



*Exponential07, Unleashing generosity in your church* was a two day learning experience held at Saddleback Church in California in mid-November. This was the latest rendering of a teaching that has been offered annually for several years. The event was a collaborative effort between *Generous Giving* ([www.generousgiving.org](http://www.generousgiving.org)) and *Leadership Network* ([www.leadnet.org](http://www.leadnet.org)).

The *Exponential07* conference grew out of the *Generous Giving* organization. Basically, this organization consists of Christians with wealth that gather periodically to discuss giving opportunities and strategies with their peers. There is no advocacy for organizations or products. These are individuals that recognize their unique situation and want to do their best for The Kingdom. One consensus they reached early on concerned the generosity vacuum in their local churches. They also identified the senior pastor as the gate keeper to all things financial in the local church, hence the *Exponential07* giving conference for pastors.

Don Johnson and Don Fensterman attended the November 2007 conference on behalf of the ECC Stewardship Commission. Some of their impressions were:

- The focus was on the *heart issue* of generosity more than on techniques and tips for increasing giving.
- It was more about the *spiritual condition* of everyday believers than about High Capacity Givers.
- While there were several “known” presenters, (Warren, Stowell, Ortberg) the heart of the teaching was presented by local church practitioners from around the country. Most recognized an *Exponential* conference as figuring large in the shift of their thinking toward generosity.
- Each presentation was packed with *biblical foundations and teachings*. It was like a clinic on modeling and teaching stewardship.

Both one and two day events are offered periodically at a variety of geographical locations. To learn more visit: [www.exponential07.org](http://www.exponential07.org) Attendance would be a ministry changing experience for all who wrestle with the materialistic pull of our culture and the stewardship of money and possessions.