

FORWARD
IN FAITH

COMMITMENT GUIDE

DISCERNING GOD'S WILL IN DECIDING YOUR GIVING COMMITMENT

The most important decision you or your family will make during the **Forward in Faith** campaign will be the decision about your giving commitment. This guide provides suggestions on **how to decide what your commitment will be.**

THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO APPROACH YOUR GIVING COMMITMENT

Based on **REASON**

In this approach, you determine what is “reasonable” to give based on what you have. Reason asks, “What can I afford?” rather than “What does God want me to do?” Giving based on reason doesn’t require any faith on our part.

Based on **REVELATION**

This approach requires us to ask in faith, “God, what do You want to do through me?” When you make giving a matter of prayer, your decision becomes an act of worship. Revelation giving forces the question, “How much am I willing to trust God?”

**PRAYER IS ESSENTIAL TO HEARING FROM GOD AND
MAKING A REVELATION-BASED COMMITMENT.**

REMEMBER TO PRAY EACH DAY FOR 28 DAYS:

- 1** Ask God to show me what He would have me give to **Forward in Faith**, over and above my regular giving.
- 2** Expect God to do something through me beyond what I think is possible.
- 3** Follow through on what God tells me to do, including being willing to sacrifice if that is His will.

FORWARD
IN **FAITH**

AS YOU GO THROUGH THE PRAYER PROCESS...

- 1** *Talk with God about your personal commitment. Ask that His will be done in your life. Wrestle with a number that seems too great, then ask God to work. Find the doorways He wants you to walk through by faith.*
- 2** *Define what sacrifice looks like for you. Consider what changes you can make in your life that will enable you to invest in what you care about.*
- 3** *Each of us can meaningfully invest in proportion to the resources God has given us. A commitment to give should be a demonstration of the sacrifice God has revealed as right for you. It's an opportunity to see God's provision in a fresh, new, faith-building way.*
- 4** *Prayerfully create a personal 36-month giving plan based on what God said to you that goes above and beyond your regular giving.*

REMEMBER, YOUR FORWARD IN FAITH COMMITMENT CAN INCLUDE BOTH AN INITIAL CASH GIFT AND A 36-MONTH GIVING COMMITMENT. GOD MAY ALSO PROMPT YOU TO GIVE A NON-CASH GIFT SUCH AS PROPERTY OR OTHER ASSETS AS HE GUIDES YOU THROUGH THIS PROCESS.

CREATIVE WAYS TO GIVE

*Are you enthusiastic about giving to **Forward in Faith**, but not sure where to start? Here are some creative suggestions to help you allocate or free up resources.*

DECREASE:

*Consider decreasing unnecessary weekly expenses in order to save more for your **Forward in Faith** commitment.*

DELAY:

Consider delaying plans that involve a financial commitment and using the extra income to contribute.

DO MORE:

Save money by getting quotes on existing services, and do some extra comparison or bargain shopping to save funds.

DONATE:

*Contribute existing assets to **Forward in Faith**. Giving the asset to the church and then letting the church sell it eliminates potential capital gains taxes and may increase the after-tax proceeds.*

THINGS I CAN DECREASE

- *Cut back on coffee drinks*
- *Go out to eat a few less times*
- *Adjust cable TV package*
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THINGS I CAN DELAY

- *Wait on a remodeling project*
- *Take a less expensive vacation this year*
- *Put off buying a new car*
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WAYS I CAN DO MORE

- *Get another quote on insurance rates*
- *Comparison shop*
- *Consider doing my own cleaning, gardening, or repairs*
- *Pay off a bill, then keep giving that amount to **Forward in Faith***
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THINGS I CAN DONATE

- *Appreciated stock*
- *Rental property*
- *Second house*
- *Annually or quarterly bonus*
- *Savings*
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WORKSHEET

INCOME AND ASSETS

36-MONTH INCOME:

\$ _____

ASSETS

Stocks: \$ _____

Bonds: \$ _____

Property: \$ _____

Other: \$ _____

Total Assets: \$ _____

GIVING OPTIONS

1. WHAT CAN I GIVE OUT OF MY REGULAR INCOME?

What portion of your income could you give to **Forward in Faith** over the next 36 months?

2. WHAT CAN I GIVE OUT OF MY EXISTING ASSETS?

Potential assets may include stocks, bonds, or property.

3. WHAT CAN I GIVE SACRIFICIALLY?

Consider making some lifestyle changes or putting some planned expenses on hold. The sacrifice might be difficult. However, not only will you receive blessing for those sacrifices in eternity, but you will see your time, talent, and treasures affect lives here and now.

SACRIFICIAL GIFTS

THINGS I WILL DECREASE:

	AMOUNT MONTHLY	FREQUENCY	TOTAL AMOUNT
_____	\$ _____	x 36 months =	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	x 36 months =	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	x 36 months =	\$ _____

THINGS I WILL DELAY:

	AMOUNT MONTHLY	FREQUENCY	TOTAL AMOUNT
_____	\$ _____	x 36 months =	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	x 36 months =	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	x 36 months =	\$ _____

WHAT I'LL DO MORE OF:

	AMOUNT MONTHLY	FREQUENCY	TOTAL AMOUNT
_____	\$ _____	x 36 months =	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	x 36 months =	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____	x 36 months =	\$ _____

THINGS I WILL DONATE:

_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

36-MONTH PLAN: \$ _____

THE COMMITMENT CONFERENCE

Plan a Commitment Conference between May 14–21 to decide what God is leading you to give.

The conference is a great opportunity to discuss giving and faith. Evaluate the blessings you have received from God. Are there things you would willingly sacrifice to invest in God's kingdom? (The provided 36-Month Gift Guide will help you see what your monthly giving can do.)

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE

- *Be sure to involve your spouse (if married) and children. If single, conference with a friend or accountability partner.*
- *Set aside an appointed time for the conference in advance.*
- *Ask family members in advance of the conference to think about potential sacrifices that God is asking them to make in order to contribute to Forward in Faith.*
- *During the conference, look up some Scriptures and discuss what they say about giving. Some suggestions are Matthew 6: 19–21; Timothy 6:17–19; 2 Corinthians 9:6–12.*
- *Ask family members to share what they or the family could sacrifice in order to give to God through Forward in Faith over the next 36 months. List all the ideas proposed, and discuss how to follow through.*
- *Decide what you will give, and spend time praying over your commitment. Ask God to provide for your needs as you step out in faith, and for joy as you give generously back to Him.*

THIS IS MY STEP OF FAITH

After much prayer and thoughtful consideration, I/we sense God's leading to make the following sacrificial commitment over and above my regular giving:

MY FIRST GIFT

This is an upfront, one-time gift that will help us plan and secure funding. \$ _____

MY REMAINING 36-MONTH GIFT

This pledge amount will be given over the 36 months of the campaign. \$ _____

MY TOTAL COMMITMENT

My first gift + 36 month pledge \$ _____

**“NOW FAITH IS BEING SURE OF WHAT WE HOPE FOR
AND CERTAIN OF WHAT WE DO NOT SEE.”**

HEBREWS 11:1

REMEMBER THE GOD FACTOR:

Don't put yourself in a box. As we dream for the future of HCBC, what are your dreams?

What if God chooses to bless your future, too? We think He will. So don't forget the "God" factor that could adjust your commitment because of a new job, raise, promotion, etc. God can take a commitment made in faith and bring in the resources to meet it.

HOW TO GIVE

MAKE A 36-MONTH COMMITMENT

On Commitment Sunday, we will ask individuals and families to turn in Giving Commitment Cards that represent their potential donations. This is not a binding contract, but a declaration of your intentions, which will help us plan and secure funding. You may turn in a Giving Commitment Card any time during the 36-month period.

PARTICIPATE IN OUR FIRST GIFT OFFERING

You may also give a one-time gift that is in addition to your 36-month commitment. Remember to clearly designate on your check's memo line that the contribution (or a portion of the contribution) should be attributed to Forward in Faith. If you wish to give a cash donation, please enclose the funds in a sealed envelope with your name, address, and designation to Forward in Faith written on the outside.

ONLINE

You may give using a credit/debit card or electronic check at hcbc.com. On the home page, simply click on "Give" and you will be directed to a secure page to make your contribution. You may set up an online giving account or access your existing account. Complete the information for a one-time or scheduled recurring gift, whichever you prefer. Choose "Forward in Faith" from the menu to designate gifts. Please note that although we allow the use of credit cards for giving, we do not encourage you to go into debt or incur interest charges on gifts that are given to the church. We recommend you consider our other giving options, such as electronic check.

ONLINE BILL PAY

Through your bank's online bill pay system, you may set up one-time or automatic recurring gifts directly from your bank account. Please list Hill Country Bible Church's mailing address and include a designation to "Forward in Faith" on the bill pay memo line.

DIRECT MAIL

*If you choose to mail your gifts to HCBC, please address the envelope to:
Hill Country Bible Church, Attn: Finance Department, 12124 Ranch Road 620 N, Austin, TX 78750.
Please include a designation to "Forward in Faith" on the memo line.*

STOCK

Contact the Finance Office at 512-331-5050.

PROPERTY

Contact the Finance Office at 512-331-5050.

QUESTIONS?

Find answers by visiting the HCBC Forward in Faith webpage at hcbc.com/forward-in-faith

HERE'S HOW A SMALL WEEKLY COMMITMENT CAN TRULY MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

36-MONTH GIFT GUIDE	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	ANNUALLY	36-MONTH TOTAL
	4	14	167	500
	7	28	333	1,000
	17	69	833	2,500
	24	97	1,167	3,500
	35	139	1,667	5,000
	52	208	2,500	7,500
	70	278	3,333	10,000
	104	417	5,000	15,000
	174	694	8,333	25,000
	243	972	11,667	35,000
	347	1,389	16,667	50,000

WHAT WILL IT TAKE FOR GOD TO PROVIDE \$6.5 MILLION FOR FORWARD IN FAITH?

Because we all have unique giving capabilities, we cannot simply divide the total needed by the number of families in our church to determine an “average” gift. Following is a model of the distribution of gifts that it will take for us to be successful. This also underscores the biblical principle of giving in proportion to what we have—and that’s going to be different for all of us!

# OF GIFTS	GIFT LEVEL	TOTAL AT LEVEL	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
1	500,000	500,000	500,000
2	250,000	500,000	1,000,000
4	150,000	600,000	1,600,000
6	100,000	600,000	2,200,000
8	75,000	600,000	2,800,000
21	50,000	1,050,000	3,850,000
50	25,000	1,250,000	5,100,000
75	10,000	750,000	5,850,000
100	5,000	500,000	6,350,000
50	2,500	125,000	6,475,000
25	1,000	25,000	6,500,000