

This template offers a simple and compelling way to talk about generosity and discipleship through the framework of the church's mission initiatives and enduring principles. As always, please adapt as needed to fit your congregation or group's specific needs.

Disciples Generous Response

FOCUS: Mission Initiative stories – Develop Disciples to Serve

INTRODUCTION	<p>[Read aloud]</p> <p>We are called to pursue our mission to “proclaim Jesus Christ and promote communities of joy, hope, love, and peace” through five life-changing, church-changing, and world-changing mission initiatives.</p> <p>Because we have been so greatly blessed by God’s generous grace, we can’t help but generously share our witness, resources, ministries, and sacraments in return.</p> <p>Through the Develop Disciples to Serve mission initiative, we are called to equip men, women, and children to be true and living expressions of the life, ministry, and continuing presence of Christ in world.</p> <p>Today I’d like to share a story about how our giving to Develop Disciples to Serve is making a difference in the world.</p>
FIND A STORY	<p><i>You can find numerous stories about how our giving is helping Develop Disciples to Serve:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Herald</i> magazine- mission initiative pages follow the feature articles each month • Herald Blog – www.HeraldMagazine.wordpress.com <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ On the blog site, find the Category Cloud on the right-hand side of the page (see sample image) ○ Click on the phrase “Develop Disciples to Serve” ○ This will bring up stories related to that mission initiative ○ Choose one to share <div style="float: right; border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center; color: #e67e22; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">CATEGORY CLOUD</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Abolish Poverty End Suffering Alive in Mission Amen Answers and Insights Christ's Mission...Our Mission! CofChrist.org Develop Disciples TO SERVE Experience Congregations in Mission Faithful</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Steps Features Invite People to Christ Let the Spirit Breathe One in Christ Pursue Peace on Earth Sacramental Living The Journey Ahead Voices</p> </div>
SHARE THE STORY	<p><i>Paraphrase the story you have chosen to share with your congregation. You can also include a local/congregational story about developing disciples to serve.</i></p>
CLOSING	<p>[Read aloud]</p> <p>Right now we have the opportunity to joyfully share all that we are and have to support Christ’s mission of evangelism, compassionate ministries, and the pursuit of justice and peace.</p> <p>Our giving is a response to God’s grace in our lives.</p> <p>Each time we give, lives are changed and Christ’s mission moves forward.</p>
PRAYER	<p><i>Give a blessing over the gifts offered today</i></p>