

## **Back to the Basics**

Bring a football and an offering plate or basket to the platform with you for this talk.

**Legendary football coach Vince Lombardi of the Green Bay Packers was once frustrated by the poor performance of his team.** They were missing blocks and tackles and were simply not performing up to their abilities. So during a meeting of all the players he told them they needed to get back to the basics. He held up a football and said, “Men, this is a football.” One player quickly blurted out, “Coach, can you slow down?”

**We do need at times to get back to the basics.** Sometimes like football players we can forget the basic of the Christian life. We get busy, we lack focus or we just lack the spiritual sharpness we once had. The basics of the Christian life, prayer, reading the Word, worship and service ensure that we win in life.

**One core basic of the Christian life is generosity.** The Apostle Paul wrote, “Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.” That is a basic principle of discipleship, that if you sow generosity you will reap generosity. Yet how many times do we get away from that basic or simply ignore it altogether because we think it is inconvenient or too hard?

**So this morning let me remind you, this is an offering plate.** It is a tool we use to allow you to worship God through your freewill offering to Him. Your gifts support His work here at our church. The generosity of our gifts come back in blessings like what we have already experienced here this morning. They come back to us through all that is happening across our campus today. You are reaping what has been sowed. Others will reap what you sow today.

So as our ushers come this morning let’s not forget a core basic of being a disciple, giving to support God’s work. “Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.” **Let’s be generous this morning!**