



Growing Generosity in Uncertain Times

Horizons Stewardship

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Findings from Giving USA 2019

Charitable Giving



1.7% inflation adjusted

Giving by Foundations



4.7% inflation adjusted

Giving by Individuals



3.4% inflation adjusted

Giving to religion



3.9% inflation adjusted

For Comparison



**Giving to International Affairs
increased 7%**

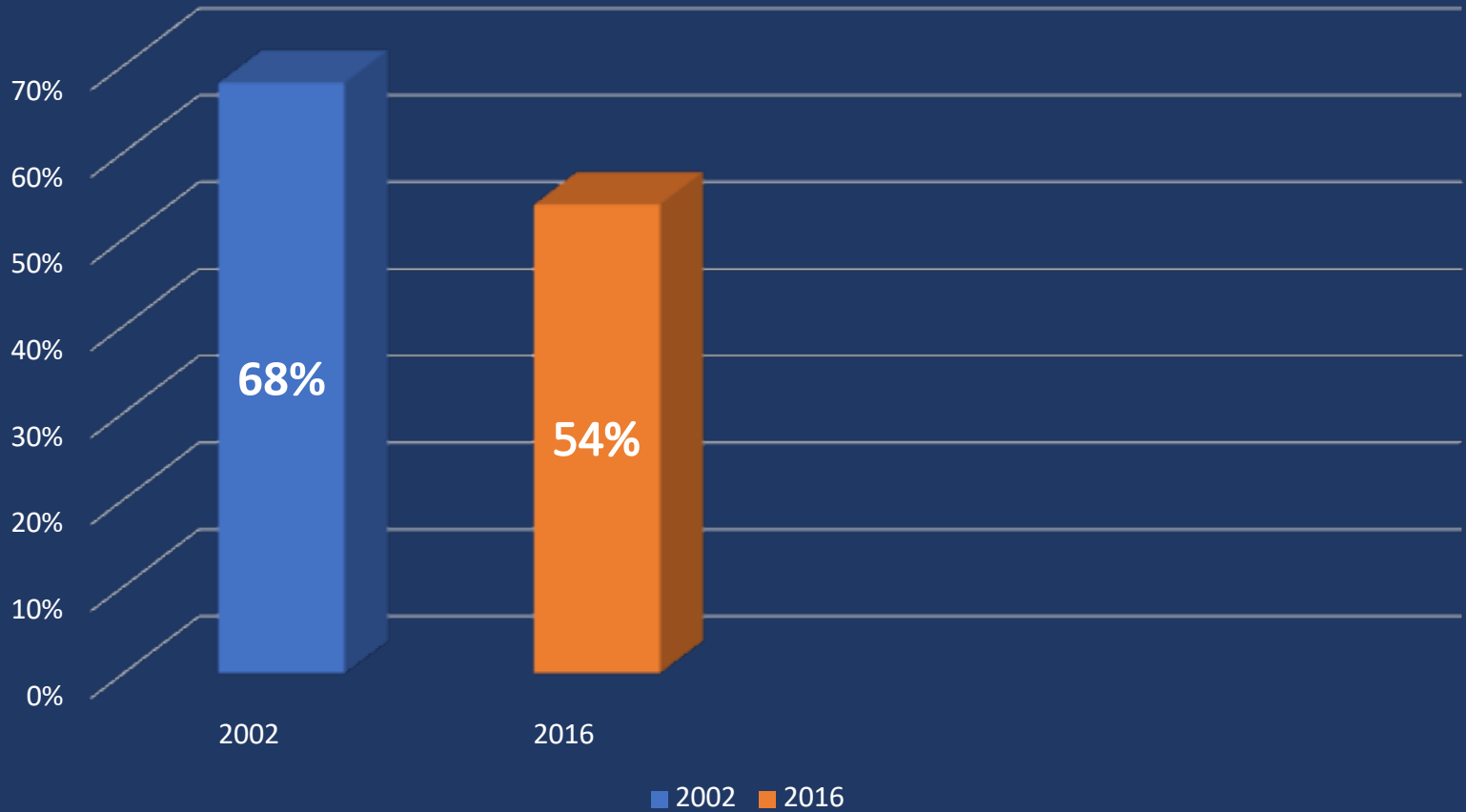
inflation adjusted



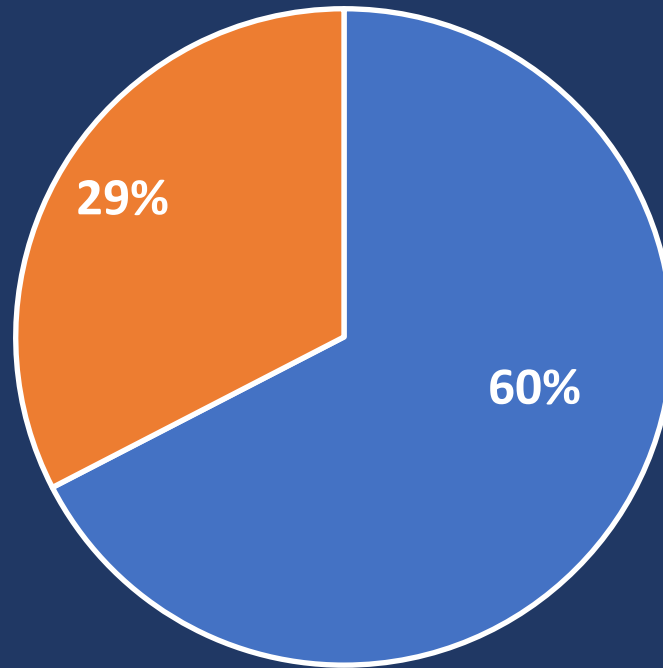
**Giving to Environment and Animal Organizations
increased 1.2%**

inflation adjusted

% of Americans contributing to charity



Giving to Religion



■ 1960 ■ 2018

Church Giving

- 50% of active attenders give \$0 to the church
- 60% of attenders give less than 2\$ a week
- 7% of evangelical Christian tithe

TABLE TIME

- Reactions to the statistics on giving?
Any surprises?
- How do you see these played out in the life of your congregation?
- Do you even know?

Michael Jr.-Why vs What Video

STORIES

STORIES

MINISTRY-MINISTRY-MINISTRY

STORIES

STORIES

How To...

- 1) Use staff/leadership/committee meetings to share stories of lives changed
- 2) Review giving to identify those who have stepped up—find out why
- 3) One stewardship witness per month
- 4) Use cardboard testimonies or other types of witness to celebrate God's work through your church





Gratitude

Help people identify and give witness to how they have been blessed

- Gratitude cards before pledge cards
- Children and youth gratitude cards
- Witness talks and video clips about gratitude

I am deeply thankful for my church because...

How do you encourage a culture of gratitude?



One word that describes my personal prayer life is...

When did prayer lead you to do something different?

As a congregation, how do you connect generosity with prayer as a church?

Commitment card for prayer

Prayer calls or emails

Prayer vigils

Prayer rooms or walls

Prayer stones

Labyrinth

Devotional books, emails and podcasts

FAITH

What are some ways
I have stepped out
in faith in the past?



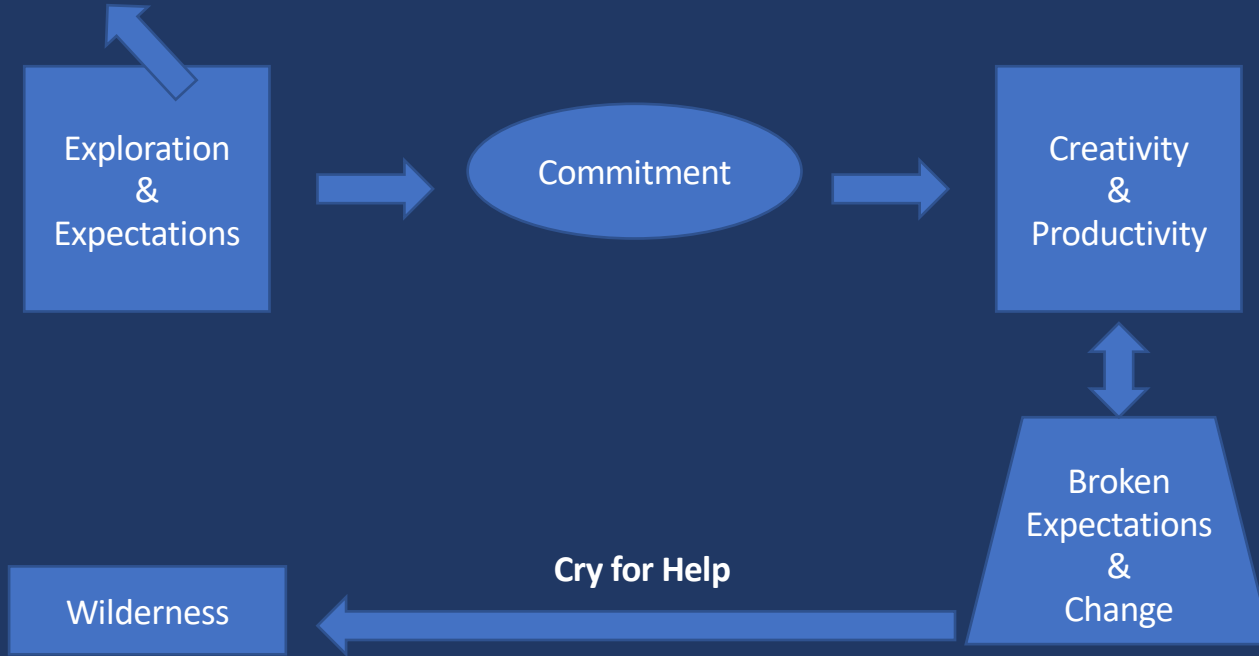
God may be calling me to...

Know Your Giving List

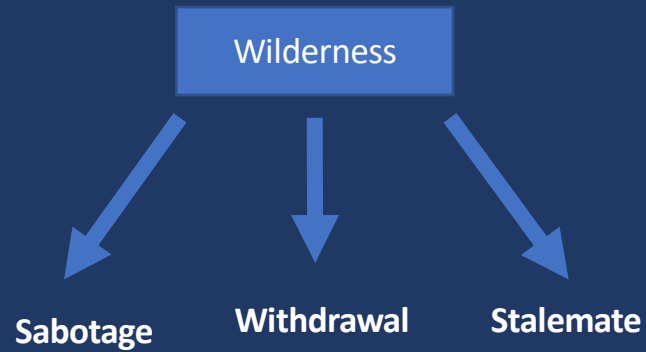
- Allows you to say thank you
- Allows you to recruit the right leaders
- Allows you to provide pastoral/spiritual direction

•ISSUE or NON-ISSUE?

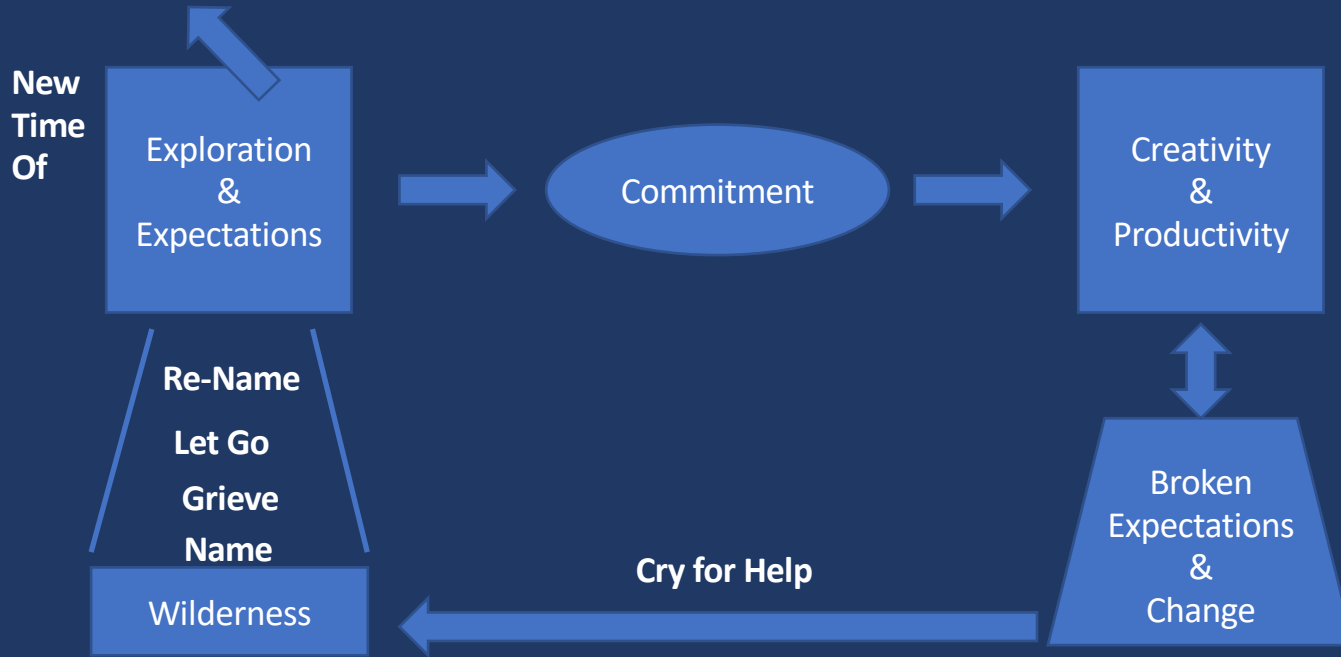
Intentional Withdrawal



No Energy, No Focus, Complaining,
Scapegoating, Brush Fires, Feeling Disconnected



Intentional Withdrawal



Sabotage Withdrawal Stalemate

How we get there:

Inform

Inspire

Invite

How we get there:

Inform

- Generosity Statement
- Annual Ministry Plan
- Giving Statements
- First-time giver system
- Christian Ed. & Bible Study

Inspire

- Sermons
- Offering Moments
- Impact Stories
- Ministry Updates
- Devotional Guides
- Thank You notes
- Missions Involvement

Invite

- Annual Stewardship Campaign
- Electronic Giving
- Capital Campaign
- Planned Giving
- High Expectations
- Serving/Outreach
- Personal Finance Ministry

TABLE TIME

Put 3-5 in each column

How we get there:

Inform

Inspire

Invite

Generosity Statement

We believe...

We commit...

We invite...

Sample Generosity Statement

“We believe God is the source of all gifts, spiritual and material. Our faithful response, in gratitude, is to be givers and creators ourselves. While we strive to be good stewards of all God's gifts to us, we believe that the way we use our money reflects the state of our spiritual lives.

We commit to follow Christ in community. In prayerful witness to our faith, each of us is already tithing or is committed to increasing his or her personal giving to reach or exceed the tithe.

Our experience is that joyful giving results in spiritual growth. We invite the parish to join us in this commitment to deepening our faith.”

Leadership Covenant

Gather, Grow, Give, Go

Connect, Grow, Serve, Give

Worship, Small Group, Mission, Give

- Applies to all leaders
- Creates clear expectations for existing members and new members



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