

## **Fundraising Philosophy at Mountain View Community Church**

1. We do not see fundraising in the New Testament. The Bible is silent on this matter. It is not encouraged nor is it condemned. We see generous freewill giving (planned, regular, spirited, uncoerced—see 1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:6-15) modeled and exhorted.
2. Jesus condemns giving that is done to be seen by men (Matthew 6:1-4).
3. Jesus says that when we give we are to do so as if we ourselves are not aware of how much we are giving (“do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing” Matt. 6:3). Moreover, our giving is to be in secret (Matt. 6:4).
4. Based on these biblical patterns and precepts for giving, at MVCC we will seek to primarily encourage and rely on the faithful, generous, freewill, and secret giving of God’s people to support the general budget and various special ministries or ministry events of Mountain View. Items that are sold at church (e.g. books, tapes, CD’s, food and drink) on a regular or frequent basis will be offered at cost, and the proceeds will not be used for the raising of funds.
5. On occasion, as needed, we will prayerfully use fundraising type events or practices to support ministries that are not fully covered by the budget (e.g. youth conferences, retreats). Such fundraising activities are to primarily be limited to the church body and should not draw attention to the “giver” nor be a stumbling block to God’s people. They should be implemented infrequently. Before using fundraising that involves selling at a profit it should be prayerfully determined by the ministry leaders if a secret love offering of some sort (prayer letter, offering after church etc.) or acts of service (e.g. car wash, household chores) should be pursued instead. If a special offering of some sort is recommended, this request should be brought to the elders for consideration.

The Elders of Mountain View Community Church  
August 29, 2002  
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