

# The Charitable Bequest

## » Opportunity for Kingdom Impact

BY WAYNE JONES, CFP®



We are very grateful for all those who partner with In Touch to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. The ministry receives financial support in a number of ways, one being the charitable bequest. This is an estate gift, distributed after the death of the owner, to a charity by will, trust, or beneficiary designation. The bequest may be for a specific amount, a certain asset, or a percentage of the residual estate.

### What are the benefits?

A bequest preserves flexibility by allowing an individual to maintain full control and use of property during one's lifetime. It can be altered or revoked if circumstances or family needs change. And it's a way to impact future generations with the gospel.

**“A bequest preserves flexibility and is a way to impact future generations with the gospel.”**

In addition, a bequest to charity can bypass taxes. Tax deferred accounts such as traditional IRAs, 401(k)s, and other retirement plans are subject to income tax when distributed to individual heirs. These assets may also incur estate taxes,

if applicable. The potential combined tax rate on tax deferred accounts can approach 60 percent or higher for larger estates.

This high taxation may be avoided as retirement assets can pass to charitable beneficiaries tax-free. A bequest of all or a portion of one's retirement funds can be accomplished by completing the plan's beneficiary form. With proper planning, this can be a cost-effective way to provide significant support for ministry.

### Getting started

A well-developed estate plan is part of wise stewardship. We offer a complimentary estate planning guide to prepare you for meeting with a lawyer to complete your will. Before setting up a charitable bequest, make sure your family is well provided for—this is in line with the teachings of the apostle Paul, who wrote, “But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever” (1 Tim. 5:8).

Please let us know if we may assist you.

***This article is not intended to provide specific legal, tax, or financial advice. You should seek the advice of qualified professionals in planning for your family's future.***



Endowing  
the Great  
Commission.

[foundation@intouch.org](mailto:foundation@intouch.org)  
[www.intouchfoundation.org](http://www.intouchfoundation.org)  
800-967-2200