



Community of Christ

GREATER PACIFIC NORTHWEST USA MISSION CENTER

A Disciple's Generous Response

An Effective Disciple's Generous Response

- Contains a message integrated with the rest of the worship service
- Reflects the mission of Jesus Christ that is supported by contributions of Community of Christ members, friends, and/or affiliates
- Helps contributors recognize the sacred purpose of their contributions to Mission Tithes
- Connects persons of all ages to the message, nurturing disciples to be ready and eager to respond
- Is presented by a prepared and engaging worship participant (priesthood or non-priesthood) who believes in generosity and is a contributor
- Has elements of a joyful celebration of thanksgiving

Preparation

- Consider the use of visuals, illustrations, or object lessons
- If you need help, seek assistance from someone with more experience
- Make the message challenging; everyone can give something regularly (according to means and capacity)
- Talk to the people; make eye contact
- Focus on the contributor as much or more than the contribution
- Be honest, objective, and positive

Available Resources

- Simple templates to help you use existing generosity resources
- Stewardship scriptures
- Offering envelopes (for adults and children) from your CFO
- *Becoming a Generous Disciple: Six Principles to Live By* from Herald House

Reminders

- We receive the offering; we do not take it up
- It is an offering, not a collection
- The first Sunday focus is *Abolish Poverty, End Suffering*, which includes Oblation and World Hunger ministry
- Giving is more about grace than formulas and calculations
- First decide how much to give, then decide which funds to give to
- Share equally between Congregation Ministries and World Ministries
- Every gift is important—to God, to the giver, and to the ministry of the church
- Funds are the means to ministry. God not only wants our money, God needs our money. But first, God needs our heart
- Giving is a joy and a privilege