Sojourners Planned Giving: BEQUESTS

Make a statement about who is important to you in this world.

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9

YOUR WILL is the cornerstone of your estate plan, whether you’re wealthy or not. It’s also the most popular way to leave a legacy with Sojourners. Many of your fellow Sojourners choose this simple, flexible and versatile way to ensure we can continue our work for years to come. This type of gift is known as a Charitable Bequest.

Remembering Sojourners with a bequest from your estate will help sustain and strengthen the organization in years to come. YOUR decisive action TODAY, will also benefit you and your family in future.

A few facts about Estate Gifts or Bequests:

- A bequest costs nothing now ... you have the satisfaction of knowing you have provided for your future Sojourners – those who YOU have inspired to care for those Jesus called “the least of these” whose lives are disrupted by war, poverty, inequality, racism, sexism, climate change, and greed.
- You retain control of the distribution and the use of your assets.
- Your loved ones receive the benefit of exemption from federal estate taxes

- We will thank you now and recognize you as a member of our Legacy Circle if you let Sojourners know of your plans.

Most importantly,

- You are giving a gift when you no longer need the assets.
- YOU MAKE a statement about WHO was important to YOU in this world.

To leave a gift in your Will, simply share this sentence with your attorney or financial planner:

“I bequeath $_____ or _____% of my estate to Sojourners.”

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You can add Sojourners to your existing Will by revising and re-executing the document at any time, or my executing a separate amendment called a codicil.
In practice, the **charitable bequest** is only one or two sentences in your **will or living trust** that leave to Sojourners

- an item
- an amount of money
- a gift contingent upon certain events or
- a percentage of your estate

**Some important estate planning suggestions:**

**Stay flexible by using percentages**

The value of personal assets can rise and fall. A bequest stated as a percentage will automatically adjust regardless of future circumstances.

**Know for sure by naming a fixed dollar amount**

For example, if you leave $50,000 to Sojourners, your estate doesn’t have to have cash or securities to cover the gift amount, as long as the value of all of your assets is sufficient.

**This information is not intended as tax or legal advice.**

We recommend that you consult with your financial advisors to learn how a gift would work in your circumstances. Laws and regulations governing all gifts and availability of certain life income gifts vary by state.

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“**PRINCETON, N.J. -- Forty-four percent of Americans say they have a will that describes how they would like their money and estate handled after their death. That is lower than in two prior Gallup polls: 51% in 2005 and 48% in 1990.”**

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**YOUR LEGACY PLANNING GIVING CONTACT:**
Feriel Ricks, (202) 745-4645 or legacy @sojo.net

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“If you’re like many in the Sojourners community, you turn to Sojourners magazine and sojo.net for an alternative voice and an understanding of what it means to put faith into action.”

- The Wilson-Black Family, Sojourners’ Legacy Circle members