

What About the Other 90%?

(Part Two in a Series)

Okay. You've given generously to God's work and you joyfully "bring your full tithe into the storehouse" each week. Is that it? Is that where faithful stewardship ends? Or is it just the beginning? What about the "other 90%"?

Well, here's something to consider. What would happen if you became incapacitated? Disabled by some illness or injury - unable to communicate, unable to manage your income and accumulated wealth? It happens all too frequently. None of us is immune from physical and mental challenges.

If you can't speak for yourself, will your good stewardship continue? Will trusted family members and advisors be able to step seamlessly into your shoes to faithfully carry on your established patterns of diligent financial management? Or will there be chaos, confusion and uncertainty?

First the good news: If you already have a legally valid Durable Power of Attorney naming a trusted person as your agent, then your personal financial affairs can be handled efficiently and effectively even if you are incapacitated. Well done, good and faithful servant! You've saved your loved ones much grief, complication and financial distress!

Second the bad news: If you don't have a Durable Power of Attorney, you are putting those who depend on you into a very tough position should you lose the ability to handle your own affairs. Who will step in? How will your money be spent? How will your money be invested? Will your desired generosity be allowed to continue? Without a Durable Power of Attorney, all these questions will be decided by a court through a complex and expensive legal proceeding.

So one easy step in good stewardship of the "other 90%" is simply to make sure you have a valid Durable Power of Attorney. The cost of this important document is minimal, but the cost of being without it is very high!

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