

**Biblical Principles of Fundraising:**

1. **Integrity and Transparency:** Proverbs 11:1 states, "The Lord detests dishonest scales, but accurate weights find favor with him." Honesty and transparency are foundational to Biblical fundraising. Non-profits must provide clear and accurate information about their mission, financial needs, and the impact of donations. This transparency builds trust with donors and ensures that fundraising efforts are conducted with integrity.
2. **Stewardship:** 1 Corinthians 4:2 reminds us, "Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful." Non-profits are entrusted with the resources provided by donors and must manage these funds responsibly. Effective stewardship involves using donations efficiently and effectively to further the organization's mission and advance the Gospel message. Regular financial reports and accountability measures are essential for demonstrating good stewardship.
3. **Generosity:** 2 Corinthians 9:7 encourages, "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Fundraising efforts should inspire generosity without coercion. Non-profits should encourage donors to give willingly and joyfully, understanding that their contributions support the work of God's kingdom. By fostering a culture of generosity, organizations can build a strong and supportive donor base.
4. **Prayer and Dependence on God:** Philippians 4:6-7 advises, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Fundraising efforts should be bathed in prayer, seeking God's guidance and provision. Trusting in God's faithfulness and acknowledging His sovereignty in all aspects of fundraising ensures that the organization's mission remains aligned with His will.

**Methods of Honest and Integral Fundraising:**

1. **Personal Appeals:** Personal appeals involve direct communication with potential donors, sharing the organization's mission and financial needs. This method can include face-to-face meetings, phone calls, or personalized letters. Personal appeals allow for meaningful conversations and the opportunity to build relationships with donors. Jesus modeled this approach in Luke 8:1-3 when He relied on the support of individuals who believed in His ministry.
2. **Events and Campaigns:** Fundraising events and campaigns can be effective in raising awareness and generating support. These events can include banquets, auctions, walks, or online campaigns. By creating engaging and impactful experiences, non-profits can connect with donors and demonstrate the tangible impact of their contributions. **Nehemiah 2:18** illustrates the power of rallying support for a common cause: "I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. They replied, 'Let us start rebuilding.' So they began this good work."
3. **Online Giving Platforms:** In the digital age, online giving platforms provide convenient and secure ways for donors to contribute. Websites, social media, and crowdfunding platforms allow non-profits to reach a broader audience and facilitate easy donations. Ensuring that these platforms are user-friendly and transparent can enhance the donor experience and encourage ongoing support.
4. **Grant Writing:** Securing grants from foundations, corporations, or government agencies can be a significant source of funding. Grant writing involves crafting compelling proposals that align the organization's mission with the priorities of the granting entity. Thorough research and attention to detail are essential for successful grant applications. Proverbs 21:5 reminds us, "The plans of the diligent lead to profit as surely as haste leads to poverty."
5. **Monthly Giving Programs:** Establishing monthly giving programs provides a steady and reliable stream of income for non-profits. By encouraging donors to commit to regular contributions, organizations can plan and budget more effectively. These programs also foster a sense of community and ongoing partnership between the non-profit and its supporters.

**Special Note:**

Board Members play a crucial role in the success and sustainability of a non-profit organization by serving as the primary fundraisers. Their active involvement in fundraising demonstrates a deep commitment to the mission's objectives and exemplifies their dedication to advancing the organization's goals. When Board Members lead by example, they inspire confidence and trust among donors, stakeholders, and the community. Their personal investment in fundraising efforts not only generates essential financial support but also fosters a culture of philanthropy and engagement within the organization. By leveraging their networks, expertise, and influence, Board Members can effectively mobilize resources, ensuring that the organization has the necessary means to fulfill its mission and make a lasting impact. Their leadership in fundraising underscores their unwavering commitment to the cause and reinforces the organization's credibility and reputation.

**Conclusion:**

Honest and integral fundraising for non-profits, especially those dedicated to spreading the Gospel message of Yeshua, requires adherence to Biblical principles of integrity, stewardship, generosity, and reliance on God. By employing methods such as personal appeals, events, online giving platforms, grant writing, and monthly giving programs, non-profits can raise the necessary funds to further their mission. Ensuring that all fundraising efforts are conducted with honesty and transparency builds trust with donors and honors God's calling. As non-profits remain faithful to these principles, they can effectively advance the Gospel and make a lasting impact in their communities and beyond.

-Dr. Stephen Phinney