

HELPING OUR CLIENTS CREATE THEIR OWN UNIQUE LEGACY

DAVID AND ANGIE MARTIN

HOW WE MET

Although we attended the same college, Angie and I did not meet until several years later, as I studied for the bar exam in Birmingham. I soon moved to Montgomery for work and spent the next several years trying to lure her away from Birmingham. Thankfully an engagement ring (or was it the opening of an Ann Taylor store at the local mall) ultimately prompted her to join me in Montgomery. We were married in March of 2000 at Angie's home church in Ringgold, Georgia.

Our church, First Baptist Montgomery, began a nearly/newlywed class not long after we were married. It was through this class that we would form many close friendships. Together we learned about God's Plan for our marriages. We loved First Baptist not only because of the close circle of friends we made there, but also because of the emphasis placed on service and evangelism. We were soon taking short-term mission trips with our classmates, furthering our bond while at the same time serving and telling others about Jesus.

In July of 2003, we were blessed with our first child, Laine. Her brother Graham would follow in November of 2006. First Baptist proved to be the perfect place to help raise and disciple our children.

WE COULD MAKE A KINGDOM IMPACT

We have always made it a priority to faithfully follow the teaching of the Scriptures on tithing. However, we had never viewed our estate as a stewardship opportunity until Barry Bledsoe, President of The Baptist Foundation of Alabama, talked about it in our church one Sunday. At that point, our estate planning consisted of the basic instruments necessary to leave our estate to Laine and Graham. Barry's presentation caused us to address an important question - what type of Kingdom impact will we make with our estate?

After prayer and discussion, we felt a call to do more than simply leave everything to the children. God had blessed us and we needed to be faithful to use that blessing to spread the Gospel. We therefore decided to divide our estate into three parts, not two, treating God's Work as an additional child.

It was at this point that we were connected with PhilanthroCorp, a partner of The Baptist Foundation of Alabama. As an attorney, I know too well the problems that can arise when parents do a poor job of handling their estate. After a few phone conferences with our PhilanthroCorp representative, they had showed us exactly how to carry out the plan we had outlined. With their expertise in estate planning, they were actually able to dedicate certain taxable assets to the "Kingdom" portion of our estate so that the net inheritance to Laine and Graham was virtually the same as when we had simply split everything into only two shares. We could not have been more satisfied with the expert guidance they provided.



David
and
Angie
Martin

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"Now, our estate will live on not only in the lives of our children and grandchildren, but through the ministries which we have designated as the beneficiaries of the "Kingdom" portion of our estate.

We are hopeful that Laine and Graham will follow our example and choose to make an impact for the Kingdom when it is time to plan their estates."



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