



Foundation Fundamentals

► by **Milford Jenkins**, president, Angus Foundation

Make a difference

*If you make a difference
with what you have,
you will see that it will expand.*

*And I'm talking about love,
I'm talking about time,
I'm talking about relatedness —
I'm even talking about money.*

*So when you make a difference with your life,
with your time, with your money, it expands,
and you don't have that focus on scrambling
to get more of what you don't really need,
which is what we're so busy doing
that we don't even notice who we are
and what we have.*

*And that is the context of sufficiency:
making a difference with who you are,
what you have, and knowing
that it's whole, complete and exactly enough.
It's perfection.*

— Lynne Twist

What we truly have

Of all the phrases in this beautiful composition by Twist, perhaps the most thought-provoking is the first line, “*If you make a difference with what you have!*”

Oftentimes, we let ourselves believe we can't make a difference: “I don't have the energy to love.” “I don't have the time.” “I don't have the relatedness.” Lastly, “I don't have the money to give.”

Or do we?

It would be my contention that each one

of us has all of these things. We simply allow more comfortable thoughts to race into our minds to ease the inevitable anxiety, and, yes, even a sense of fear that can occur in all of us when thinking about giving away something that we have, especially when it comes to money.

The good and bad news

To illustrate my point, a story comes to mind about a church in a situation similar to the Angus Foundation and its Vision of Value: Campaign for Angus fundraising drive to raise \$11 million. The church was in the middle of a capital fundraising campaign to build a significantly larger building, including a family life center, additional classrooms and an expanded sanctuary. Their fundraising efforts had slowed to a crawl with their goal looming more and more unachievable with each passing day.

Then, one Sunday morning the pastor announced to the congregation that he had both good news and bad news. He went on to inform them that, first, “the good news is that the church family has found the remainder of the funds needed to reach their goal; the bad news is that the money is still in your pockets.”

I feel like that pastor. With more than \$6 million in outright cash gifts, pledges and planned giving commitments, Vision of Value: Campaign for Angus has made impressive progress toward its \$11 million goal. Your help and that of all

Angus breeders still is needed through the remaining 24 months of this important campaign. We still have \$5 million to go!

Season of giving

Admittedly, I know I get scared when I give away an outright cash gift with nothing tangible coming back to me in return other than the wonderful joy of giving, and, even more meaningful, knowing that I made a difference — perhaps only a small one — but in some small way positively affected someone's life, like an Angus youth, with my gifts to the Angus Foundation. It is my hope you, too, will want to experience that same joy.

In this season of giving, may we all selflessly share our love, time, relatedness and, yes, even our money with our family, church, friends and those special causes near and dear to each of our hearts. We all are abundantly blessed to live in a free country, raise Angus cattle and pursue our dreams. That's perfection.

May you and yours have a blessed holiday season!

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Author's Note: Visit www.angusfoundation.org for more information regarding the Angus Foundation, scholarships and the campaign.