



More Than
STONE SOUP

A Stewardship and Giving Emphasis Program for Congregations

LEADERS DEVOTIONAL OUTLINE

Timing: Monday of Week #4

Purpose: To motivate the congregational leadership to step forward and significantly increase their financial commitment as a model for the congregation to follow.

Suggested Speaker: Pastor or the program Coordinator

Audience: The Governing Board (Church Council) and all other parishioners in positions of leadership should be present. All key Team Leaders, as identified on the front of the Program Schedule and Timeline Road Map, should be in attendance as well.

Devotional Text: 1 Chronicles 29: 1-18

Refreshments: May be served before, during, or following the meeting as is best determined locally by Pastor, the Program coordinator and the Program Team.

Suggestions: These points are to be covered and are provided as an outline:

1. Study the entire 29th chapter of 1st Chronicles in preparation for the meeting.
2. Welcome the attendees and explain the agenda for the evening.
3. Explain they have been invited to the meeting because they are the recognized leaders of the congregation. They have been recognized as the “movers and shakers” who get things done because of their gifts and ability for leadership.
4. As leaders, they are being asked to lead in the stewardship and giving campaign by being the first to give prayerful consideration to their financial commitment in the coming year, and to complete their Estimate of Giving card early.
5. Read 1 Chronicles 29:1-18 to those attending. You may choose to prepare a handout containing the Scripture verses.
6. Reflect on David’s leadership. His commitment and generosity in supporting the temple building program motivated others to give generously as well.

7. Note that David knew he would never see the temple but was generous despite his disappointment.
8. This is what leaders do; they lead the way, setting an example for others to follow.
9. Explain that now it is their turn to lead. Pass out the Growth in Giving Challenge Charts and the Estimate of Giving Cards. Ask all present to complete the cards. Emphasize the date when the cards must be returned, and to whom.
10. Draw their attention to the Challenge Chart and make reference to the Growth In Giving Challenge located on the bottom, back side of the chart. Discuss and promote the challenge of working toward Tithing as a standard for giving.
11. Remind all that the leadership commitments will be reported collectively to the congregation, and their commitments will establish a mark for others to reach. Encourage generosity in their commitment, lifting up David's commitment, and the generosity of others his commitment encouraged. Ensure all that Pastor will complete an Estimate of Giving Card as well, and Pastors' commitment will be included in the early report.
12. Ask if any might have questions. Encourage discussion, then focus and direct the discussion toward commitment.
13. Close in prayer.