

OCTOBER 2011

# IMPACT

NEWS FROM NATIONAL CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION

YEAR-END EDITION

## Simplify, multiply, glorify

*Three words that can make all the difference this giving season*

With the busy year-end holiday time approaching, we often find ourselves bracing for the chaos ahead. Even as Christians who recognize the reason for the season, it's hard to not get swept up in the urgency of serving, shopping, cooking, entertaining, traveling, and even helping out with special programs at church.

That's why we'd like to encourage you this year with a heartfelt message that we try to embrace in everything we do at NCF: the theme of *Simplify, Multiply, Glorify*. If ever this message rings true, it's at this time of year when we can all use a simpler approach, a more bountiful spirit, a greater sense of awe.

To prepare your heart to abide in the true spirit of giving, here are some practical questions and opportunities you may want to consider:

- 1. Do your loved ones know how you came to know the Lord?** Before the end of the year, share your greatest gift, the story of your faith journey. Spend your Thanksgiving or Christmas redeeming the time with the story of your redemption.
- 2. Do your loved ones know about the ministries you support?** Think of a creative way to expose them to the causes close to your heart. Could you volunteer together or go on a mission trip? Now that's a gift that will last a lifetime.
- 3. Have you considered using your financial capital to build spiritual capital in others?** Use your resources to shape someone spiritually by sending them on a short-term mission trip or to a conference like Generous Giving's or The Gathering's.



We hope that you'll think of other great ways to make this year memorable and unique. Visit our blog at [nationalchristian.com](http://nationalchristian.com) for more tips throughout the season. ☺

# What's God up to?

A letter from our national leadership team: Bill Williams, David Wills, and Terry Parker

With the holidays quickly approaching, we're all thinking about ways we can help ourselves, as well as our family and friends, experience the Christ-child in an even deeper way. In Henry Blackaby's *Experiencing God* series, he says that one of the best ways to experience God is to "get in on what God is up to."

So how do we know what God is "up to"? One of the clearest ways to see God at work is to reflect on what He was up to during His life on earth. Jesus spread the gospel, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ministered to the lost and hurting.

When you consider this, it's easy to see these same things are a priority for Him today. And we get to be a part of this life-changing work when we open up our hearts through the generous giving of our time, talents, and treasure.

While the Apostle Paul says in Ephesians that we have been saved by faith, he also affirms the important role we have as the hands and feet of Jesus in the world today: "For we are God's handiwork, created in

Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10, NIV).

So as we experience God in deeper ways, our prayer is that we'll be able to say like Jesus in John 17:4, "I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do." ☺

Together serving Him,



*Bill Williams*  
Bill Williams  
Chief Executive  
Officer



*David Wills*  
David Wills  
National  
President



*Terry Parker*  
Terry Parker  
Founder,  
Chairman Emeritus



Follow the latest news from NCF, join the giving conversation, and get your free copy of **Genius of Generosity**, a new book by best-selling author Chip Ingram.

[nationalchristian.com/facebook](http://nationalchristian.com/facebook)

## Are you "Dreaming Big"?

Download our 2011 Ministry Report to read God-sized stories of giving

Are you dreaming big? We sure are. And in our new 2011 Ministry Report, we share stories of some of the incredibly humble believers who are stepping out in faith to dream big for the Kingdom too.

As we witness this generosity movement sweeping across America, the verse in Joel 2:28 (NIV) comes to mind: "I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions."

Wherever you are today, we encourage you to ask God to pour out His Spirit and show you where your giving should be going this year. There's never been a better time for

you to step out with a God-sized vision. As the givers you'll meet on the pages in the Ministry Report can testify, He has an adventure in store for you! ☺

Download *Dreaming Big* today at [nationalchristian.com/dreamingbig](http://nationalchristian.com/dreamingbig).



# Stock up on giving!

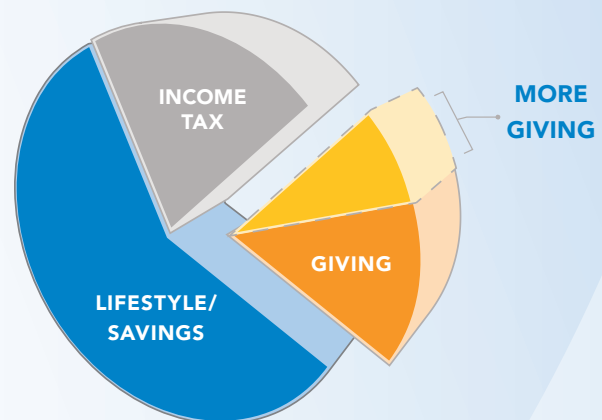
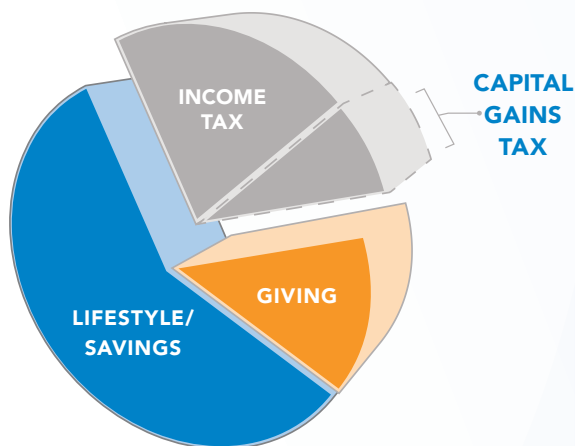
*How to multiply your impact using publicly traded securities*

With all the emphasis on stretching a dollar these days, have you thought about how to make your giving dollars go further this season? If you're getting ready to write checks to charity or make cash contributions to your NCF Giving Fund, you may want to re-think your strategy. By gifting appreciated stocks or mutual funds instead, you could tap into an incredible opportunity to pay less tax, give more, improve your personal cash flow, and simplify the process of supporting your favorite ministries.

The key lies in the capital gains tax savings that come with asset-based giving. For example, if you sold

\$10,000 worth of stock and gave the proceeds to multiple charities (see the left pie chart below), you'd first pay capital gains on the appreciated stock. You'd also have to keep track of every tax receipt manually.

Or, as the pie chart on the right illustrates, you could give \$10,000 worth of stock to your Giving Fund. The shares you donated would be sold by NCF tax-free, with proceeds placed in your Fund. This gift would also qualify for a \$10,000 charitable deduction. You could then re-fund your portfolio using the \$10,000 cash you would have given and reset your cost basis. And with your tax savings, you could give even more. ☺



## Give stock, save taxes, give more!

### Multiply your impact

- **Less tax** – You eliminate capital gain tax on the donated stock.
- **More giving** – You increase your giving capacity by eliminating current or future tax exposure.
- **Reset your cost basis** – Still like the stock? Use your cash to repurchase the same stock or mutual fund.

- **Tax-free rebalancing** – Your investment advisor can rebalance your portfolio with no tax consequences.
- **Improved personal cash flow** – Using tax savings to give more increases your charitable deduction.
- **Tax-free growth** – Gifts invested inside your Giving Fund can grow tax-free.

### Simplify your giving

- **Deduct now, grant later** – Receive a deduction this year while granting over time, if desired.
- **Leverage your time** – One stock gift can be easily used to support multiple ministries.
- **Eliminate the hassle** – Consolidate tax receipting under one charity (NCF) and manage all your giving online. ☺



## GIVING STORY

# Toys or tools? Eternal investments with your kids

*A message from Alan Barnhart, who uses National Christian Foundation for his giving*

When we talk about spending money with our kids, we use tool and toy terminology. A toy is something we would buy for our own pleasure, comfort, or fun. A tool is something we would buy that God could use in His service. We try to minimize the investment in toys and maximize the investment in tools.

One of the tools we have spent a fair amount of money on for our kids is international travel. They've been able to see what God is doing all over the world.

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To learn more about Alan's giving journey, read his article "Profit With a Purpose" in our *Generous Business* guide at [nationalchristian.com/business](http://nationalchristian.com/business).

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It has been a blessing for my children to not grow up as rich kids. They have the privilege of sitting around our dinner table with people from dozens of different countries as they come through the U.S. to hear what God is doing in Libya, in Iraq,

or in China. They have grown up hearing about how great God is and seeing firsthand what He is doing all over the world. I think that is so much better than video games, trips to Disney World, or the things that they've not been able to do.

Several years ago, when we went through the process of basically giving our company away, it was not a traumatic experience for them. They were totally on board with it. My oldest son said, "Thank you, thank you for doing this. This saved me a lot of potential heartache."

We don't indulge their every desire, but that's freeing for our kids. We spend a lot of time with them, and we opened their eyes by taking them around the world.

The Bible says to leave a rich inheritance for your children, and I think that has little to do with money. I want to leave a rich inheritance of faith, education, ability, and motivation. ☺

"We don't indulge their every desire, but that's freeing for our kids."



**Alan Barnhart**  
CEO of Barnhart  
Crane and Rigging

*Alan Barnhart and his wife, Katherine, have six children. Alan is CEO of Barnhart Crane & Rigging in Memphis, TN. Since 1986, he and his brother, Eric, have built the business into one of the world's largest heavy lifting and transport companies. Beginning in 2005, they have given away \$1 million a month through their corporate giving program. And in 2007, they contributed most of their multi-million dollar company to charity.*