

## Biblical Reasons for Giving

Creation – Faith – Blessings – Asking  
Needs – Mission and Ministry

### **Creation: Our Need to Give**

So God created humankind in God's image, in the image of God he created them...

- Genesis 1:27

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son...'

-John 3:16

The story of creation proclaims that we are God's handiwork. We have been created in God's image. What does that mean? For one thing, it suggests that we are created to be in relationship – with our Creator and with others. None of us is self-made. Everything that we have, and every breath that we take is a gift from God.

We are created to be in relationship. We are also created to be givers. After all, God is the greatest Giver of all. God did not stop giving – even when it meant the life and death of Jesus. Created in God's image, we are meant to be givers.

However, giving does not come naturally. Just ask a two-year old to share his or her toys! We need to be taught to share and move beyond our desire to keep what we have for ourselves. But when we learn the lesson of sharing, we soon discover the joy that comes with giving. Give – not until it hurts – but until it feels good! For when we share what God has first given to us, for the sake of others, we discover true joy.

During this Appeal, we have the opportunity to reflect on why we were created and for what purpose.