



## 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 2006

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#### Finishing 2006 Well

It's the time of year when we all need to finish our planned giving strategy for the year, meet with advisors to evaluate the best way to be a good steward of our resources and evaluate our tax situation. We have two great ideas for you: First, a Giving Fund is a perfect vehicle for making those year end contributions. When you use your Giving Fund, you can give as much as you want or need to in order to accomplish your planning objectives now and then take as much time as you need in deciding which worthy charity to make donations, too. With a giving fund, these two decisions are no longer dependent upon each other!

Second, we have a unique opportunity for this year's giving. The Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA06) has provided a new but temporary gifting strategy for 2006 and 2007 only: the charitable IRA rollover. For those 70 1/2 and older, up to \$100,000 can be contributed to charity and the IRA owner will recognize no income. This can be particularly important since there are required minimum distributions starting at this age. Many IRA owners in this age range do not need or want the extra taxable income.

If you would like more information or help with these strategies, give Bob Collins a call at (813)567-1499 or email him at [Bob.Collins@clfinc.org](mailto:Bob.Collins@clfinc.org).

#### Giving It Away - *SmartMoney.com*

If you think of yourself as financially generous, you probably are, particularly if you're part of the growing



#### ***Helping People Achieve Lives of Stewardship Excellence Before God***

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

CLF is the Tampa Bay area affiliate of the National Christian Foundation.

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

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Did you know you can  
give ...

number of Americans whose investable net worth is anywhere from \$100,000 to \$3 million — the so-called mass affluent... While many people make charitable donations their whole lives, they give the most money away in the decade or so before they retire ... [Read more](#)

### **Local Ministry Events**

#### **Abe Brown Ministries needs your help!**

They have been awarded a matching grant up to \$10,000 but in order to get the full amount they need new donations between now and May 30, 2007. For more details contact Robert Blount at Abe Brown Ministries [robert.blount@abebrown.org](mailto:robert.blount@abebrown.org)

**Dec 16 - Somebody Cares Tampa Bay** Holiday of Hope for foster children. For more information visit [www.sctb.org](http://www.sctb.org)

**Jan 26, 2007 - Somebody Cares Tampa Bay Annual Compassion Banquet**

**Feb 13, 2007 - The Ultimate Gift Private Premier & Reception** - Mark the date! More information coming soon!

**Feb 26, 2007 - Tampa Bay Festival Business & Civic Leaders Luncheon with Luis Palau** (Sponsor a table by [clicking here.](#) )

**Feb 27, 2007 - Ladies Luncheon** with Luis Palau Festival. Call the Festival office for information at 813-579-1560.

**Mar 3 - 4, 2007 - Tampa Bay Festival with Luis Palau** at Raymond James Stadium. [Read more by clicking here.](#)

**Apr 19 - 21, 2007 - Generous Giving Conference** in Dallas, TX. For more information or to register visit [www.generousgiving.org](http://www.generousgiving.org)

If your ministry event isn't listed, let us know by [emailing Angie](#). We'd like to include all our ministry partners' events.

### **Do I Have An Obligation to Help the Poor?**

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Yes, though not in the way we might think. In God's economy, serving those in need is serving God himself, and failing to serve those in need is failing to serve him (Matthew 25:31-46). The Bible says, "Owe no debt to others except love" (Romans 13:8), and Jesus teaches that loving others means caring for them in the same way we

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would want to be loved. How then would we want to be cared for if we were poor and needy while others were rich? Clearly, we would want help getting our basic needs met when disaster strikes—war, natural disaster, job loss, illness, crippling government or corporate corruption, theft, struggles arising from systemic poverty and social degradation, lack of education and family support as with orphans, or any one of a number of problems. If we need a vivid example, Jesus provides an illustration in the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:28-37), where we see a complete stranger providing for the needs of another person in a dangerous place; should we Christians not do the same? In short, providing care for the physically and emotionally wounded; being a parent to an orphan or unwanted child; providing job training and economic empowerment; and providing emergency relief after famine, war, disease and natural disasters are all possible aspects of the Christian's debt of love. That is what we owe the poor—especially those who are our brothers and sisters, called by Jesus' name (Galatians 6:10). Not only this, but we also have an obligation to live together with the poor in fellowship for Jesus' sake (Luke 14:12-14 and 1 Corinthians 11:17-34). Of course, we should not help people indiscriminately in ways that encourage them to ignore their own responsibilities (see 1 Timothy 5:3-16).

For Generous Giving's complete list of Questions about Prosperity and Poverty visit [Generous Giving's](#) FAQ page on what the Bible teaches about giving and click on the Prosperity and Poverty link.

### Recommended Reading



***Investing in God's Business***, by NCF's Terry Parker, Greg Sperry, and David Wills

Will you be giving your family a "taxable estate"? Are you planning to sell real estate or a business? Are you planning to give money to charities at death? Do you have more than enough income to support your lifestyle? If you answered "yes" to any of these Five Triggers of Giving Opportunity, then *Investing in God's Business: The "How To" of Smart Christian Giving* could radically alter how you look at charitable giving. Written by NCF's staff attorneys, this book explains these Five Triggers and walks through creative ways to "invest" more of your gifts in Kingdom-building projects, rather than "investing" in the government in taxes. Call CLF at 813.567.1499 for a free copy.

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phone: (813) 567-1499

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## CLF IS Christian Estate Planning and Design

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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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