

How do I know whether or not my gift is sacrificial?

“...for I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God, which cost me nothing...”

2 Samuel 24:24

The five D's of sacrificial generosity

It is exciting to see how God will often show how you can do more as you seek His wisdom and dire.

Pray through each one of these steps. There are several creative ways to sacrifice. Allow God to speak to you to additionally be able to add to and grow your starting gift idea. Here is a roadmap:

Decrease (Do away with something)

Is there something in your daily life that you can take advantage of less frequently? By decreasing a weekly expense, regardless of what it may be, you can save a significant amount of money to commit.

Consider these options to:

- Eat out less often
- Reduce the number of tutors
- Cut back on coffee/tea/drinks
- Adjust cable/TV packages downward
- Modify the type/amount of vacation you take

• _____
• _____

Total estimate of money saved by these changes:

\$ _____

Delay (Put off something)

Are there any plans that you might be making that involve a financial commitment? If so, prayerfully consider delaying these plans and use that extra income to commit to OPEN.

Idea:

- Wait to start that remodeling project
- Put off the more expensive vacation
- Wait to buy a new car
- Wait to upgrade to the newest technology

• _____
• _____

Total estimate of money saved by these delays:

\$ _____

Do More (Generate additional income)

Consider some ways you can **do more** in generating financial resources. Perhaps it's been a while since you've gotten another quote on an existing service. Maybe you can do some extra comparison or bargain shopping.

Idea:

- Bargain shop
- Get a better price on insurance, etc.
- Work extra time or start a new business
- Begin tutoring someone in a subject you know well

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• _____

Total estimate of money generated by these changes:

\$ _____

Donate (Contribution of assets)

Another way you can commit is by liquidating existing assets or redirecting asset income and committing the resources to the faith giving commitment of OPEN.

Idea:

- Donate stocks
- Donate real estate
- Sell second/vacation home
- Commit income from rental property

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• _____

Total estimate of money generated by these changes:

\$ _____

Deny (Give up something significant)

God will prepare some people for a demonstration of generosity and sacrifice that requires significant denial of current or future net worth. Others may be asked to deny something special or highly personal as a demonstration of their sacrifice and obedience to God.

Total estimate of money generated by these changes:

\$ _____

Look back

Look back through these steps and add up the starting gift (from Step 3 / Where Am I), monies saved from any changes you would make, and newly generated income.

Starting gift

Decrease

Delay

Do more

Donate

Deny

Total gift possibility

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

Hebrews 11:1

Pray again

Now, that you have an accurate current financial view of where you are, return to prayer again and ask God how much of this total gift possibility He wants you to commit as a faith giving commitment to OPEN. Give the Lord access to your heart, and let Him lead you in the final decision. Be open to fully trust the LORD and commit the next three years to Him. Keep praying. Keep listening. Keep obeying.

When you receive your OPEN FAITH GIVING COMMITMENT CARD, fill it out and present it as a part of the worship service on **Sunday, 3 December, 2017**.

A story to read

Pray that God will take each of the gifts presented on our commitment day of this OPEN Faith Journey and multiply what can be done through them just as He did with the boys' lunch. Remember, He fed 5000 with two fish and a few small loaves of bread!

Matthew 14:13–21:13

Jesus can still accomplish more than we can ever imagine with the gifts made to OPEN.