

Pathway: Generosity Together

September 28, 2025

“There’s nothing left to learn the hard way. No one expects you to run into a burning building. People call at 9PM and ask, ‘Did I wake you?’ Things you buy now won’t wear out. You can eat dinner at 4PM. In a hostage situation, you’re likely to be released. You enjoy hearing about other people’s operations. Your back goes out more than you do.

Your supply of brain cells is finally to a manageable size. You have a party and the neighbors don’t even realize it. You no longer think of speed limits as a challenge. You sing along to the elevator music. You quit trying to hold your stomach in, no matter who walks into the room. Your eyes won’t get much worse. Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off. Your joints are more accurate than the national weather service, and your secrets are safe with your friends because they can’t remember them either.”

- The Benefits of Growing Old

Today - Generosity: Using our time and talents to see *life in Christ for every Alaskan and the world beyond!*

When God’s people are gathered in authentic community, generosity abounds!

Looking at the ‘Old-Timers’

Abraham

- Genesis 14:17-20

Ancient Israel

- Leviticus 27:30-34

A problem presented itself: *The devotion was lost to doing the duty*

- Matthew 23:23

- Luke 11:42

Learning from the ‘Old-Timers’

Principle #1: Giving to God must be a first act of worship

Principle #2: Giving to God should be for those who serve us spiritually

- Galatians 6:6

- 1 Corinthians 9:14

Principle #3: Giving to God a required amount can pervert the reason we give

TTTH: Giving to God in our faith community is a generous expression of love, not just an expenditure from the leftovers!

Challenge FOR Every Alaskan:

- 1. Let's put the Lord first in our generosity**
- 2. Let's not be stingy with what doesn't belong to us anyway**