

October 19, 2026

First Baptist Family,

Because.

Sounds kind of incomplete by itself, doesn't it? Its very purpose is to connect an action to the reason or purpose behind it.

But think of all the possibilities it suggests! "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow." "We love, because He first loved us." Or maybe even that dreaded parental line, "Because I said so!"

When we were kids, we hated hearing those words, but perhaps without realizing it, we were learning that the first lesson of stewardship is obedience.

Being faithful stewards of our time, talent, and treasure is, first and foremost, an act of obedience to God – something we should do because He said so. Then, from that obedience flow love and joy and a desire to give and serve.

We love because God commands us to love. We give because God commands us to give. We serve because He commands us to serve.

But interestingly, our obedience also reveals our love for God. In John 14:15, Jesus teaches us, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."

One of the beauties of the word "because" is that it shifts the framework from obligation to response — our response to what God has already done for us in Christ. Stewardship is not about what the church needs from you. It is about what God has already done for you in Christ. And that "because" changes everything.

We hope you'll join us in actively participating in the stewardship season ahead and giving serious, prayerful thought to how you will give your time, talents, and treasure to the Lord through First Baptist. Because God can use your gifts – and all of our gifts – to propel the Gospel around our city, state, nation, and world!

Expectantly,

Doug and Lori

DOUG AND LORI ROGERS | Stewardship Emphasis Leaders