

## The Giving Roadmap: A Practical Approach to Giving

Follow this step-by-step plan to create giving goals for the next year. Incorporate them into your budget so you can begin giving today. There is no time frame for these steps: simply approach them one at a time. Once you complete a step, move on to the next and keep building the momentum.

### Step 1: Choose Your Destination

Assess how much you want to give during the upcoming year. Set *Should give*, *Could give*, and *Would give* goals:

1. *Should give* – the minimum percentage you feel you should give.

**Should Give Goal:**  %

2. *Could give* – the percentage that you can give, but will stretch your limits.

**Could Give Goal:**  %

3. *Would give* – the percentage you would give if God blesses you to do so; it is above and beyond your current ability and resources.

**Would Give Goal:**  %

Set **short-term** giving goals (between 1-5 years). (Example: “I want to begin tithing 10 percent this year,” or “I want to provide Christmas for an underprivileged family in my area.”)

Set **long-term** giving goals (5+ years). (Example: “I want to donate \$5,000 to support an overseas missionary.”)

## Step 2: Map Your Route

Design your giving system to give immediately or automatically at the beginning of each month, or as soon as your paycheck is deposited (first fruits). Write down how this will be accomplished and set up any automatic transfers, giving envelopes, etc.

## Step 3: Get Started

Begin tithing. Determine what church you will support. Add it to your short-term goals.

Begin giving to other causes. Choose a charity or cause that you have a passion for; begin praying for that organization and create a plan to donate. Add it to your short-term goals.

Use your short- and long-term goals to set up dedicated budget categories. Write down the amount you need to add or remove from each category to achieve your goals.

Goal	Budget Category	Amount to Budget
<i>Example: Provide Christmas for an underprivileged family</i>	<i>Example: Grace Giving</i>	<i>Example: \$300</i>

## Step 4: Build Momentum

Begin grace giving. Do you have the margin in your budget to do this? If so, try it. If not, make it a goal to build this margin within six months. What opportunities are around you for grace giving? List them.

Begin giving of your time. Look for extra organizations or causes you'd like to support with your time as well as your money. What organization will this be?

## Step 5: Rest and Refocus (complete at the end of the year)

	Amount (\$)	Percentage (%)
How much did you give last year?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
How much do you want to give this year?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

How do you feel your ability and desire for giving has grown over the past year?

*Begin this process again at the beginning of each year. Set new short-term goals, and reassess your long-term goals to make any necessary changes.*