

## When Can We “Afford” Stewardship?

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*The young couples’ Sunday school class was studying the story of Abraham and Sarah, who in their 90s were blessed with a child, Isaac.*

*“What lesson,” the teacher asked, “do we learn from this story?”*

*A young mother blurted out, “They waited until they could afford it.”*

We chuckle at the joke, but it reveals a truth about how we as followers of Christ often do not trust God’s abundant blessings in our lives. We wait to share our stewardship gifts

until we have enough to not only cover our daily needs but our wants and desires as well. We spend our lives accumulating until we are comfortable; then we will be able to give more to the church or to others – when we can afford it.

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When will that be?

Why not start today by sharing more of what you have with others?

What if we truly embrace the promises of God that what we give away is not lost but a conscious demonstration of trust in God to provide?

We may discover that God will bless us more if we trust God enough to take a risk through “first fruit giving.” This means offering a response to honor God as the very first thing we do. It is taking a risk, giving a strong share of the blessings God has given you to reach beyond yourself and place it in God’s hands to be multiplied in the world.

Remember part of the appeal of stewardship is to let go and give it into God’s hands to use without any strings attached.