

## DOLLAR DAY EXPLANATION

Four times a year (the last Sunday in months having five) we pull from the offering every one dollar bill and give the total amount to a person in need. The recipient is not yet a part of our congregation, but is known by a person in our congregation to have a legitimate need.

The benefit to recipients is obvious. They receive much-needed cash to help them bear a financial burden. The benefit to contributors is not as obvious. Sure, there is satisfaction in giving assistance to people in need. But it isn't about making us feel good. The real benefit goes much deeper than a surface act of benevolence.

The design is to help us develop a continual sensitivity to and awareness of the needs of those around us. And to be ever conscious of our role as ambassadors for Christ. On the surface, it appears to be merely a benevolence initiative. But it is designed to be much more significant and meaningful than that. Its purpose is as much about helping us develop the sensitivity to be the Lord's eyes, ears, hands and feet as it is about assisting someone in need.

As we set aside one dollar bills into our "Dollar Day Stash" (much like people empty their pockets of change into a container at the end of each day), we thank God for blessing us so that we have something to share with those in need (Eph. 4:28). This makes Dollar Day a daily worship opportunity! When the quarterly Dollar Day offering rolls around, we grab our stash of one dollar bills that have been accumulating and we present them as a sacrifice of thanksgiving to God while contributing to meet the need of another person.

But we miss the ultimate purpose if we forget that our mission is to evangelize lost people. Dollar Day is to be more of an evangelistic method than a benevolence ministry. It follows the principle that meeting someone's material needs may open a door of evangelism to meet their spiritual needs. Ideally, Dollar Day recipients are people we hope to evangelize with the gospel. In other words, the mission of Dollar Day is to extend well beyond the gift of money. The gift merely opens the door to a relationship that has disciple-making as its ultimate goal.

Recipients of Dollar Day offerings are selected from among those submitted by a person in our congregation. These are individuals in legitimate need—acquaintances and associates of people in our congregation who have encountered a financial hardship. It presents an opportunity for Christians to make an impact in a material way that could result in an opportunity to make a spiritual impact—to provide a temporal benefit that could lead to providing an eternal benefit.

Each of us has the privilege to nominate the Dollar Day recipient. Simply submit to the Family Administrative Team (elders) the individual's name along with an explanation of the need, which you can verify and validate as legitimate. If your nominee is selected, you will be given the one dollar bills to personally present to your acquaintance, along with our prayers and our request for the opportunity to offer God's message of reconciliation and hope.

### **DOLLAR DAY CHECKLIST** (making the most of my one dollar bill investments)

- As Jesus' eyes, I have been looking for an opportunity to meet the needs of people with the abundance He has provided.
- As Jesus' ears, I have been listening for opportunities to be a blessing, as my associates express needs.
- As Jesus' hands, I am setting aside in a designated place the one dollar bills that come into my possession, making Dollar Day an every day worship opportunity.
- Each time I add to my stash of one dollar bills, I thank God for His blessings that give me the blessing of sharing with those in need.
- When I see my stash of one dollar bills, I pray that the recipient will become a part of our spiritual family through this ministry.
- I am eager to nominate a potential recipient who will be blessed, not only financially, but spiritually.
- I regularly ask God to use the Dollar Day ministry to sharpen my focus and to attune my ears to recognize opportunities to function as His ambassador.
- I pray that my brother or sister who presents our gifts to their associate in need will be granted the opportunity to also offer a presentation of the gospel message.