

THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX

You have often heard the saying, “Think outside the box.” This is true as you plan toward your commitment to our capital campaign. Too many times, we limit ourselves and God by considering only our income and what’s in the bank account. There are many other resources from which you can give.

In Exodus 35:21-29, we see Moses gathering resources to build the tabernacle. Notice the kinds of gifts that were made—gifts of purple and scarlet, fine linen, silver and brass, onyx stones and spices and oils. Not the usual gifts for sure! Then in Exodus 36:5-7 we see the result. Moses had to stop the people from giving because they had brought too much! What a great problem to have!

You may be thinking, what can I give? Let me make a few suggestions. Rather than giving cash, why not consider a gift of stock. There are some advantages in making a gift of stock rather than cash. For example, if you transfer the stock directly to the church and let the church sell the stock, you will not incur capital gains tax if you owned the stock for at least a year and a day. This is true of a gift of real estate as well.

Do you own a paid up insurance policy or one that has accrued cash value? You can cash it in and give the proceeds to the campaign if you no longer need the insurance. Do you have a piece of jewelry you could give? One lady funded a scholarship fund with a diamond ring. A man gave the proceeds from the first calf born in the year to fund missions.

You may have savings bonds that have matured. You will have to cash them in and incur the income tax on the interest, but will be able to take a charitable deduction if you itemize.

As you consider your commitment to this campaign, I challenge you to think “outside the box” and get creative. You may be amazed at what God will lead you to do to for his Kingdom!

If you have questions about any of these gift ideas, call Brenda McCollum, J.D., Office of Strategic Endowed Giving, Florida Baptist Convention, (904) 396-2351, extension 3030, or 1-800-226-8584, extension 3030 or e-mail endowedgiving@flbaptist.org.