

“Investing in Kingdom Building”

Philippians 4:10-20

Making Christlike Disciples

I. PEOPLE OF FAITH INVEST IN THE ETERNAL

1. Giving is rooted in the heart and nature of God (John 3:16).
2. Giving is an act of worship (Matthew 6:20-21).
3. Giving tithes and offerings is sowing into the work of God (Galatians 6:8).

II. EVERYTHING INVESTED IN THE WORK OF GOD PAYS DIVIDENDS

1. Put God first in your finances (1 Corinthians 16:2).
2. Put God first in everything (Matthew 6:33).
3. Through giving we achieve spiritual growth and development (2 Corinthians 8:1-5).
4. God pours blessings into the lives of those who give (Luke 6:36-38).

III. GOD MEETS THE NEEDS OF THOSE WHO INVEST IN KINGDOM BUILDING

1. We reap what we sow (Proverbs 11:18).
2. We always reap more than we sow (Matthew 13:8).
3. We help others when we give (Philippians 4:18).

“When you give what you do not need, it isn’t giving.”

—Mother Teresa



INVESTING IN KINGDOM BUILDING

A Christian couple owned a successful dairy farm. Their enterprise expanded over the years until they owned hundreds of acres of land. Their land was located in a such a way that the government decided to place an interstate highway through it. At first, this seemed the worst thing that could happen, but the end result surprised them. Construction of the highway caused the value of their land to soar. They discovered by selling the land for motels and other business development they could earn vastly more money than they would ever make milking cows.

As farmers, the two were good stewards, but as land developers they were better able to invest in God's Kingdom. They made major gifts to their church for a new sanctuary and to persons serving on mission fields. They also invested in the educations of missionary and ministerial candidates. World evangelism was important to them. God opened their eyes to opportunities they had never imagined.

Good stewardship is indeed a high privilege, but you don't have to be a wealthy land developer to help build God's Kingdom. Anyone can invest. The key element is not how wealthy we are; rather, it is what do we love? If our hearts are set on God and His Kingdom, we will find unique ways to make eternal investments.

God depends on each of us to utilize our resources to support the reaching and caring ministries of the Kingdom. I laughed at a bumper sticker I saw. It said, "I started out with nothing and still have most of it." But that's not true—God gives each of us resources to invest in the lives of others. Good steward-managers of His resources look for ways to channel their resources. Your investments are much needed in our church as we move *Forward in Faith*.