



“One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.” (Psalm 145:4)

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We often hear a message that church is not about the bricks and mortar, but it's about the community. That message rings so true for me - I'm sure you have heard this from me many times! But I can't deny, I really love our bricks and mortar. And the dirt floor underneath the sanctuary, and the squeaky hydraulic system, the scary basement, the bees on the roof, the history of the site and the building (admittedly super nerdy about this), seeing the guts of the building - wires, pipes, support structures, etc. I love how I have met so many friends in this place. And bravely had to say goodbye to so many, hoping to see them on a glorious day. I feel honored to be a member of the generation that can make this a place that keeps our heritage and yet provides the hope of a thriving future. – Ed Krum



STEP 5: DECIDE TO GIVE SACRIFICIALLY

Little has ever been accomplished without sacrifice. This is true in our homes, our work, our church, our country. Sacrifice is a necessary component of successful living. And so it is with the Christian life and faith. Our salvation cost God the cross. Bonhoeffer rightly said there is no cheap grace.

Much of church giving is only token giving, averaging about two percent of income. No wonder there is so little joy or satisfaction in it! It requires no sacrifice! We have given only what we could easily afford, what we would not really miss.

Experience has shown that giving, to be meaningful and joyful, has to be sacrificial! Each will have to determine what amount or percentage is sacrificial for his or her circumstances. But experience again suggests that, for most people, sacrificial giving begins at five percent of income, with proportions under five percent falling into the token giving category.

Church interest is often low, studies have shown, because investment is low. There is no sacrifice. It doesn't really cost anything. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will be your heart also." (Luke 12:34)

Where is your treasure? That is where you will find your heart.