

## September 17, 2022. Local Church Budget

### The Blind Giver Attitude

**Appeal:** Romans 5:8

“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

We worship with our resources because we follow the example of our God, who is a Blind Giver. When God gives, He rarely focuses on the nature of the recipients or even the outcome. He gives out of love. Faithful to this attribute, “He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous” (Matt. 5:45). In contrast, we are inclined to give exclusively to what we see and whose outcome we can control. As a result, some have withdrawn from participation in tithe and regular offering, not seeing the direct effect of their contributions. Others have resolved to support only local projects rather than a worldwide mission, far from their eyes. This is not the “blind giver” attitude.

We have a glimpse of what can happen when God’s people reproduce the “blind giver” attitude. Have you heard about “The Amazon of Hope,” a floating church? It is not known by most of us, and even fewer have visited this boat church. However, this project has materialized through the “blind giving” mindset. In 2016, God’s children from all over the world pulled funds together to support the 13th Sabbath projects, and one implemented project was the floating church, “The Amazon of Hope,” in Brazil. The result is inspiring. In the first 12 full months of operation of the boat church, two hundred and eighty-six people were baptized, and planted three churches in 2017. And this is the testimony of Pastor Reno, who served on the Amazon of Hope: “The boat church is God’s way of saving people who have been forgotten by political, economic, and health systems.”

God, our Example, is involved in a global mission towards those that we see and cannot see, towards those that we know and do not know. This week, as we worship with our tithe and regular offerings we have another opportunity to demonstrate the same global mindset as our God.

**Prayer:** Lord, we are inspired by Your universal and blindfolded generosity towards humanity. Please help us be givers in Your likeness.