



# Stewarding Your Story

Christ-honoring legacy planning

# Creating a Christ-honoring legacy

Each of us is a steward of the resources God has entrusted to us, not only during our lifetime but also in how we plan for what happens after we are gone. Thoughtful legacy planning allows you to care for your loved ones, express your faith, and continue supporting Gospel ministry for generations. [3][4][5]



## Why legacy planning matters

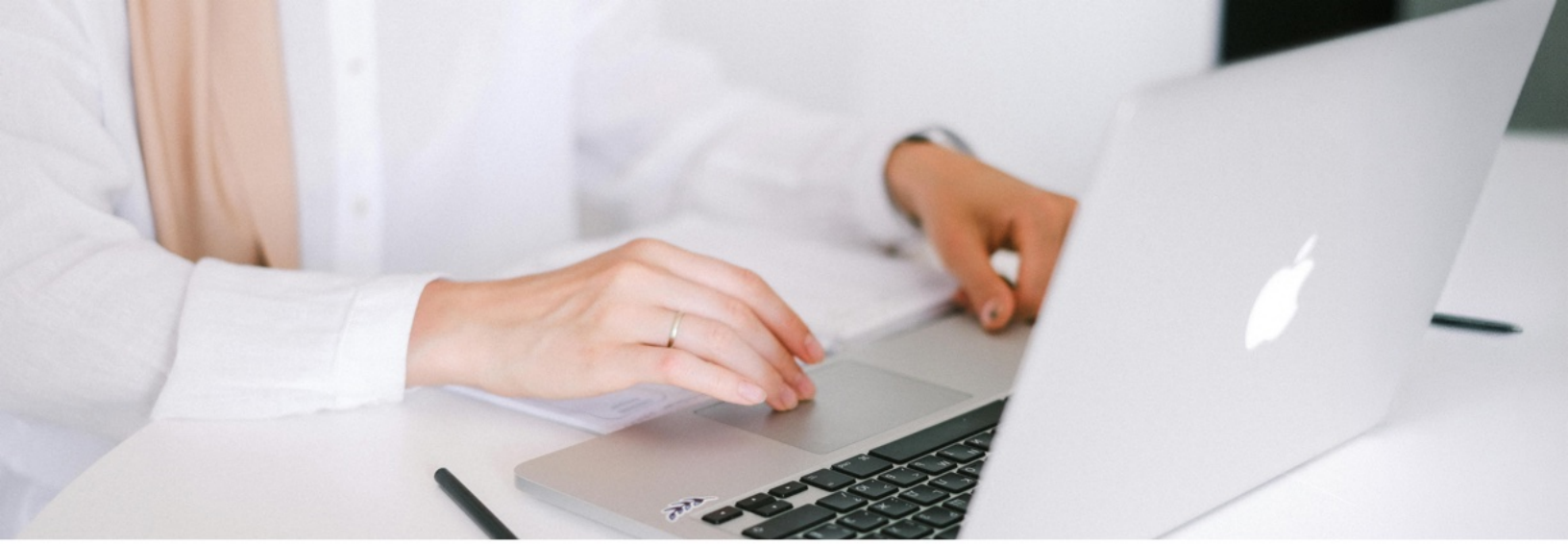
- Legacy planning helps reduce confusion and stress for your family by clearly outlining your wishes.
- It gives you the opportunity to direct a portion of your estate to ministries that reflect your heart for God's kingdom. [6][3]
- It can provide potential tax benefits for your estate, allowing you to give more effectively.

As you plan, you can make sure your love for Jesus and His mission continues to speak even after you are with Him.



## Basic legacy planning steps

1. **Pray and reflect**—Ask the Lord how He wants you to care for your family and support His work through your estate. [4][3]
2. **Take inventory**—List your assets (home, savings, investments, retirement accounts, life insurance, etc.) and consider your family’s needs.
3. **Create or update your will and/or trust**—Work with a qualified attorney to prepare or review these documents so they reflect your current wishes. [7][8]
4. **Consider charitable bequests**—Decide whether you want to leave a specific amount, a percentage, or the remainder of your estate to a specific ministry or charity. [8][5]
5. **Review beneficiary designations**—Update beneficiary forms on life insurance, IRAs, and other accounts to align with your plan. [5][8]
6. **Communicate your plans**—Share your intentions with your family and advisors, and, if you wish, notify the ministry or charity of any legacy gift you have planned. [9][6]



## Common ways to leave a legacy gift

You can support specific ministries or charities through several simple options. These examples are for your information only and are not legal or tax advice. Please consult your own advisors. [8][5]

- 1. Bequest in your will or trust**—A bequest is a gift made through your will or revocable living trust. You can: [5][8]
  - Leave a specific dollar amount.
  - Leave a percentage of your estate.
  - Leave all or part of the remainder (what's left after other gifts and expenses).
- 2. Retirement accounts (IRA, 401(k), 403(b))**—You can name a charity as a beneficiary of a retirement account by updating your beneficiary form. This can be a tax-efficient way to give, since charities generally do not pay income tax on these assets. [8][5]
- 3. Life insurance**—You may designate a charity as a beneficiary of a new or existing life insurance policy, or, in some cases, transfer ownership of a policy to a ministry. [6][5]
- 4. Other assets**—In consultation with your advisors, you may also consider gifts of real estate, securities, or other non-cash assets to support Kingdom work. [4][5]

# Sample bequest language

Below is sample wording you can share with your attorney when preparing or updating your will or trust. This language is provided as a general example only. Your attorney can help you adapt it to your situation and local law. [5][8]

- **Specific bequest**—“I give the sum of \$\_\_\_ to OneMessageTV Inc., a nonprofit ministry, to be used for its general purposes.”
- **Percentage bequest**—“I give \_\_\_ percent (\_\_\_%) of my estate to OneMessageTV Inc., a nonprofit ministry, to be used for its general purposes.”
- **Residuary bequest**—“I give all (or \_\_\_ percent (\_\_\_%) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate to OneMessageTV Inc., a nonprofit ministry, to be used for its general purposes.”

Your attorney may wish to include the ministry’s legal name and address as they appear in official documents.





## Questions to pray through

As you consider your legacy, you may find it helpful to prayerfully reflect on questions like:

- What values has God placed in my heart that I want to pass on to my children, grandchildren, and others?
- How can my estate plan show my love for Christ and for those who have not yet heard His story.
- What portion of what God has entrusted to me would I like to devote to advancing the Gospel after I am gone?

These questions can guide conversations with your spouse, family, and advisors.



# How your legacy gift helps

A legacy gift to OneMessage.tv helps:

- Create and translate new video Bible stories in additional languages, reaching more oral learners around the world. [1][2]
- Equip local believers and pastors with tools to share God's Word in villages and remote areas around the world for the purposes of evangelism, discipleship, and church planting.
- Multiply the Gospel as videos are shared through phones, small groups, and online platforms in places missionaries may never reach in person. [1][2]

In this way, your **legacy** becomes an ongoing testimony to the power of God's Word.



## Important reminder

This guide is for educational purposes only and is not intended as legal, tax, or financial advice. You should consult with your attorney, tax advisor, or financial planner to determine what is best in your situation. [5][7]

If you or your advisor would like more information about including OneMessage.tv in your legacy plans, please contact:

OneMessage.tv  
PO Box 304  
Ball Ground, GA 30107  
770-800-6410  
info@onemessage.tv

We would be honored to pray with you and answer any questions as you seek to honor the Lord with all He has entrusted to you.



## About OneMessage.tv

Nearly 80% of people in the world don't read well enough to understand the Bible, even if they have one in their language. They are considered "oral preference learners."

Oral learners can be illiterate or part of a culture that does not learn from a written language. They depend on aural or oral-visual means to receive, process, remember, and pass on information.

OneMessage.tv wants to reach the heart of every one of these oral learners with the Word of God. We do this by producing a library of 20 video Bible stories, starting with the Creation story and going through the Resurrection of Jesus.

We use the local indigenous people as the actors and narrators in the videos, so they can see God's Word come alive in their own context - their scenery, their clothing, their faces, and in their heart language.

# References

1. <https://www.onemessage.tv>
2. <https://www.onemessage.tv/follow>
3. <https://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/ways-to-give/wills-legacy-giving/>
4. <https://www.cslewisinstitute.org/planned-giving/>
5. <https://www.financestrategists.com/estate-planning-lawyer/will/charitable-bequests/>
6. [https://www.moosoneeanglican.ca/wpcontent/uploads/2020/12/Legacy\\_Giving\\_Brochure.pdf](https://www.moosoneeanglican.ca/wpcontent/uploads/2020/12/Legacy_Giving_Brochure.pdf)
7. <https://www.nonprofits.freewill.com/resources/blog/planned-giving-for-churches>
8. <https://www.blog.theuswillregistry.org/bequests-in-a-will/>
9. <https://www.ncfgiving.com/stories/testamentary-giving-3-steps-guide/>
10. <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/planned-giving-brochures>



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[www.onemessage.tv](http://www.onemessage.tv)