

INCREASING OUR IMPACT THROUGH GENEROSITY DISCUSSION GUIDE

DEALING WITH THE PRESENT REALITY:

1. Even though some church giving is down in recent months, the webinar stated that the church, in comparison to other charities, has been the least affected. Why do you think this is the case?
2. 55% of MB churches reported no change in giving, or even an increase in giving, in the past several months. 45% report a decrease, and of that amount, 18% indicated a decrease of 20% or more.
 - a. With that in mind, what financial changes have you observed in your church over the past several months?
 - b. If cuts have taken place, how have they been made, and what has been the impact of these cuts?

INCREASING OUR IMPACT AS A CHURCH THROUGH GENEROSITY:

1. Generous churches are led by generous leaders. What are ways you as a leader can help cultivate an environment of generosity that will encourage a church family to be generous? What have been some examples of generous leaders who have encouraged you?
2. One of the attributes of a generous church is having a strong vision of why a church exists and communicating that vision.
 - a. What are some key components of your church's vision and how clearly can your church family articulate the vision?
 - b. How have these components been communicated to, or lived out by, your congregation in the past couple of months?
 - c. In what innovative ways might you use your church's vision to encourage generosity in the future?
3. Generosity needs to be seen as an act of worship. It is a mindset that connects God's grace with our response to give. Is this the understanding of your congregation? If not, what steps can you take to cultivate this understanding?
4. One of the ways a church can steward their resources and have a continual impact during a crisis is to establish a reserve. A recommendation is to have 6 weeks to 3 months of reserves. What are your thoughts on this concept? Is this an area your church needs to develop, and if so, what would be some steps to take in this direction?
5. Share any other observations that impacted you from this webinar. What are you are currently processing, when it comes to generosity?
6. Spend some time in prayer and ask God to reveal ways you can grow in your generosity as a leader. Pray also that God would identify areas that need to be adjusted in your congregation so that even during times of crisis and challenge, people would have a generous heart and live with an open hand.