

MONEY TALKS

3. Give Save Live

Start off with feedback from Sunday's message. What did those that were there - or those that have caught up online - take away from it? What encouraged them, what informed them and what challenged them?

Read 2 Corinthians 9.6-11

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

- We're Relational beings, not Economic and it's Connecting, not Consuming that makes us happy. What stories do you have of joyful giving – either when someone gave to you, or when you've given to others?
- Paul said to give what you've decided yourself **up front**, rather than being compelled or manipulated into something. But isn't it risky just letting people give what they want, instead of laying down rules or specifying a percentage? Have you had experience of giving under compulsion?
- Given that we're in the top 10% of the world's population financially speaking, why do so many of us find giving a challenge? Why does giving require faith?
- Read 1 Corinthians 16.2. What appeals to you about Paul's 'no collections' system, where you **regularly** set aside a **proportion** of your income for giving, before using it on yourself? Is this something that you're doing? Does the fact that Woodlands doesn't have weekly collections appeal to you, or would you prefer to have more regular reminders to give?
- Jesus talked about putting your treasure where you want your heart to be. How does giving to church bond us into community and tie us to a common vision? Have you experienced a connection to the poor by regularly giving to those in need and crisis?

Big Idea: 'Decide up front what proportion of your income to set aside each month, then give to where you want your heart to be.'

Pray for one another in twos and threes. Pray for a release of generosity and faith that when we give first, God will also supply our needs. Pray for those that are struggling with financial issues. Pray that we would develop an intimacy with our Father, who sees our giving in secret and rewards us.

If you'd like to start giving, or increase your giving, you can use the attached form.

Gift Aid Declaration

Title Surname

Forename(s)

Home address

Postcode

(✓) Tick **one** appropriate box:

Please treat all gifts of money that I make today and in the future as Gift Aid donations

or

Please treat all gifts of money that I have made in the past 4 years and all future gifts of money that I make from the date of this declaration as Gift Aid donations.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature Date

Notes: Please notify Woodlands Group of Churches if you (a) want to **cancel** this declaration, (b) **change** your name and address, or (c) no longer **pay** sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. Woodlands will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 you give under Gift Aid.

If you pay income tax at the **higher rate**, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return if you want to receive the additional tax relief due to you.

Please complete this form and send to:

Woodlands Group of Churches
Woodlands Church, Belgrave Road,
Clifton, Bristol
BS8 2AA



Woodlands Group of Churches is registered in England and Wales at Woodlands Christian Centre, Belgrave Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 2AA as a company limited by guarantee (no. 06569993) and as a charity (no. 1125029)

Standing Order Mandate

Please complete the details below and return to:

Woodlands Group of Churches, Woodlands, Belgrave Road, Clifton, BS8 2AA

To:

Name & Postal Address of Your Bank

Postcode Sort Code

Please Pay:

Lloyds TSB, 15 High Street, Westbury on Tym, Bristol BS9 3DA (30-99-38)

For the credit of: Woodlands Group of Churches A/C 00768088

The sum of:

£ *(figures)* *(in words)*

Commencing *(date)* / /

and thereafter every month until further notice

From Account No

in name of

(capitals, including title)

Signed Date / /

This is a new Standing Order/This replaces my existing Standing Order for £
(Delete as applicable)