



May 05, 2026



Greetings, {First Name}

Big Day of Giving, National Giving Day, National Give Back Day, Planned Giving Day and the list goes on and on, naming various days throughout the year designated for giving to a variety of organizations or giving in general. What is your approach to giving, especially to God? Is it out of thanksgiving? Guilt? Compulsion? What is included in your giving? In addition to money, do you include your time, non-monetary resources, and talents? What does the giving by your church look like? This week before you read the blog written by Jared Johnson, I would challenge you to jot down a few thoughts in response to those questions. And then, after reading what Jared shares with us, are there any changes, new ideas, or additions to the notes you made? Does this create a conversation to have with your family? With your elder and church leadership team? With others?

We are excited to welcome two churches, [Southwest Church](#) in Springboro, Ohio and [Fortville Christian Church](#) in Fortville, Indiana, into partnership with e2. We look forward to walking alongside the elders and leadership teams of both churches, to coach and encourage them to lead well in their respective settings.

Gary and Mike devoted a day last week to working with [Charity Church](#) in Indianapolis, spending time with their elders and leadership team. They guided the team as they worked to create the church's three-year strategic plan, (photo above, center).

Again, our thanks to Jared for his words and challenge on creating and maintaining a church culture that is one of generosity.

Be Encouraged,



Debbie Poer
Engagement Director

TITHES & OFFERINGS



Generous Church Culture

By Jared Johnson

“In God’s economy, resources are always available.”

Yet, church budgets are too often painfully limited. People in these United States typically donate around 2% of our GDP to charitable causes each year. Though Americans are often cited as the most generous nation worldwide, [Nigerians donated 2.8% of their income](#) in 2024 (vs. exactly 2.0% for US donors in 2024).

In any case, 2% or 3% is a far cry from the kinds of giving we see in Scripture.

At *e2*, we encourage churches to teach and preach about money and stewardship on a regular basis annually, ideally. Putting money and stewardship into a congregation’s regular rhythm helps people get accustomed to hearing and thinking about the spirituality of their money. Our people are much less likely to react with shock...

Click [HERE](#) to continue reading.

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NEXT STEPS

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The following questions can help us take the next step...

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1. Design a sermon series on life stewardship (i.e. getting out of debt, learning contentment, living in our means, etc.).
2. Create a generosity ministry to bless your neighbors. Whether food pantries, homeless shelters or any other “down-and-out” social cause in your neighborhood, you might create a giving initiative in your congregation independent of but also in addition to your regular offering channel. “Every penny given to this initiative leaves the building.” We’re blessed to be a blessing.
3. Decide on and deploy a generosity curriculum church-wide. Dave Ramsey may be a quick first default, but *e2* can provide you Gary Johnson’s *Too Much* curriculum and others are out there as well.



Jared is a graduate of Lincoln Christian University and Cincinnati Christian University. He serves with e2 effective elders as e2 Resources Director and is a certified Natural Church Development (NCD) America Coach. He lives in Indianapolis with his wife, Melinda. They are parents of four children and a fluffy Great Pyrenees named Talia.



» 2026 Podcasts - Skills of Effective Elders

SKILLS OF EFFECTIVE ELDER

APRIL, 2026

TOPIC:
Encouraging Your Pastor

FEATURED GUEST:
TOM ELLSWORTH
• e2 Bench Coach
• Interim Pastor
• Mentor - Bob Russell Ministries

Dr. Gary Johnson
Co-founder & Executive Director

www.e2elders.org

April podcast

Encouraging Your Pastor
with Gary Johnson and Tom Ellsworth

Find this podcast on [YouTube](#)

Find this podcast on [Spotify](#)

Find this podcast on [Facebook](#)

New Podcast:

Available Friday, May 15, 2026 at 12:00 noon

Ladies, it's time to register!

BELOVED:
REFINED BY
Fire

Beth DeFazio
Teaching & Preaching Professor
Ozark Christian College

June 20, 2026
9am - 2:30pm
The Creek, Indianapolis, IN

REGISTER [HERE](#)

MARCH 12-13, 2027
at Mt. Gilead Church, Mooresville, Indiana

LEAD IN THE SPIRIT WELL

March 12 - 13, 2027
Mt. Gilead Church



Rick Atchley
Senior Minister
The Hills Church



Jeff Snel, DMin
Associate Dean of
Lincoln Seminary



Mark Scott, DMin
Lead & Preaching Minister
Park Plaza Christian Church



Early Bird Pricing ends 4.30.26



2027 LEAD WELL IN THE SPIRIT

FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION CLICK [HERE](#)

Stop bringing meaningless offerings!
Isaiah 1:13

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