Are you leaving money on the table?

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A BIT OF HISTORY

• Nazarene World Evangelism offerings:
  • Easter
  • Thanksgiving
A BIT OF HISTORY

• Oswald J. Smith, pastor in Toronto, Canada

“We talk of the Second Coming; half the world has never heard of the first.”

“Any church that is not seriously involved in helping fulfill the Great Commission has forfeited its biblical right to exist.”
FAITH PROMISE ANIMATED VIDEO

A one-minute explanation from Grace Church in Coral Gables/Fort Myers, FL (a United Methodist congregation)
THE CULBERTSON FAMILY STORY
YOU ARE POSSIBLY “LEAVING MONEY ON THE TABLE”

Once upon a time, it looked like this:

Tithe + Missions Offerings
YOU ARE POSSIBLY “LEAVING MONEY ON THE TABLE”

What was once “mission offering” money over and above the tithe has, in many churches, simply become a percentage taken out of the tithe money.

Tithe + Missions Offerings
YOU ARE POSSIBLY “LEAVING MONEY ON THE TABLE”

Tithe
A CALL FOR SACRIFICIAL PARTICIPATION IN YOUR CHURCH’S WORLD MISSIONS GIVING

- Annual event
- Sometimes, a mid-year reminder event
It’s not just about money

TIMMY’S LAW

• Thermodynamics: Concept of entropy in Second Law
• Entropy = gradual decline, deterioration, degeneration
• Layman’s terms: Heat dissipates

• Timmy’s Law: *Over time, missions passion dissipates*
A FAITH PROMISE EVENT HELPS REVERSE THE EFFECTS OF “TIMMY’S LAW”

Timmy’s Law: Over time, passion for world evangelism dissipates
7 DOZEN DOs AND DON’Ts

#1

- Don’t spring Faith Promise on people “out of the blue”
- Do get people talking about it ahead of time
7 DOZEN DOs AND DON’Ts
#2

• Don’t be afraid it will siphon money away from other needs

• Do apply the principle in 1 Corinthians 12:26: “If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance.”
7 DOs AND DON’Ts

#3

• Don’t see it as pleading and begging for more money.

• Do see it as opportunity for people to do what God has already called them to do: Give lavishly.
7 DOs AND DON’Ts
#4

• Don’t think of it simply in terms of dollars.

• Do use it to:
  • Generate passion for world evangelism
  • Call for intercessory prayer support
  • Urge children and youth to be open to God’s call to ministry service
7 DOs AND DON’Ts

#5

- Don’t try to do all promotion via pulpit / newsletter / worship folder.

- Do some (or a lot of) one-on-one or small group promotion, giving people opportunity to ask questions and express reservations.
7 DOs AND DON’Ts

#6

- Don’t think of a Faith Promise event as simply the sermon time.
- Do make that Sunday morning a world-missions themed service from beginning to end (*including all the music*).
7 DOs AND DON’Ts

#7

• If there’s a short-fall in reaching 5.5% with Faith Promise, don’t simply make up the difference by dipping into tithe money.

• Do give people opportunity to reach your World Evangelism Fund goal through offerings at Thanksgiving and Easter (and Christmas and whatever other times may be necessary!)
KEYS TO BEING SUCCESSFUL WITH FAITH PROMISE

1. Advance preparation
2. Creative special event with lots of participation
3. Use testimonies of your own members
4. Clear call for commitment and chance to respond
5. Follow-up encouragement throughout the year
LEAVING MONEY ON THE TABLE

1. You’re not helping Kingdom work by leaving money on the table
2. You’re not helping your congregation by leaving money on the table
FEEDBACK TIME

Faith Promise success stories that have warmed your heart . . .
This PowerPoint presentation is available along with related materials and other PowerPoint presentations at http://home.snu.edu/~hculbert/ppt.htm