

Jesus told the following parable of the mustard seed.



“The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and become a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches.” Matthew 13:31-33

Your gift of a portion of your estate can be like the mustard seed, producing an ever increasing gift for the ministries of the church. Long after you have left this world, your gift will be having a significant impact on the lives of many people who will benefit from your kindness. Numerous people will find the comfort and security to “perch” upon the plant your seed gift has created. Many lives will be transformed because of your generosity by including the church in your estate planning.

As you have so faithfully chosen to support the ministry of the church during your lifetime, please consider doing the same when the Lord determines it is time to call you to your eternal home. Let your lasting gift be used to draw others to the heaven you have secured for yourself because of your faith in Jesus.

CONFIDENTIAL REPLY

If you would like the church to know you have provided for the church in your Will/Trust (details are not necessary), you may send the following to our Endowment Committee for their records.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

I/We have arranged for an estate gift to the First Baptist Church of Greencastle by one the following: (please check)

_____ *by Will*

_____ *by Trust Fund*

_____ *by another means*

I would like the funeral director to be notified at the time of my death that gifts to the church should be mentioned in the obituary and envelopes for the gifts be available at the funeral home.

_____ *Yes* _____ *No*

_____ *Undecided*

CONTINUE THE LEGACY OF YOUR GENEROUSITY



**The First Baptist Church
Of Greencastle
Greencastle, Indiana 46135**

THE IMPORTANCE OF ESTATE PLANNING

Many people do not realize that if a person does not have a Will, the state will be in charge of the distribution of any assets the person has. This can be time consuming, costly, and cause much conflict for potential heirs. The best way to avoid these problems is to go through the simple procedure of establishing a Will or Trust for how you would like to distribute your assets at the time of your death.

Though Wills can be very informal, it is best to establish a Will or Trust with a qualified attorney that you trust to handle your affairs. He/She will provide you with various options and opportunities to distribute your assets at the time of your death. You may also want to discuss the issue of Medical Power of Attorney to provide a clear line of authority in situations where you would be unable to make your own medical decisions.

Estate planning provides comfort for the family and for the heirs. The clearer the understanding of disbursements in the Will/Trust, the easier for all to accept. Many families have had major conflicts occur over the dividing up of assets because of misunderstandings in the Will/Trust.

WHY INCLUDE THE CHURCH IN YOUR ESTATE PLANNING?

Your gift will benefit you

As a contributor to the church for so many years, what a good feeling it will be to know you will have continued this practice even after you die. Your giving heart will be an encouragement to others and your name will be remembered for years to come as it will be associated with the gift you have given.

Your gift will benefit the Church

Estate gifts we have received in the past have allowed children, youth, and adults, who would otherwise be unable to attend to camps and retreats, an opportunity to go and grow closer to Jesus.

Estate gifts have allowed our Church to meet facility needs that would have been challenging to meet if not for the estate gifts given.

Estate gifts have allowed our Church to initiate new ministries to reach our community for Jesus.

Estate gifts have allowed our Church to create programs that grow the church and allow us to impact our community with the wonderful gospel of Jesus Christ.

WHAT TYPES OF GIFTS CAN I GIVE FROM MY ESTATE?

The church can accept possessions-houses, furniture, full estates, etc. (either to keep or sell at the discretion of the church), stocks, bonds, and cash.

WHAT TYPES OF DESIGNATIONS DOES THE CHURCH ACCEPT?

Unspecified Requests

An unspecified request provides the Church with the greatest amount of flexibility. Depending on the needs of the Church at the time of the receipt of the gift, it can use the gift for immediate needs, set it aside for future needs, or invest it in a permanent account and only use the interest from the account.

Specific Requests

A specific request provides details to the Church of how the funds should be administered. If the ministry endowed ceases to be a ministry of the church, the church may vote to have the funds designated "unspecified."