



True Riches eNewsletter

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

April 2007

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What's Our Motto?

Helping People Achieve Lives of Stewardship Excellence Before God

It's a catchy mission statement, but have you stopped to think about, what does it really mean? Helping people achieve lives of stewardship excellence before God?

First and foremost, our focus at Christian Legacy Foundation is to help people grow in Christ. Our mission is to grow Christians from "tithers" (and if they aren't tithing, to start there!) to genuine stewards and generous givers.

What is a generous giver? They are people that have come to understand that every financial decision should be captive and that charitable giving decisions are eternal investment decisions (Matthew 6: 19-21). As we make these decisions, we want to give serious thought to Biblical direction and the leading of the Holy Spirit in our lives. God says, "from everyone who has been given much, much will be required; and to who they entrusted much, of him they will ask all the more" (Luke 12: 48) Thus as our ability to give increases, our consideration of where we give must be given increased attention.

Stewardship is a lifestyle based on the biblical belief that God is the rightful owner of everything (Psalm 24: 1) and that we are stewards or caretakers of his world, responsible to do with it what he wants done. (excerpted from GenerousGiving.org) Financial blessings bring with them a deeper stewardship calling that God expects them to fulfill. Inviting givers to prioritize God as #1 in their



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

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Come to our Big Event!

Ray Lyne gives his "Hugs From The Father" talk on April 24th.

lives by investing their treasure in the Kingdom is our specific calling.

The Bible teaches that there is a general connection between faithfulness to God and prosperity in this life (Proverbs 12:21), but not a one-to-one correspondence (Psalm 73:1-14). In addition, there is a special connection between generosity and prosperity (2 Corinthians 9:6) which exists for the particular purpose of further generosity (2 Corinthians 9:11). To those who give generously, God gives more. But what he gives is seed, which is meant to be re-sown. (excerpted from GenerousGiving.org) We aim to assist givers in deciding how and where to re-sow that seed and to re-sow more of it through strategic giving.

With the spiritual issues addressed, we turn our focus to the technical aspects of how to give away significant resources and be a good steward of that calling. CLF helps givers in this area by showing them ways to donate more of their assets to charity and pay less in taxes, by helping them fund their charitable goals with practically any asset that's been entrusted to them, not just cash, and by helping to balance givers' charitable activities with income needs and estate-planning goals through charitable trusts and charitable gift annuities. We will even work with their professional advisors to match the right solution with their life needs.

Our life's work is to help each and every giver hear Christ say to them, "Well done, good and faithful servant." That is stewardship excellence!

Choose Life Joins Forces With CLF to Save More Lives



Choose Life, Inc. and the Christian Legacy Foundation have established the Choose Life Foundation. The Christian Legacy Foundation is providing administration services, accepting cash and non-cash gifts, and offering estate design and other consultative services to Choose Life's foundation and its donors.

The Choose Life Foundation was created to support the ongoing mission of the organization, which exists to facilitate and encourage adoption as a positive choice for women with unplanned pregnancies. Choose Life's main focus is its specialty license plates – in Florida and in several other states around the country.

What started as a vision in the mind of Marion County

[Read More about the Lyne Event](#)

Did you know you can give ...

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Commissioner Randy Harris, as he was driving behind a vehicle with a specialty license plate, has become a nationwide mission. Harris couldn't have foreseen the impact that this new vision would have when, in 1996, in Ocala, Florida, he was prompted by his vision to begin pulling together a team of visionaries including Jim Steel & Russ Amerling. Together these three men attained unanimous approval for a resolution by the Marion County Commission calling on the Florida Legislature to approve the Choose Life specialty plate. There is no overhead assessed against the program, so all the net proceeds from the sale of the plates goes to support pro-adoption non-profits.

Choose Life has partnered with the Christian Legacy Foundation to establish this important foundation because of their expertise in accepting diverse gifts, such as business interests, real estate, stocks and bonds, and other complex gifts, as well as cash. Christian Legacy Foundation has the capacity to provide unique and specialized services to Choose Life's donors. Additionally, Christian Legacy's affiliation with The National Christian Foundation means that Choose Life can tap into their network of Christian foundations across the country to provide local, personal service, communications and outreach to current and prospective donors.

Donations to the Choose Life's foundation will support the organization's ongoing mission to facilitate and encourage adoption as a positive choice for women with unplanned pregnancies. Anyone interested in contributing to the Choose Life Foundation should contact the Christian Legacy Foundation at 813.567.1499 or by emailing Bob Collins, Executive Director at bob.collins@clfinc.org.

www.Choose-Life.org

Local Ministry Events

April - Tampa Bay Leaders War Zone Awareness Breakfast & Fundraiser - Christ aCross America ([click here for details](#))

April 16 - Northside Christian School Golf Tournament at the Bayou Club. Individual registrations as well as corporate sponsorships are available. [Click here for more information.](#)

Apr 19 - 21 - Generous Giving Conference in Dallas, TX. For more information or to register visit www.generousgiving.org

April 23 - Executive Ministries golf tournament at the Cheval Golf and Country Club. Corporate Sponsorship or to register please visit www.emgolf.org or contact us at [exemin1 @ tampabay.rr.com](mailto:exemin1@tampabay.rr.com) or call 813-902-9117.

April 30 - 747 Golf Classic Tournament - Somebody Cares Tampa Bay. [Click here for information](#)

May 4 - [National Day of Prayer](#)

May 26 - Compassion Ministry Fair - Christ aCross America [Click here for information](#)

May 31 - Hassle Free Backpack Program begins - Somebody Cares Tampa Bay www.sctb.org

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

A Meditation

Tradition has it that Martin Luther, the man God used to spark the Protestant Reformation, once said that every Christian has to undergo three conversions: the conversion of the *heart*, the conversion of the *mind* and the conversion of the *pocketbook*. It is this third conversion, the conversion of the pocketbook, that is the subject of this essay.

Born-again Christians in the United States, on average, give only 2.5 percent of their income to Christian causes (including churches and other Christian ministries). This percentage is lower than the average charitable giving rate at the depth of the Great Depression, despite the fact that today we live in the most prosperous country in the most prosperous era in the history of the world.

Meanwhile, the church is experiencing tremendous numerical growth in many places across the globe. Technological advances have made it possible to spread the gospel in ways that were not even imagined 50 years ago. The fields are ripe for harvest, and resources sufficient to carry out the Great Commission are in the hands of Christians. In spite of all this, missionaries and indigenous church leaders complain of a scarcity of financial resources. Now is the time for the Western church to break free of the bonds of materialism and to invest in the advance of the kingdom of God. Now is the time for the third conversion, the conversion of the pocketbook.

Excerpt from an article by Patrick Johnson, Generous Giving

Recommended Reading

Fields of Gold by
Andy Stanley



Fields of Gold is a practical and inspirational book on the principle of sowing and reaping. If we sow fear, what will be our harvest? And conversely, if we sow faith, what will we grow? This book moves the reader beyond fear and guilt about money and into confidence, security, and excitement. Andy Stanley unpacks our irrational fears about money, helping us to discover that generous giving is actually an invitation for our heavenly Father to get involved in our finances and resupply us with enough seed to sow generously throughout our lifetime.

Available through most online bookstores.

email: clf@clfinc.org
phone: (813) 567-1499
web: <http://www.clfinc.org>

CLF 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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