



## Our Season of Stewardship

Each Sunday throughout this Season of Stewardship at St. George's (October 7<sup>th</sup> through November 4<sup>th</sup>), you will receive a card like this one in your worship bulletin. Each card will offer thoughts, prayers, meditations, or practical guidance on "Transforming Generosity." Fold it in half and stick it in your pocket or purse as a reminder throughout the week to **transform generosity in your life and community** out of thanks for the gifts God gives you each day.

Concepts and text in this week's card adapted from The Episcopal Network for Stewardship ([www.tens.org](http://www.tens.org)).



I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

~ John 15:5

**St. George's Episcopal Church  
Austin, Texas**

To pledge your financial gifts for 2018, complete a pledge card (on the tables in the church) or pledge online at [www.sgchurch.org/stewardship](http://www.sgchurch.org/stewardship).

## The Kingdom of God

A gospel of Mark tells us about a rich man who anxiously runs up to Jesus and begs to know what he needs to do to inherit eternal life. He says he's followed the commandments since his youth, but still, he's worried. Jesus then offers a simple, but apparently very difficult, answer: Sell everything, give to the poor, and follow me.

So how can we, in the 21st century, find peace in "Sell everything"? Could it be that what Jesus is telling us is more like: "Abandon all of your unhealthy attachments. Let go of the things, habits, thoughts, doubts, addictions, false securities, and fears that hold you back. Have faith. Stretch yourself. Seize the moment and take risks"?

As we assess what to make of our time, talents and treasure this season, we are called to make sense of the words of One who says both "Sell everything" and "I have come that you might live abundantly." It sounds confusing, but in the end we must trust Jesus when he

St. George's Vestry  
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says: "There is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's, who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time." (Mark 10:29)

The kingdom of God, eternal life, true freedom are near. How can we not seize the moment?

~ Nick Cuccia, *The Episcopal Network for Stewardship*

## A Prayer for Transforming Generosity

Oh God, in your infinite generosity you have created a world with resources to sustain all of your children with abundance of food, work and recreation. Transform us to humbly receive and joyfully share your bounty with others. In the name of Jesus, we pray.

Amen.

~ Adapted from the *Episcopal Network for Stewardship*

We hope you find these offerings helpful as our church engages in *Transforming Generosity*.



**St. George's  
Episcopal Church**  
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