



Recommended Stewardship Language

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More Respectful Language: Questions to Encourage Growth and Learning	Less Respectful Language: Labels to Define and Inhibit
What prevents you from giving as much as you would like? What is so important that you allocate your resources to it?	<i>Miserly, tight, cheap, withholding.</i> May indicate judgment about resources (without full information)
What use of your resources makes you feel satisfied and in right relationship deep down?	<i>Spendthrift, selfish, irresponsible, wasteful, "money Sick."</i> May indicate assumptions about resources (based on selected observation/data)
How do you choose where to give and how much?	<i>Should give.</i> May indicate imposition of values
How would your giving make you feel more <i>a part of</i> ?	<i>Must give.</i> May indicate pressure, power imbalance
What might I do to make you feel more at home?	<i>They, them.</i> May indicate sense of not belonging
What can you contribute, and what do you need?	<i>Potential donors as prospects.</i> May indicate not seeing whole person (needs and resources)
How can we encourage and honor people who give generously based on the resources they have, regardless of that total amount?	<i>High givers.</i> May indicate elitism, favoring those with resources (only for their resources)
What would allow you to be more generous with your resources?	<i>Low givers.</i> May indicate patronizing attitude, incomplete understanding of people's lives
How are you at <i>receiving</i> care and support?	<i>We few, high donors.</i> May indicate feeling of being over-asked or limited understanding that everyone has needs to be filled and gifts to give
How can our goals be broadened to include other elements beyond just gaining money?	<i>Fundraising.</i> May indicate narrow definition of stewardship
Can a financial contribution be an opportunity for growth? For joy?	<i>Everyone hates asking for money.</i> May indicate lack of comfort and understanding of stewardship
What is the relationship of your time and talent to your treasure? How can your volunteering be better recognized? What is your level of generosity regarding time, talent and treasure?	<i>Volunteering vs. financial contribution.</i> May indicate discomfort with money as a topic, embarrassment over reduced resources, need for acknowledgement for volunteering efforts
How we change <i>ourselves</i> to make this place better? What generous legacy from the past can we embrace?	<i>Change the culture.</i> May indicate not fully honoring foremothers/fathers, their generosity and concerns