



Gifts from Your Estate... Your Last Opportunity to Give a Christian Witness

What is a “Last Will and Testament”? It is simply a written instrument legally executed by which a person makes disposition of his or her estate to take effect after death. But what is a “testament”? A testament is a covenant between God and us; we have the Old Testament and the New Testament. A testament is a statement of your beliefs, your faith, or your creed. Consider letting your “Last Will and Testament” give a Christian witness to your loved ones. There are two ways you can do this.

First, consider using a “Christian preamble,” which is simply a declaration of your faith. Here is a sample Christian preamble.

I want my loved ones to know that I place full confidence and trust in God through Jesus Christ, who promised: “I am the resurrection and life. Those who believe in me will live.” I thank God for my parents, siblings, and grandparents for their guidance and influence in my life. I praise God for giving me a loving, caring, faithful wife, who has been a blessing to me and shared my life and faith. I am thankful to God for the gift of children. I am thankful for the church, and the blessing it has been for my family and me to have been a part of the Body of Christ. I hope that my life has been an example for my loved ones of a moral and faithful Christian life. Where I have failed, I ask your forgiveness. I pray that God will continue to guard and protect my loved ones, knowing that God is always with you.

Second, consider living out your faith in God by including a bequest for your church in your estate. By using a Christian preamble and making provision for a gift from your estate to your church, you demonstrate your faith by word and action.

What better legacy to leave?

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