

WHEN YOU GIVE

Freedom 5:one Ministries

www.freedom5one.com

A New Testament Look at Generosity for the Christian Family

by Tim Howington and Chris Haas

Since our inception in 2010, Freedom 5 has assisted countless individuals and families in navigating their generosity goals. Research reveals that, on average, Christians contribute only 1-3% of their income to Kingdom causes, resulting in a bottleneck of resources for churches and faith-based organizations. We believe there's room for improvement.

Through our personal finance coaching with families, we've uncovered various reasons why our clients struggle to meet their generosity objectives. Many aspire to be more generous but lack a clear path to achieve it. Financial difficulties, poor money management, and a lack of clarity on giving priorities further complicate matters. To address these challenges, we've recently launched a book titled **When You Give** (Westbow Press).

After five years of planning, writing, and publishing, the book has finally hit the shelves. We're immensely relieved and excited, as we envision its potential to exponentially impact generosity within the body of Christ. Now, our focus shifts to spreading the word.

If you're seeking a summary of our study, here it is: Generosity boils down to giving—whether it's your time, talent, or treasure—to something or someone you value. Kingdom Generosity holds immense significance, as it underpins the financial integrity of the greatest endeavor humanity has ever embarked upon—the expansion of the Kingdom of God. When Jesus preached, 'Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand' (Matthew 4:17), and entrusted His disciples with the Great Commission to spread the gospel worldwide (Matthew 28:18-20), He laid the groundwork for the Christian family's responsibility. Fulfilling this mandate demands time, talent, and treasure. Our book delves into funding the mission, urging a shift in perspective from the organizations supported to the primary funder—the Christian family. Their financial well-being and vision of the Christian family are pivotal for reaching the world for Christ, not just in this generation, but in the generations to come.

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for the Christian Family

TIM HOWINGTON AND CHRIS HAAS

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WalMart.com
WestBow Press
and many more

Spring 2024 Edition

The Story of NWA Gives

Inspiring Generosity to Meet the Needs of Northwest Arkansas

In early 2018, we (Chris and Tim) were discussing a Spring fundraiser for Freedom 5:one. We were surprised that no foundation had picked up the baton of organizing a state-wide day of giving like the one we had participated in for 3 years (Arkansas Gives). It had been extremely helpful for our ministry and for hundreds of nonprofits across our area but had ended the previous year.



www.nwagives.org

We decided to move forward with the idea of hosting a regional giving day to benefit nonprofits here in NW Arkansas, we called it NWA Gives. We invited and recruited other ministries and nonprofits to join us and with the help of a few volunteers we hosted the first NWA Gives Day of Giving on April 5th, 2018. We had 115 nonprofits participate from across the region and collectively raised \$208,000 in 12 hours!

It was exciting to see the heart for giving in NWA and the potential to inspire generosity to meet the needs of the community. We invited other strategic partners to join the team to help grow and expand NWA Gives forming the NWA Gives organization as a 501c3 with its own Board of Directors. Chris is currently serving on the board.

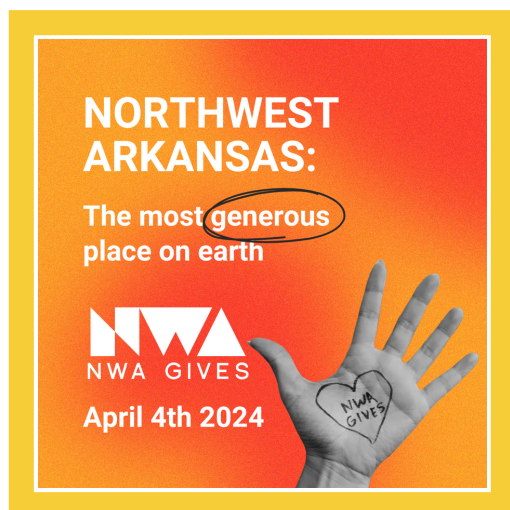
What started as an initial idea has grown. In the past 6 years (2018-2023), NWA Gives has helped raise over \$3.5 million in the community for nonprofits!

In 2023, the NWA community gave \$944,000 to local charities.

The Vision is to see NWA become the most generous place on earth!

One of the signature emphases of NWA Gives is providing fundraising training and marketing resources and provides a unique opportunity for nonprofits to share their mission, amplify their message, and raise the money needed to do their work!

We are so thankful to the Lord and to all our ministry partners who helped make this the greatest day of generosity in NWA! We want to invite you to give this year to Freedom 5:one and to other groups that do amazing work to meet the needs of our community.



This year's Day of Giving is April 4th, 2024

Join us in helping make NWA the most generous place on earth!

The Untold Stories of Generous Stewards

Amidst a world often driven by self-interest, there exists a powerful yet understated force of generosity. These untold stories of generous stewards, individuals who extend their hands without seeking recognition, shape communities and touch lives in profound ways.

Consider "Z," for instance. Raised in a tradition of strict tithing, he sought reassurance about a recent gift. Through a heartfelt conversation about generosity and the **WELCOME** acronym, he discovered a deeper connection to the generosity of God as depicted throughout the Bible. When his friends faced financial strain after experiencing a miscarriage, "Z" and his compassionate wife stepped in, covering all their medical expenses and providing much-needed support during a difficult time.



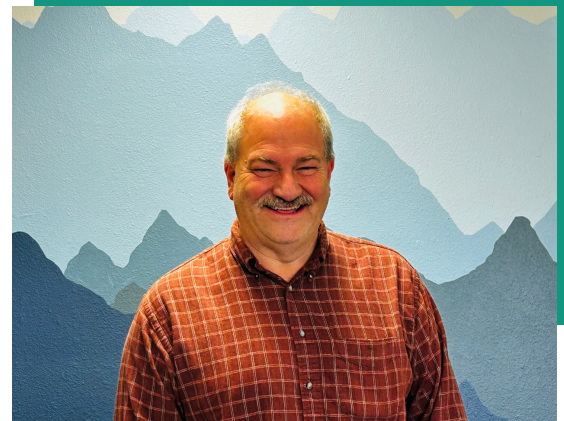
Then there's "M," a beacon of kindness within his Sunday School community. Sensing the financial hardship of a struggling family, "M" and his wife quietly decided to extend a helping hand. Their act of anonymous generosity, leaving "Mailbox Money," was nothing short of miraculous. The amount left precisely matched the family's overdue bills, prompting tears of gratitude and awe.

And let's not overlook the dedicated teacher and her husband, whose hearts overflowed with compassion. Upon noticing that several families had missed applying for the Free and Reduced Lunch program at her school, they didn't hesitate to cover the expenses for these vulnerable families, easing their burden and ensuring that no child went hungry.

These remarkable acts, both grand and subtle, serve as poignant reminders of the boundless impact of kindness. They reflect the very essence of God's generosity and love. Whether you've quietly brightened someone's world or been the recipient of such profound benevolence, we invite you to share your story with us. Reach out to us at tr.laughlin@freedom5one.com

A Vision of Raising Leaders in the Underserved Community: Extra Mile

We are excited to welcome Ed Phillips to the team! With 28 years of pastoral ministry experience, Ed joins Freedom 5:one, bringing his expertise in community service from Chicago and Columbia, Missouri. Having earned his MDIV at Trinity Divinity School, Ed and his wife Peggy, are embarking on a new chapter in Arkansas. His mission? Implementing the **Extra Mile Program**, empowering underemployed individuals through peer-to-peer coaching, incentives, and mentorship, fostering lasting financial stability and community support with the help of trained volunteers from local churches. **This program will allow us to provide financial education and coaching in concert with other nonprofits who are serving the poor and near poor in our community.**





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AND HELP CHANGE THE FINANCIAL DESTINY OF FAMILIES



FOR

THURSDAY APRIL 4th

Join us!