

Giving

AT MEC



WHY GIVE?

God is incredibly generous to us in giving us life, peace and joy in Jesus

We have received God's ultimate generosity in the death of His Son, 'though He was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, so that through His poverty we might become rich' (2 Cor 8:9). A Christian's desire to give is a response to God's generosity to us.

We are all partners in the spread of the gospel

As God's people, we are all partners in the spread of the gospel (Phil 1:3-7). We are partners through our prayers, through our time, through our encouragement, through our suffering, through sharing in God's grace together – and through our money.

We have an obligation to support the poor and needy and those who teach God's word to us

We have an obligation to support those who labour amongst us in the Lord and teach God's word (1 Cor , 1 Tim 5:17-18). We also have an obligation to love and provide for the needy (1 Jn 3:16-18).

HOW MUCH DO I GIVE?

Old Testament

In the Old Testament, God's people were commanded to give a tenth (tithe) of all their produce to God in joyful response to his generous blessings to them

New Testament

The New Testament doesn't stipulate percentages, but challenges us with the principle of generosity, partnership, obligation and love. However, Paul provides some practical giving guidelines to the Church in Corinth.

God has blessed us abundantly here in Australia and given us all the opportunity to be cheerful givers. Of course, some of us may be really struggling with our finances right now. If that's the case MEC offers a 3 week course called CAP Money which can help. Check out the website for more details.

3 Guidelines

01

"On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money **in keeping with his income**, saving it up so that when I come, no collections will have to be made."

1 COR 1:2

02

"Whoever **sows** sparingly, will also **reap** sparingly, and whoever **sows** generously, will also **reap** generously."

1 COR 9:6

03

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

1 COR 9:7

WHO DO I GIVE TO?

Old Testament

In the Old Testament, the Israelite tithe was channelled by God to the priests and Levites (who had no other source of income because of their duties), and to the poor.

New Testament

We see a similar pattern in the New Testament, where Christian giving is directed to meeting the needs of those who labour amongst us in the Lord, as well as towards the poor.

“Let him who is taught the word share all good things with him who teaches..... So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”

GAL 6:6-10

In practical terms, this means directing our money not only towards Maitland Evangelical Church, but to the work of the gospel further afield, and to the poor.

The ministry of MEC is supported by the giving of those who attend, and a large proportion of our giving should go to this ministry from which we benefit (For information on how the income of MEC is distributed, please talk to a member of the Administration Committee).

MEC also works closely with the following Christian organisations: Church Missionary Society (CMS), Overseas Council of Australia (OCA), Compassion Australia and Katherine Christian Convention (KCC).

We would encourage you to consider directly supporting these and/or other organisations involved in the gospel ministry, as well as making a contribution to the poor.

You will need to decide how to divide up your giving between these different areas.

Dividing up your giving

You may wish to use these tables in working out your giving arrangements.

1

Determine your household income and total giving for the year

2

Divide up your giving between MEC and other Christian Organisations

Income from employment		\$
Other income <i>(investments, benefits etc.)</i>		\$
Total Income	A	\$
Proportion to give	B	%
Annual Giving	(A x B)	\$

	Annual Amount	Monthly Amount
Giving to MEC	\$	\$
Giving to ...	\$	\$
Giving to ...	\$	\$
Giving to ...	\$	\$

HOW YOU CAN GIVE

Giving to Maitland Evangelical Church



Internet Banking

You have complete control over all aspects of your giving by using internet banking to make a regular or one-off direct payment to:

Name

Maitland Evangelical Church

BSB : **032-529**

Account No : **203795**



Direct Debit

Direct Debit through Westpac PayWay – You authorise MEC to regularly debit from your bank account or credit card by completing the separate “MEC Direct Debit Form”.

This form can also be used to make a one-off payment.

Giving to other Christian Organisations

- 1** Contact other Christian organisations to find out how to make payments direct to them.
- 2** Or, place your donation in an envelope clearly marked with the organisation you wish your money to go to and MEC will forward the money on your behalf.

WANT MORE INFO?



Talk to the MEC Treasurer or another member of the Administration Committee



Visit the MEC website and head to our section on '**Giving**' where you will find a study on giving, and other helpful resources



**Maitland
Evangelical
Church**

WWW.MAITLANDCHURCH.ORG