

- **Meaningfully Getting to Know Each Other:**
  - Attend the church long enough to sense the Lord's leading to become a member
  - Attend the new member's class (or at least listen to CD's)
  - Read & consider Lakeview's statement of faith
  - Provide a written testimony of your conversion to Christ and that you have followed the Lord in water baptism
  
- **Meaningful Participation:**
  - Be a regular attender of the main gathering on Saturday/Sunday
  - Become part of one of the Covenant Groups
  
- **Commit to a Biblical Lifestyle as it Pertains to being the Church**
  - Study & sign the Church Covenant
  - Contribute to and Support the Ministry of the Local Church

## **Contributing to & Supporting the Local Church**

"from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love." Eph 4:16

"in order that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places." Eph 3:10

The Bible shows the importance before God's throne that every member should be giving themselves to the ministry of the local church. This giving should include the public means of support (attending meetings, serving in roles of ministry, building relationships with others, reaching out to the lost, etc.) as well as private means of support (financial giving, prayer, etc.)

## **Financial Giving Principles Revealed in Scripture**

### **(A) Warnings About Money & Possessions**

"The gospels contain more warnings against money and it's misuse than any other subject. When one totals up the verses in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke, it will be found that one in every four verses deals with money. When one totals up all the verses in the New Testament, it will be found that one in every six verses deal with or has reference to money (or it's equivalent) in one way or another." Kevin Conner, *Tithes & Offerings*, p. 6-7

- ▶ Lk 12:13-34
- ▶ 1Tim 6:6-10, 17-19

**(B) The Pattern of Giving Found in Scripture**

- ▶ The Tithe – Regular Giving Pattern  
Gen 14:18-20  
Gen 28:22  
Pr 3:9-10
- ▶ “Offerings” – Special Giving  
Ex 25 ..... the offering for the Tabernacle  
1Chr 29:3, 6, 9, 14 ..... the offering for the Temple  
2Co 8:1-5

**(C) The Use of the Giving**

- ▶ Old Testament – Support of ministry = both the Levites and the sacrificial system and temple maintenance. Also support of special needs among the people (2nd tithe)
- ▶ New Testament – Support of ministry = Local church leaders & apostolic ministry, needy among them, etc.  
1Co 9:7-14  
Gal 6:6  
Acts 11:29

**(D) Who Do We Give To?**

- ▶ Local Church  
1Tim 5:17-18  
Acts 4:34-35
- ▶ Apostolic Ministry – Preferably through the relationship of the local church  
Acts 11:29-30  
Php 4:15-16.... this letter is addressed to the saints, elders & deacons

**(E) How Often Do We Give?**

Pr 3:9-10 .... From the first of your increase.  
1Co 16:2 .... As the Lord prospers you and is collected weekly

**Prayer Support**

- ▶ Individual Prayer
- ▶ Corporate Prayer

**ADDENDUM 1– *Practical Doctrinal “Emphasis”***