pray?

These responses to God's grace show how our faith, time, finance, gifts, words and relationships are all gathered together in our allegiance and life in Jesus Christ. We regularly preach and teach on many of these aspects of the Christian life. This page is dedicated to what we believe about faith and financial giving.

Giving has a spiritual basis

We believe that everything we have belongs to God. Psalm 24:1 says "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it." Our first place of decision making is response to Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

Giving is a spiritual matter between each person and the Lord to bless the community

2 Cor 9:7 makes it clear that each person is called to simply give what God has placed in their heart to give.

Malachi 3:10 encourages us to bring a tithe [10%] to God of all he has given us. The New Testament and Old Testament call followers of the Lord to regularly give of our time, talents and finances for his kingdom purposes.

Giving is a practical and necessary way the Journey ministry is resourced.



Question: How much ministry can you do for \$100? Answer: \$100 of ministry.

Each ministry will cost someone in time, finance and gifting. The Uniting Church Foundation has been a source of significant ministry resource for The Journey over the last several years. We actively seek other grants from Government and Community sources. There are some costs involved in some ministry programs which are paid for by participants.

However we believe the primary source of funding for God's mission through the Journey must come from the regular giving of people who call The Journey their home.

Some commonly asked questions:

I give to a number of charities, why should the church get any?

If the Journey is your home then we would encourage you to honour your home by supporting the local church and the many community and global ministries we support. We would also encourage you to consider what you might give to other causes as well.

How much do we pay our pastors and staff?

Based on the information we have received The Journey Christian Church budget is within established Uniting Church recommendations for wages and ministry. This decision is made by the Elders in consultation with our management team and the synod.

Our finances are subject to external audit.

Why don't we just stop talking about money and get on with ministry?

The bible talks about ministry, money, sex, food and relationships. Money and the state of our heart are closely linked. Money and ministry are closely linked. It would be unbiblical not to talk about money.

What if we just didn't pay anyone and just did ministry for free?

Ministry is freely given but it always costs in time and money. God's people have always set certain people aside and resourced their time financially to enable them to participate in certain forms of ministry. Many of our volunteers can only volunteer because they or someone else resources them in time or finance.

Do you tithe before or after tax?

That is between you and God.

My husband/wife is not a follower of Jesus and is opposed to us giving finance to the church - what should I do?

Our advice would be to not give financially if that will cause tension in your relationship. Share openly, pray for them and leave it up to them without any pressure.

What about credit card giving?

Please only give by credit card if you consistently reconcile your card each month. If you have problems in this area we have confidential opportunity for you to get help with your budgeting.



We are in chronic debt and don't know what to do.

Our advice would be to get help to develop a disciplined plan to move you out of debt and into a consolidated position. This is the best gift you can give to the Lord and your family. The Journey has people who can confidentially help you do this.

Isn't giving by cash more spiritual?

No. How you give is between you and God.

Can I give by internet?

Yes you can and it can be by automatic deduction. This is practically a preferred option. It is very secure and confidential. You can give your details confidentially and it will be processed for you. Our Credit Union Account No is: BSB 805 007 Account No 103023

Can I give weekly by cash or cheque with an envelope provided?

Yes you can. You can collect multiple envelopes from the office.

How do I know where the money goes?

A full financial report is available anytime from the office. It is reconciled monthly and is subject to external auditing. Our management team has people with extensive background in banking and accountancy and business. Final financial decisions are made by people who are independent financially from The Journey. You can direct any questions to Neville Atkinson or any of the team members through the office.

Is it confidential?

Any information given is subject to the privacy act. Any correspondence with our treasurer is completely confidential. It is not necessary to put your name to any financial giving.

