

My Weekly Income	My Weekly Giving			
	5%	7.5%	10%	15%
£10	£0.50	£0.75	£1	£1.50
£20	£1.00	£1.50	£2	£3.00
£40	£2.00	£3.00	£4	£6.00
£50	£2.50	£3.75	£5	£7.50
£70	£3.50	£5.25	£7	£10.50
£90	£4.50	£6.75	£9	£13.50
£100	£5.00	£7.50	£10	£15.00
£140	£7.00	£10.50	£14	£21.00
£180	£9.00	£13.50	£18	£27.00
£200	£10.00	£15.00	£20	£30.00
£300	£15.00	£22.50	£30	£45.00
£400	£20.00	£30.00	£40	£60.00
£500	£25.00	£37.50	£50	£75.00

## The Christian Level



Having decided what you want to give in proportion to your income, consider how you could give regularly and systematically...

- By using the your church's weekly envelopes.
- By Standing Order.
- By Gift Aiding your money – an opportunity to make your money worth more! If you pay tax or Capital Gains Tax you can ensure the church receives more by the recovery of the tax previously paid.
- By Payroll Giving.

Remember... only you can decide  
...so set yourself a standard - today

# Money is a gift

Your heart will always be where your treasure is

Luke 12:34

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Money is a gift - but how much should I give?

The **Methodist Church**  
Resourcing Mission Office

Deciding what you ought to give to the church can be based on two different pieces of information:

- *What does the church need?*
- *What have I got to give?*

**Churches have a bad reputation for always asking for money – based only on the church's need to cut to the bare essentials!**

- We have ignored the pattern of the kingdom and followed the ways of the world for too long.
- Giving has been limited to meeting the smallest possible church budget.
- Our focus has been on what we think the church can just about manage on.

***But there is a new way - giving based on what you have got to give, not on the church's requirements. For Christians, giving is first and foremost an act of thankfulness in response to God's gift to us in Jesus Christ and involves our time, abilities and skills as well as money because God is the Creator and Lord of the whole of life.***

## In the New Testament

The New Testament includes some important passages about the Christian's approach to giving and the right attitude to money:

Jesus said 'You cannot serve both God and Money

*Matthew 6:24b*

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said: 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

*Hebrews 13:5*

We must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.

*Acts 20:35*

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

*2 Corinthians 9:7*

For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have.

*2 Corinthians 8:12*

## Approach to giving

Are you beginning to catch a vision of the transformation that could be brought by this approach to giving? It really does mean belonging to a congregation where giving is thankful and cheerful and can become a way of life. Try answering these questions for yourself.

- What if those in my church gave in proportion to what God has given them – some to the church – some to the work of the Kingdom elsewhere?
- What if we had a vision of meetings where the question 'can we afford £...?' was a thing of the past?
- What if I gave, not out of a sense of obligation, but out of joy because I wanted to?

***Christian Giving is about giving regularly, systematically, and proportionately. It is a thankful, cheerful response to God's commitment to us in Jesus Christ.***

**Are you willing to do some fresh thinking and praying about your giving as a Christian?**

## So how much should I give in thankfulness?

The amount must depend upon your own circumstances, because no two people are alike in income and responsibilities. However there are some principles to guide you:

- Consider your weekly 'take home income' whether from pay, pension or benefits. If God is Lord of all, then look at your giving in the light of your available income before you meet your living expenses, not out of your loose change.
- Most Christians find it helpful to work on a percentage or proportion of weekly/monthly income. Some accept the Biblical principle of tithing (giving 10% to their church and other Kingdom purposes).
- Whatever percentage you choose, there is always room for free will offerings – an act of generosity in response to a prompting of the Holy Spirit or an awareness of a special need.