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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 2007

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A Solution for Getting Year-end Charitable Deductions

As we approach the end of 2007, 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.

[More about CLF's Giving Fund ...](#)

COMPASSION AWARDS - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Somebody Cares Tampa Bay (SCTB) and the Christian Legacy Foundation (CLF) are seeking nominations for the 10th Annual Compassion Awards. The Feb. 8 Compassion Awards Banquet will honor local ministries that provide services of compassion.



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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Tampa, Florida 33622-2774

**Did you know you can
give ...**

"The program celebrates and encourages folks in front-line Christian ministry," said Bob Collins, executive director of CLF, which joined SCTB in the program this year. "We hope to discover smaller, lesser known ministries that are quietly doing good deeds in the community."

People can nominate ministries (and self nominate) by filling out the application form at www.CompassionAwards.com. Dec. 15 is the application deadline and all applications need to be made online.

Each recipient will receive a \$2,500 unrestricted grant, to be used as the organization chooses. In addition, the Alpha-Omega Title Company's People's Choice Award will be based on the number of votes received from the general public through the website www.CompassionAwards.com.

Compassion Award candidates must be bona-fide, tax-exempt non-profit organizations. The awards selection committee comprised of local funders and grant selection experts associated with SCTB and CLF will focus on the following criteria:

Christian Compassion - Compassion ministries include those providing relief to the hungry, homeless, or abused. Ministries focused on substance abuse recovery, children's outreach, crisis pregnancies, emergency assistance, elder care, and prisoners are other examples.

Unity - Does the organization or program promote unity and/or collaborate with others to accomplish its goals? Does it help break down racial, denominational or other divides, and does it help unify the body of Christ?

High-Impact - Does the organization accomplish a lot with little money and other resources?

Organizations selected for final consideration may be invited to make a presentation to the selection committee, and the committee may also schedule site visits. The awards will be announced at the Compassion Awards Banquet on Friday, Feb. 8, 2008 at A La Carte Pavilion.

The 2007 recipients included Center of Hope, Mission Tampa, Morning Star Fisherman, Solid Rock Recovery Center and Marla Stuart.

"The Second Question"

by Bob Collins

When we pass away, or
when the world ends
(whichever comes first), we
will all stand in front of our

**"Earn all you can, save all
you can, give all you can."
- John Wesley**

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Creator and, in essence, 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 and He are happy with 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!

Local Ministry Events

Christian Legacy Foundation is now exclusively using the community calendar of FaithTampaBay.com, because of the strategic relationship between the two ministries.

Feb 8, 2008 - [Compassion Awards Banquet](#)

If your ministry event isn't listed, please go to www.FaithTampaBay.com and sign up with them or let us know by [emailing Angie](#). We'd like to include all our ministry partners' events.

We Wish You A Creative Christmas

Ingenuity. Creativity. Originality. Do these words describe your holidays? While these concepts are often lost amid the rush of Thanksgiving and Christmas, we encourage you to make this year different. Our wish is



that you would make 2007 a creative Christmas by sharing your passion for giving. To spark your creativity, our Christmas Card highlights five inspiring examples of individuals who have done something truly original to spread generosity. As you read these stories, we believe they'll ignite some ingenious ideas of your own to extend the joy of giving to your family, your friends, your employees, and your community. We can't wait to hear what your creative Christmas story will be this year!

[Download Christmas Card](#)

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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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