

Local Church Budget

Longer Tables

An unknown author once wrote, “If you are more fortunate than others, build a longer table. Not a taller fence.”

What a beautiful and powerful statement! Write it down and seek to live it in your daily life. I’ll repeat it, “If you are more fortunate than others, build a longer table. Not a taller fence.”

When God blesses us, it’s easy to focus on protecting and defending our blessings with ‘fences,’ but the Bible teaches us that, like Abram in Genesis 12:2, we are blessed to be a blessing. We are blessed so that we can extend our tables—and then watch as God refills our pantry so that we can do it all again!

Remember 2 Corinthians 9 verses 8 & 6, “God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.” “He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.”

Jesus loved long tables. He loved to share His food with as many people as possible, sometimes five thousand friends at a single meal! If you’re seeking wisdom on extending your table this year and want to be incredibly blessed in the process, read His hospitality guidelines in Luke 14:12-24.

We don’t have time to discuss all the proven benefits of hospitality, but in summary, longer tables bring longer health, friendships, and life. Enjoy!

Appeal: It truly is “more blessed to give than to receive.” God has blessed the Seventh-day Adventist Church with a system of giving that is a great blessing to us and others. It’s now time to return God’s 10% tithe and joyfully give our Promise offerings, too. Let’s thank God for the beautiful privilege of sharing His blessings with others today.

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