



SENSIBLE PLANNING for Financial Security & Spiritual Fulfillment...

For Love and Money

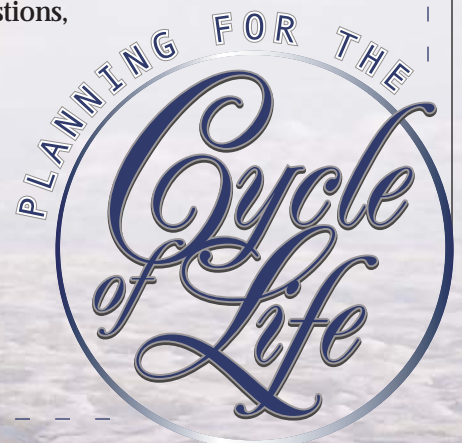
By H. Maynard Lowry*

Each year Americans give more than \$200 billion to religious, education, health, environmental and other social causes. We are among the wealthiest but also the most generous people in the world. And Seventh-day Adventists rank right up there as some of the most generous Americans.

If your household is like most, you probably get several solicitations every day for money to support various causes. Some of them may be very good and worthy, but how do you decide which to support? One approach would be to send a little something to each one. Another approach is to do a personal philanthropic values audit—this process can be as simple as asking yourself a few important questions, such as the following:

1. What experiences and people have been key in shaping my core values and passions?

—continued on next page



2. What have I noticed about my values when I consider important choices in my life in terms of career, lifestyle, donations and spending?

3. When I consider the issues and events addressed in what I read, listen to and watch on television, what moves me most?

4. What organizations have shaped my values and contributed to my lifestyle that now make it possible for me to reach out and assist others with my means?



Life Income for the Charitably Inclined

Once you've decided to whom you wish to give, the question becomes: What is the best way to give? Beyond the obvious way of writing a check to enclose in a mail solicitation or dropping a dollar into the offering plate, there are a host of other tax-wise and effective ways of giving. Some of these may be helpful to you in your financial planning and may also make a huge difference in the ability of the organizations you love to help carry out their missions of education, service and declaring the gospel.

Many individuals would love to make a gift that is significant, but have uncertainty about their own financial independence. How much will one need through old age is a frequent question if not a source of anxiety. With a

life income gift, you may be able to address such questions and still make the gift you'd like to give and get some other benefit too.

Life income gifts have the advantage of letting you make a gift while also assuring that you will have financial resources to fund your income and retirement needs. Unlike a gift through a bequest in a will or trust, you'll also get some immediate tax benefits. These life income gifts may take the form of an immediate charitable gift annuity, a deferred charitable gift annuity, a charitable remainder unitrust or annuity trust, a pooled-income fund, or several other deferred giving options.

Why a Lifetime Income Gift is a Good Idea

The advantages of lifetime income gifts are several.

First, you may be able to make

a gift of a size you've only dreamed of making. And you'll receive income during your lifetime. For example, a charitable gift annuity will pay you a high rate of income (from 7.5 to 11.5 percent annually),

depending on your age, for your lifetime. Whatever money is left after you, or you and your spouse, die will go to an organization you love and believe in—your church, a school, or your alma mater.

**“THE ADVANTAGES
OF LIFETIME
INCOME GIFTS,
ARE SEVERAL.”**

PLANNING FOR



Second, because you are making a gift to a charity (even though it's a gift that will pass to that charity in the future), the IRS allows you to take a current income tax deduction in the year that you make the life-time income gift agreement with your church or alma mater. The deduction is based on the expected value of

the future gift that will go to the charity. This can save you a significant amount in income taxes on April 15th.

Third, you can be assured of secure and professional management of your assets.

Checklist for Gift Decision-Making

If you're trying to decide whether and how you can put your money where your love is, here are a few questions that may be helpful.

1. Is a life income gift option right for you?
2. Which life income gift option is best?
3. Have you compared the planned giving options using software calculations provided by the charity?
4. Do you understand the terms of the gift options, income payments, and tax deductions?

5. Have you selected the correct assets to fund the life income gift?

6. Have you met with a staff member at the development or trust services office to ask for assistance?

7. Have you discussed the gift option with your personal advisors?

“...YOU CAN PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR LOVE IS...”

Tax Efficient Gift Transfer

You may be able transfer appreciated assets like stocks, corporate and non-federal governmental bonds in exchange for some life income gifts and reduce some of the capital gains tax that may be due. The remainder of the tax may be prorated over your life expectancy. In some cases, you may be able to transfer a completely paid for piece of real estate, other than your personal residence, in exchange for such gifts.



Financial Security and Your Legacy

The bottom line is that your personal values and your

THE
Cycle
Life

charitable intent can result in providing you with security during your lifetime and can give you



great satisfaction. Through a lifetime income gift, you can advance God's work through His church and His educational institutions. With your gift you'll be able to leave a significant legacy and also receive lifetime benefits. When you are gone, you will still influence lives for Christ through your remainder gift.

If you'd like to know more about how one of these gift options can take some of the uncertainty out of your planning, give a call today to the toll-free number listed here. You can get help in making a decision and you'll help the work of some great causes that you value and love. ☎

**H. Maynard Lowry is Director of Planned Giving & Major Gifts at La Sierra University.*

- Please send me a confidential illustration of what a gift annuity can do for me.
- I would like to talk with someone about a planned gift or preparation of a will or a trust.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

E-Mail: _____

Please mail this form to:

Trust Services
P. O. Box 7269
Westlake Village, CA 91359

I would like to work with a representative from:

- Arizona
- Central California
- Northern California
- Southeastern California
- Southern California
- Hawaii
- Nevada-Utah
- Pacific Union
- La Sierra University
- Pacific Union College

This publication is designed to provide general information about planning opportunities. It is not designed to provide tax, legal or other advice for a specific situation. Any examples provided are strictly for illustrative purposes and may not apply in your situation. The law in this area is highly complex and constantly changing. Even a slight variation in facts or a minor change in the law can impact the effectiveness of certain strategies. Advice from a qualified attorney and/or tax accountant should always be obtained before implementing any of the strategies described.

Gift Planning & Trust Services

**Toll Free Phone Number
(877)-466-2819**

E-mail plannedgiving@puonline.org **Website** www.willplan-puconference.org