

3 Ways to Cultivate a Generous Congregation

- **Preach & Teach** What the Bible says about the spiritual benefits of generosity must be boldly taught through sermons and Bible study not just as an abstract notion, but as a way we are intended to live.
- **Testify** Encourage members (adults and youth) to share stories of how they practice generosity (not just financial) within your congregation on Sunday mornings.
- **Practice** Compelling and challenging worship, active small groups, service and mission opportunities are all components of a vital congregation where lives are being changed. When people understand that they are investing in a bold and effective mission that changes people's lives for the better, they will be more likely to be generous with their resources.

Bibliography

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The Paradox of Generosity: Giving We Receive, Grasping We Lose by Christian Smith & Hilary Davidson

The Hidden Brain: How Our Unconscious Minds Elect Presidents, Control Markets, Wage Wars, and Save Our Lives by Shankar Vedantam

The Social Conquest of Earth by Edward O. Wilson