

Partners IN PLANNING

Cutting the Coal

One man's lifelong call to missions.

Years ago, at the height of World War II, British coal miners were threatening to go on strike—an act which would have dramatically hurt the war effort. Winston Churchill came to the coal miners and gave a speech to encourage them. At one point in his speech, the ever-eloquent Churchill said:



“We will be victorious. We will preserve our freedom. And years from now when our freedom is secure and peace reigns, your children and your children’s children will say to you, ‘What did you do to win the freedom of World War II?’ One will say, ‘I marched for the 8th Army.’ Another will say, ‘I was a fighter pilot,’ another ‘I was in the submarine service.’ And you,

in your turn, will say with equal pride and equal right, ‘I cut the coal that fueled the ships, that moved the supplies. That’s what I did: I cut the coal.’”

We too are in the midst of a great struggle, though for the kingdom of heaven. And each of us has a part to play. Some of us are called to go as missionaries, some are called to send, supporting missionaries financially or relationally, and some are called to lead our churches to be passionate supporters of global missions. Each of us who follow our call, whether to the middle of Africa or to the suburbs of Atlanta, can say with equal right, “This is missions.”

Some, like George, seem called to just about everything.

Born in Latin America, George attended a private school and served in the army before his spiritual journey began. After coming to Christ under the discipleship of a Christian missionary, he moved to the U.S. to attend a Christian college, completing his master’s degree and launching a career as a teacher in California.

During his time as a teacher, a number of things happened. First, George was providentially able to →

Split-Interest Gifts

Gifts that give back

You don't have to choose between financial security and supporting missions. You can choose both with split-interest gifts through MTW's Center for Estate and Gift Planning.

There are two main types of split-interest gifts: Charitable Gift Annuities and Charitable Remainder Trusts. Let's take a look:

Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA)

If you have a CD, savings account, or investment account that is not giving you the return you desire or once had, CGAs may be right for you.

With a Charitable Gift Annuity, you make a gift to MTW of either cash or appreciated securities. In return, you receive immediate tax benefits and MTW will pay you a secure, fixed sum for life. Then, at the time of your death, the remainder of the gift goes to MTW, supporting missions work around the world.

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Case Study 1

Mrs. Capulet is an 80-year-old widow who had a \$10,000 certificate of deposit (CD) with a 2 percent

annual return. She established an MTW annuity with the \$10,000, received an immediate charitable income tax deduction, and now receives annual payments at a 6.8 percent rate of return, based on her age. Because of the charitable tax deduction, and because part of the payment is tax free, her effective rate is 9.8%. She exchanged a low-return CD for a higher annual income, financial security, a charitable income tax deduction and the joy of knowing that her gift will make a lasting gift to missions when she is gone.

Charitable Remainder Trust

If you have appreciated securities or real estate that you want to sell, but have been reluctant to do so because of capital gains tax implications, a Charitable Remainder Trust may be right for you.

Our estate and gift planning specialists begin by working with you to assess your particular goals and needs. Next, real estate, cash, appreciated securities, or other assets are transferred into a charitable trust. Examples of assets we have worked with in the past include office buildings, rental houses, apartment buildings, and appreciated stock. The trust assets are then sold with no depletion of capital gains. The proceeds are invested in a balanced portfolio, managed by MTW, and you receive immediate tax benefits and income from the trust for life. At the time of your death, the remainder of the trust assets go to MTW and your other ministries or church.

Case Study 2

Mr. and Mrs. Montague are in their early 70s. They care deeply about giving to their church and the missionaries they support, but also want to ensure financial security for their future. MTW's Center for Estate and Gift Planning helped them create a Charitable Remainder Trust, funded with a rental house valued at \$250,000.

The Montagues received a charitable income tax deduction and avoided capital gain taxes on their property. MTW, as the trustee, invested the proceeds and provides Mr. and Mrs. Montague annual payments equal to 6 percent of the value of the trust's assets for the remainder of their lives. They are financially secure and rest easy knowing that their church and missionaries will continue to be supported from their estate after they are gone.

MTW's Center for Estate and Gift Planning has been helping people get their houses in order and work through biblical stewardship for over 20 years. It is a joy for us to help people reach their personal estate planning goals, providing for their loved ones while also making a difference for the kingdom.

If you would like to learn more about split-interest gifts and how MTW's Center for Estate and Gift Planning can help, please feel free to call Bruce Owens at 678-823-0028 or email EstateGift@mtw.org. **Design your legacy today.** ■

*case studies are representative examples.

Making Disciples: Training up the next generation of spiritual givers

By Dr. Lloyd Kim



As we reflect on biblical stewardship, it is important to recognize that those of us with the spiritual gift of giving are also called to play our role in making disciples—disciples who have the gift of giving.

Certainly God can accomplish His Great Commission without us. But He chooses to use the body of Christ. Each of us has our part to play in the growth and advancement of the kingdom of God. We have been given these spiritual gifts to encourage, edify, and build up the community of faith. When we recognize that giving is our gift, we contribute with generosity. We give because we believe in the promises of Christ and we see ourselves as one piece of a much larger story of what God is doing across the globe.

But here's the thing: like the other gifts, the gift of giving can be nurtured and developed. Just as missionaries or pastors make disciples who have the gift of teaching, or serving, or doing acts of mercy, supporters and senders are able to make disciples who have the gift of giving. They encourage, invest in, and train up the next generation of spiritual givers. They may be our children. They may be others in our churches who we see have the potential to be givers. But you see, in our discipleship of these younger givers, we are fulfilling the Great Commission mandate—making disciples and teaching them to observe all that Jesus commands.

We should not forget that the spiritual gift we have received came at a very high cost. Jesus gave up all things in order that we might become members of this body, this community of faith. He came into the world, but did not conform to its standards. He was our living sacrifice, who gave and gave and gave, even to the point of giving up His very life on the cross. Yet God raised Him from the dead, to be the firstfruits of a new creation. He is our head, our representative, our Lord. Why do we give? Why do we nurture and train up disciples to give? Because He so generously and lavishly gave to us. He now gives us His Holy Spirit, who fills us and equips us to carry forth His mission in bringing together all of God's people from the ends of the earth. It's not about us. We have nothing to boast about, but a lot to be grateful for. He honors us by giving us the privilege to participate in His kingdom work. And even as we participate, we ought to teach and pass on to others the gift of giving. ■

Lloyd Kim

mtw
Mission to the World



Continued from Page 1:

→ acquire an apartment building, which provided him a supplementary income for over 30 years. Secondly, he became very involved in the missions program of his local church, supporting up to 30 missionaries at a time out of his combined income from the apartment building and teaching.

After retiring from his teaching career, George felt called to serve as a missionary himself. He and his wife moved back to the country of his birth, working with indigenous, unreached people groups in the jungle for over 15 years, even writing an authoritative book about the tribal people groups they encountered. When his wife eventually became ill, they moved back to the U.S. and lived in George's apartment building until her death. Even as George grew older, every winter he returned to his home country to spread the good news of the gospel.

When his own health finally began to deteriorate, George had to move out of his apartment building and into a senior living center. He needed to provide for his own care, but also wanted to continue to support the advancement of the gospel through missions. The logical thing to do was to sell the apartment building, but George realized that if he sold the building outright, a great deal of the proceeds would go to the federal and state government in capital gains taxes, reducing both the amount he could keep to care for himself, and the amount that could go to support his missionaries.

George turned to MTW's Center for Estate and Gift Planning for assistance, and together they came up with a plan—a zero tax sale. The building was sold, and George kept one part of the proceeds for himself, while another part went into a charitable trust. The tax deduction for the amount put into the trust offset

the capital gains tax, providing cash for George with no tax depletion, and allowing him to buy into a residential care facility. Simultaneously, quarterly income from the trust now provides for more than his needs and still continues to support 14 missionaries. At George's death, the trust will go into a fund that will continue to provide support for these missionaries for the entire term of their service.

Over the course of his 97 years, George has served in the struggle for the kingdom of God in multiple ways. He has been the soldier on the front lines, translating the Bible in the jungle to reach the unreached. And he has been the man “cutting the coal,” supplying the fuel—the funds that enable many others to advance the gospel across the globe. His life has been a well-lived testimony of faithful stewardship to the many calls of missions. *For what purpose has God called you?* ■

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We trust you have found this issue of Partners in Planning to be helpful. We look forward to hearing from you with suggestions for future issues or with any questions you may have about the information shared here. Please take time now to complete the response card to receive information on our estate design service and how to donate real estate. We are here to help you in any way we can. Please write or call our office to let us know how we can be of assistance.
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For will and estate planning purposes, our legal name and address are:

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