



## *True Riches eNewsletter*

"So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?" Luke 16: 11

December, 2005

### ***The Second Question***

When we pass away, or when the world ends (whichever comes first), we will all stand in front of our Creator and respond to the question, "What did you do with my Son, Jesus?". The answer to that question results in either an eternity in heaven or an eternity in hell. If our response is, "I trusted in Jesus alone for salvation and accepted the gift of eternal life through His work on the cross", then our home is in heaven for eternity.

Assuming we are still in the presence of God after the first question, we will be asked a second question, "What did you do with the talents and resources I entrusted you?" In the parable of the talents, the good steward received a "Well done, good and faithful servant!", when he reported how well he did with what the Master had entrusted him. God also rewarded him in eternity for his good stewardship, "I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!" You can read the parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30 (the verses immediately following, Matthew 25:31-46, are also very interesting and relevant to our discussion!)

Whereas the answer to the first question determines where you spend eternity, the answer to the second question leads to either regret or reward. It is our passionate desire that when you face your Creator, you do not regret how you used your time, talent or finances during your life. CLF is a ministry involved in what I like to call the "second evangelism" - after one has become a Christian, teaching about proper stewardship of everything entrusted to you by God.

CLF's ministry is all about helping Christians be better stewards and build more treasure for themselves in heaven (Matthew 6:19-21). Live generously, financially and otherwise, so that God will be pleased and you will have mountains of treasure waiting for you in heaven. If you need help figuring out how, call us!

p.s. The best, shortest guide to biblical stewardship I've ever heard is from John Wesley - "Earn all you can, save all you can, give all you can."



### ***Funding and Strengthening Tampa Bay's Christian Community***

The Christian Legacy Foundation (CLF) exists to enable faithful stewards to give wisely to further the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Open your Giving Fund today, or learn more about our innovative giving solutions, tools and resources at [www.clfinc.org](http://www.clfinc.org)

1408 N. Westshore Blvd.  
Suite 504  
PO Box 22774  
Tampa, Florida 33622-2774

(813) 274-4909 voice  
(813) 274-4913 fax  
[bob.collins@clfinc.org](mailto:bob.collins@clfinc.org)

## ***A Solution for Getting Year-end Charitable Deductions***

As we approach the end of 2005, many of us are realizing that we would like to give more to meet our charitable goals. Others are expecting bonuses or other financial events close to year end. How do we conveniently make a tax-deductible contribution in this year but avoid an uncomfortable rush to find wise giving opportunities?

One solution is CLF's Giving Fund (donor advised fund). This is like creating your own family foundation.

A Giving Fund provides an immediate tax benefit for your gift and gives you time to decide which causes to support. You give to your Giving Fund, and then you recommend grants from that fund over time. You can take months – even years – to decide which causes to support.

Depending on the size of your Fund balance, your gift has the potential to grow tax-free through one of our investment portfolios. [READ MORE](#)

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### *Featured Article*

#### ***Giving Back to God: The Heart of Worship***

*Rick Warren, Baptist Press*

"Every Sunday each of you must put aside some money, in proportion to what you have earned" (1 Corinthians 16:2, TEV).

It may surprise you to learn that Jesus taught more about money and possessions than He did about heaven or hell. The word "give" is used more than 1,500 times in the Bible, more than the words faith, hope, love or pray.

Why? Obviously, God doesn't need our money. He's not poor. But God does want us to become like Him and that will only happen if we learn to be generous. God is a giver -- the most generous giver in the universe. Everything you have is a gift from God!

In many churches, the giving of offerings is the low point of the service ... [READ MORE](#)

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#### ***Christian Legacy Foundation IS Christian Estate Planning and Design!***

Did you know you that CLF has developed a uniquely Christian approach to estate planning and estate design? If you would like to hear our ideas or if you would like a free second opinion on your current estate plan, please contact us. You may find a new, creative way to support your church and favorite ministries! Find out how a Giving Fund can be powerful and flexible part of your estate plan by downloading [Testamentary Giving](#) from our website.

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### ***INNOVATIVE GIVING THROUGH CLF***

Did you know you can give. . .