

Stewardship Forum

An evangelical alliance Partnership for Change

Stewardship Tools for Leaders : Quotes & Illustrations

Title: Encouraging joyful giving

Author:

One of the episode of a television show titled "Northern Exposure" told the story of how Hollings (*one of the characters in the show*) sent a cheque every month to support a young boy. Hollings was not this boy's father. But he felt compelled to send the money because an act of carelessness by Hollings had killed the boy's father just after the boy was born. Every month Hollings sent a cheque to this boy out of guilt for what he had done, with no joy.

In the course of the story, the boy discovered who was sending him this money and why. After the truth became known, a warm relationship developed between Hollings and the boy. The monthly support cheques then became a positive, voluntary and joyful act.

In **2. Corinthians 9:7**, Paul says that God loves a cheerful giver. He reminds Corinthians that Christ died for them and invites them to become generous givers following the example of their Lord. Is your giving to the church a cheerful response to God's love for you?