

We Give Because He Gave

The most famous verse in the Bible is John 3:16. Let's repeat that verse together. I think this one verse sums up Christmas. God loves us so much that He sent His one and only son, Jesus, to bring us the hope of eternal life. Notice the verse says, "For God, *so loved* the world that He *gave*..." We give gifts this Christmas to those we love but none of us will give a gift as costly as one of our children. Yet, that is how much God loves you. God gave us the greatest gift, the gift of eternal life.

Jesus' last command to the Disciples was, "Go ye into all the world and make disciples." Jesus' desire is that anyone, anywhere, at any time, might have the gift of eternal life. From that last meeting with the Disciples until this moment, churches like ours have been committed to spreading the Good News of Salvation. This is our mission.

Every time you give here at our church, you help us spread the Good News. Your generosity makes possible all the missions and ministry efforts here. Collectively, all our gifts combined make a huge difference as we attempt to fulfill Jesus' command to go into all the world and make disciples. So, from the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for your generosity.

This morning as we take up this offering, let's give generously because God gave so generously to us.

