

## 7 Keys to Increasing Your Sunday Giving!

So many churches and communities have callings and needs that are greater their incomes. Greater incomes would help provide for staff, space and resources in these vital works. It is therefore necessary for leaders and boards and the whole organization to foster greater stewardship among its members and friends. Read on to see how your community can focus itself on increased stewardship and investment in your vision and ministries!

1. **It Starts with Prayer** – Confidently go to God in your community’s prayer, seeking His guidance and blessings, and giving thanks for His gifts. As a man once said to his minister, “Pastor, you never asked for money, but you sure prayed for it!” If God has tasked a community with a ministry, He will abundantly provide for that ministry.
2. **Keep Stewardship at the Heart of Things** – All of life for a Christian is about: 1) *Receiving* God’s gifts gratefully, 2) *Tending* and developing them carefully, 3) *Giving back* the first portion for God’s use, and 4) *Sharing* generously with others. Keep stewardship at the heart of everything you do! Bring out stewardship themes in your weekly homilies or sermons. Put a stewardship box in you weekly church newsletter with a quotation, story, testimonial, or article. Incorporate stewardship education into your various educational programs and meetings.
3. **Share the Good News!** – Jesus came to share the Good News, and so should your community! People need to know and be reminded of the concrete good that your ministries are doing. They want to know their time, talents and financial gifts are making a tangible difference people’s lives. Report these personal stories in all your community’s communications (Bulletins, newsletters, meetings, annual reports, sermons, and websites).
4. **Give an Annual Accounting** – A critical element of good stewardship is reminding your community of its mission and reporting on its various ministries, the number of people ministering/volunteering, the number of people served, the financial gifts received, and the costs of operations. Consider making reports through an annual report brochure, sermons, town hall meetings, and various group meetings.
5. **Thank People Again and Again** – People like to be appreciated! It is important to thank people and to thank them often. Be creative. Thank people through such things as personal notes, cards made by children, thoughtful gifts, acknowledgements in newsletters and annual reports, tours of projects and ministries, appreciation gatherings, pastor and leader lunches, and awards. You may even have a volunteer assistant who handles the ministry of gratitude in your church, school and/or development program.
6. **Enact an Increased Giving Program** – Most communities have dreams that are greater than their resources. An Increased Giving Program can increase your Sunday giving by 25%, or more! An Increased Giving Program is a sustained period of prayer, communication, reflection, and response that can yield a huge increase in Sunday giving.
7. **Follow-up with Stewardship Renewal** – After an Increased Giving Program, a community must then dedicate itself to yearly stewardship renewal and education. It involves continual learning, growing, re-enforcement, and re-commitment. This effort involves educating children, young adults, new members, and non-active members in stewardship. Growth in stewardship is a dynamic and life-long process. Provide your membership with the resources they need for that growth!

If you have found the 7 Keys to Increasing Sunday Giving! helpful, then contact us today at **VisionWorks** - 888.948.1113 or [info@visionworksco.com](mailto:info@visionworksco.com).