

Your Guide to the 2021 *Giving Season*

Inspiration, ideas, and key
dates for year-end giving



National Christian
FOUNDATION®

A time when generosity fills the air with hope

For most of us, the next few months are the busiest time of the year, filled with rapidly approaching tax deadlines, holiday preparations, and Christmas shopping. But we know that your focus this season is on the reason for our hope, Jesus, and how you can honor him with your generosity in the coming days.

To help you do that, our *Guide to the 2021 Giving Season* guide has inspiration, creative ideas, and practical information to empower you to give with more joy and impact.

You can use this guide to create a new generous family tradition, maximize your Giving Fund, give more with a non-cash asset, and carve out quiet time with devotions about biblical generosity.

May God bless you as you give wisely and generously this holiday season.

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DEVOTIONAL

A baby will bring us together

They came from everywhere ... from a common field, a faraway land, and even the holy realm of heaven itself. An unassuming group in an unlikely place, gathered to celebrate the greatest gift of all. It was a baby that brought them together.

Just like the shepherds, wise men, and angels who joined in praise long ago – the birth of our Savior still draws believers together, to unite in celebration of the greatest gift ever given to the world.

As recipients of such a precious gift, it is our greatest joy to worship God for what he so generously gave us – because everything we are, and everything we have, are his.

Take a moment to think about that. God's gift to us was found in a humble place, surrounded by unexpected people who had little familiarity, vision, or control over the moment.

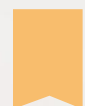
But what they did have in common was this – a calling to be in a place, at a particular time, to witness and praise God for the miraculous gift of Jesus himself.

This Christmas, ask yourself ...

Is my heart in a posture to receive all the precious gifts God has given me?

Am I willing to faithfully step into unknowns to partner in his generous plans for the world?

Do I know where he is calling me to give, as a reflection of his generosity?



Download our 10-day Christmas devotional for more inspiration to share with your friends and family at ncfgiving.com/devotional

10 ways to make generosity a family tradition

As the world seems to grow more and more unpredictable, you may be looking for ways to bring a constant sense of God's peace and presence to your family. During the holiday season and beyond, family giving traditions can be a powerful way to find comfort in the chaos, connect with your community, and pass along your values. This year, we encourage you to start a new tradition with one of these activities, or use them to spark some ideas of your own.



1. BIG TIP TUESDAY: Every Tuesday, take your family out for a meal and leave an extravagant tip for your server. Let a different family member decide the amount every time, and whether it should be anonymous.

2. KID'S SHOPPING SPREE IN REVERSE: Take young children to shop (on a budget) for gifts to donate to kids in need. They'll experience what it feels like to pick out a toy that's not for them and they'll learn what things cost.

3. YES! DAY: Pick one (or several) days throughout the season when you say "yes" to every charitable request you receive, even if it's just a small gift, prayer, or volunteer commitment.

4. YEAR-END GIVING REVIEW: Run reports from your Giving Fund to see when, where, and what you gave this year so far. Share with your family to celebrate your impact or decide what you'd like to do differently.

5. CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR STRANGERS: Instead of (or in addition to) sending cards to friends and family, buy a box of Christmas cards and write an encouraging message or verse to share with people you meet during your day.

6. THE GIVING PENNIES GAME: Use your Giving Fund to research charities as a family. Give each child 10 pennies, representing \$100 each (or an amount of your choosing), to vote for their favorite ones. Then, log back into the Fund with your kids to make grants together.

7. THE LOVE LANGUAGE GIFT: Make sure each person in your family receives a gift in their special love language. If you're not sure what their love language is, go through the *The 5 Love Languages* with them to find out.

8. SERVING DAYS (INSTEAD OF SHOPPING DAYS): Count how many days there are until Christmas and see how many volunteer opportunities you can plan as a family so you spend more time serving and less time shopping.

9. PRIVILEGE MEETS RESPONSIBILITY: Honor the teenagers in your life with the gift of a new privilege to enjoy in the coming year, and pair it with a new responsibility that involves giving back.

10. THE JOY JAR: Encourage everyone to jot down their favorite moments of generosity this season and drop them in the Joy Jar. Keep it going all year long and read them all next Christmas Eve.

"The true light,
which gives light to
everyone, was coming
into the world."

John 1:9

Creative ways to maximize your Giving Fund

If you're one of the thousands of generous givers who use a Giving Fund (donor-advised fund) at NCF, you know how simple and fun it is to make an impact for the causes and charities you love most ... online, anytime, 24/7.

Besides the basics of adding money to your balance and then sending grants to charities, did you know about these other creative ways to use your Fund?

Automate your giving

Instead of just one-time transactions, you can set up regular, automatic withdrawals from your bank account or credit card to go into your Fund. You can also schedule recurring grants from your Fund so that checks go to your favorite charities monthly, quarterly, or annually ... even when you're out of town or unable to log in.

Grant anonymously

When supporting a charity, you can mark your grants as anonymous, so money goes out without your name attached. It's a great way to give humbly and with complete privacy.

Find your favorite charities

There are now close to 50,000 profile pages for charities, organized under 50+ causes, such as adoption, evangelism, and human trafficking. You can browse charities, add them to your favorites list, and send them grants when you're ready.

Consider bunching your gifts

Did you know that your Fund can play an integral role in a bunching strategy? You can give multiple years of charitable contributions in a single year, then grant the contributions to charities over the years you claim the standard deduction. Our team of experienced professionals is ready to help you explore your giving opportunities.

Leave a legacy of giving

Your Fund can be a powerful tool to impact your favorite causes, even after your lifetime. Log in to set up a succession plan so your kids and grandkids can manage your Fund for years to come. Also consider naming NCF as the beneficiary in your will, trusts, 401ks, IRAs, and other estate documents.

Grow your Fund by investing

Select from a variety of options that put your Giving Fund to work. NCF offers multiple investment pools, impact investing opportunities, and the ability to set up separately managed accounts.



New to a Giving Fund?

A Giving Fund works like a charitable checking account, and it's just as quick and easy to use. If you don't have one already, you can open one in minutes and log in to start giving and granting today!

Get started today at
ncfgiving.com/givingfund

Experience the power of non-cash giving

Have you ever considered giving non-cash assets such as real estate, business interests, or stocks to the causes and charities you love? It's a powerful and creative way you can experience ...

More to ministry

Potential capital gains tax savings means more may be available for granting to your favorite charities and causes.

Greater tax-deductions

You typically will receive a tax deduction for the fair market value of your non-cash gift.

Customized guidance

Over four decades, our team has helped givers like you donate 2,600+ non-cash assets worth \$4 billion+.

Real estate

Whether you own commercial real estate or a vacation home, you may be able to turn your valuable property into food for the hungry, Bibles for evangelism, research to fight a disease, or anything else God is calling you to support.

Considering selling?

You can potentially reduce taxes by giving appreciated real estate to NCF before a future sale. Our team has decades of experience receiving and liquidating commercial, residential, or undeveloped property.

Managing property?

Your income-producing real estate can become a kingdom-producing investment with NCF. We can help you give residential or commercial real estate, and even rental income property, while continuing to manage it yourself.

Download a helpful 1-pager to learn how this works at
ncfgiving.com/realestate



Business

Whether you're selling your company in the future or just feel overwhelmed with taxes and limited cash flow, you can join countless people using their businesses to make a bigger difference for the charitable causes you care about most.

Selling a company?

Only a select group of entrepreneurs ever have the opportunity to sell their successful company for a sizable gain. Many business owners have a heart to give charitably but don't know where to turn for wise counsel when preparing for a future liquidity event. We can help you maximize your sale and your impact, even during the holiday season.

Download a helpful 1-pager to learn how this works at
ncfgiving.com/business

Stocks

In most cases, if you have appreciated stocks or mutual funds in a taxable investment portfolio, you have a significant opportunity to give more, simplify the process, potentially pay less tax, and improve your personal cash flow.

Learn more about giving stocks and get started today
ncfgiving.com/stocks



See the power of non-cash giving in our 2-minute video at ncfgiving.com/noncash

Do you have a Giving Strategy™?

Giving can transform every major aspect of your life. At NCF, we help you create a Giving Strategy that applies a biblical foundation to your giving so you can:

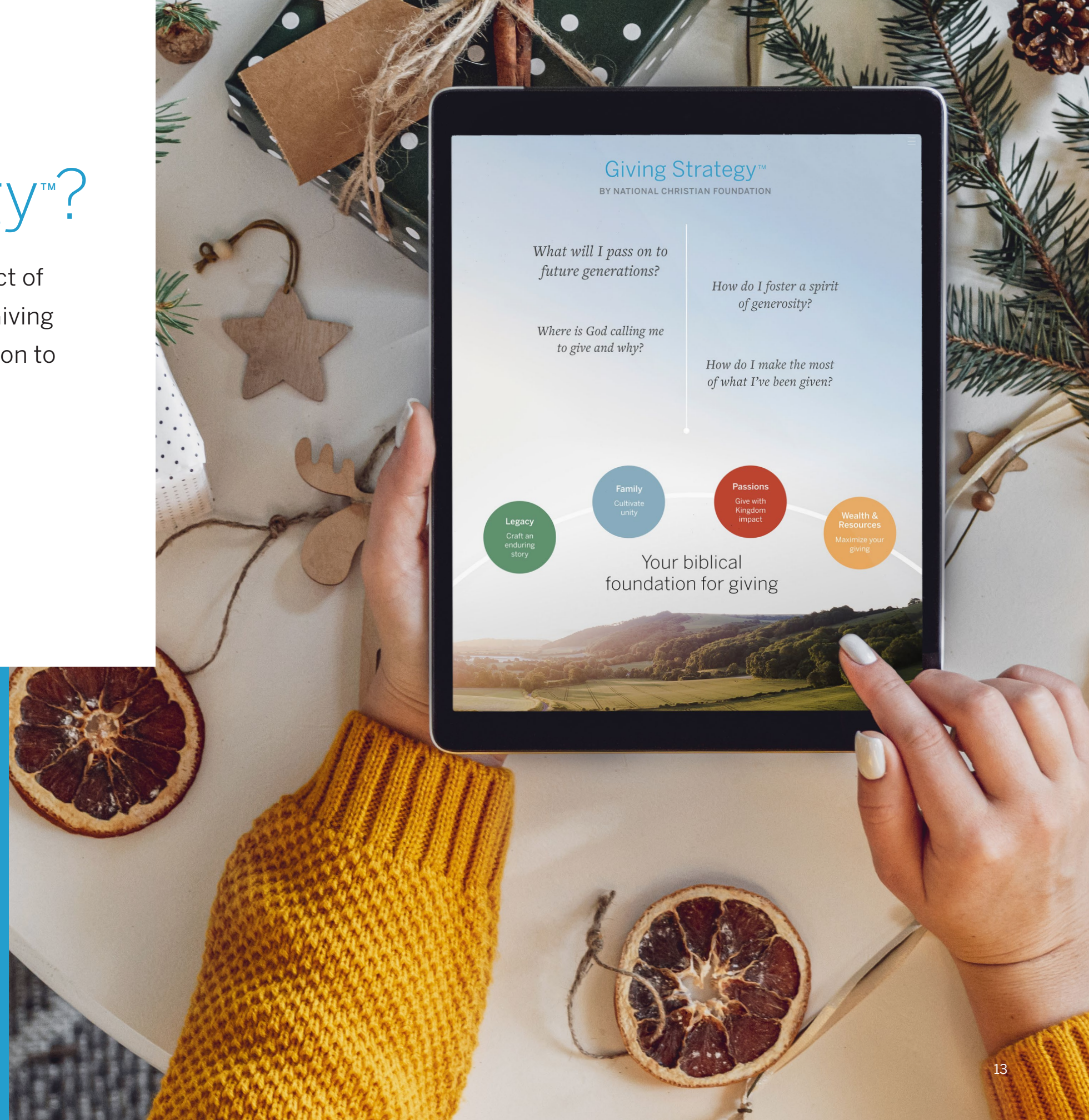
- Leave a meaningful legacy
- Cultivate unity in your family
- Give with kingdom impact
- Maximize what you have to give

See how a Giving Strategy can make all the difference

Watch our 2-minute introduction video at:



ncfgiving.com/strategy



2021 year-end giving dates to remember

There's no better time than now to start planning your end-of-year giving.

Nov 15: Supporting Organizations

All requests for the creation of a new Supporting Organization must be made by this date.

Nov 29: Real Estate Gifts

Any real estate gifts requiring an environmental assessment must be initiated with NCF by this date.

Dec 10: Proprietary Mutual Funds

All proprietary mutual fund transfers must be initiated by this date.

Dec 15: Grants to Charities

Grant requests to approved charities must be submitted by this date if you would like a check mailed by the end of the year. Note: Grants do not have to be issued by year-end for tax purposes.

Dec 15: Publicly Traded Securities or E-checks

All stock and mutual fund transfers should be initiated with the transferring broker by this date. E-checks also need to be initiated by this date. A physical check or a wire transfer should be considered instead of an E-check after December 15.

Download all necessary forms at
ncfgiving.com/forms



Dec 15: Complex Gifts (business interests, real estate, and life insurance)

To ensure your complex gift can be completed by December 31, a completed Asset Donation Form and all accompanying required documents must be received by this date. Note: Due to the high volume of complex gifts at the end of the year, we encourage you to submit your documents as soon as possible. We can accept your gift as early as today with an effective date of December 31, 2021.

Dec 31: Cash and Complex Contributions

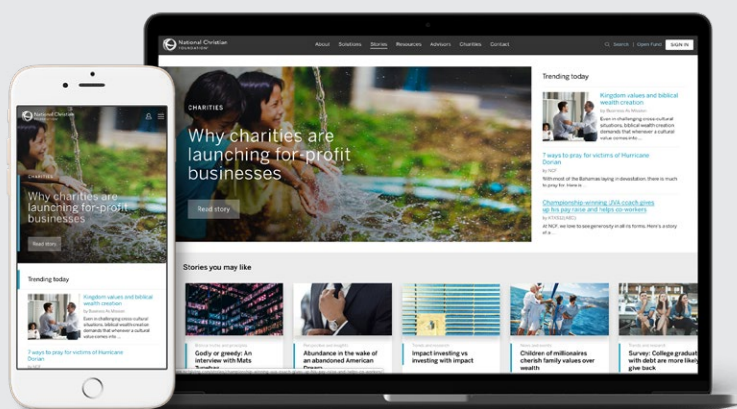
Physical checks and cash must be postmarked by this date. Wire transfers must be received in NCF's bank account by this date. Complex gifts must be finalized by this date.

Your last chance for 100% AGI Giving

The CARES ACT provision that allows you to deduct up to 100 percent of your adjusted gross income (AGI) with potential tax savings has been extended. There are a number of ways to reach 100% AGI, and we can show you how to get there. Contact your NCF team today to learn how you can leverage this unique opportunity before it expires on December 31, 2021.

Full of inspirational and practical wisdom, this guide is designed to help you and your family thoughtfully plan your year-end giving this holiday season.

Since 1982, our team at the National Christian Foundation (NCF) has helped thousands of givers like you mobilize more than \$13 billion dollars for 71,000 charities. Every day, from coast to coast, NCF's experienced charitable giving professionals serve givers, advisors, charities, and churches with the most innovative giving solutions available today.



Visit ncfgiving.com/stories

for more giving inspiration and innovative strategies. Also, don't forget to sign up for the *Saturday 7*, our weekly email digest of hand-picked stories just for you.

