



Moving ministries forward, *together.*



February 4, 2021 - 11:00 am, EST

Presented by:

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STEWARD

- a noun and a verb
- being and doing
- reflects our identity
- points to privilege, responsibility, and joy

Today's Agenda:

1. Steward Being:
Biblical stewards
Steward formation foundations
2. Steward Doing:
Questions to consider for 2021
MMFA's stewardship services
Financial management courses
Tools
3. Next steps
4. Questions and answers



Steward Being: Biblical examples



1. Show the way: David, 1 Chronicles 29:1
"But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this freewill offering? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you."
2. Give an asset: Barnabas, Acts 4:34, 36-37
There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement") sold a field that belonged to him, then brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Steward Being: Biblical examples



Lessons from Paul for forming faithful stewards,
1 Corinthians 3:1-9

1. Prepare yourselves.
2. Growing givers is spiritual work.
3. Understand your part in the bigger Kingdom picture
4. Acknowledge God is the source of provision
5. Fulfill your purpose as God's steward

*For we are God's servants, working together; you are
God's field, God's building.*

Steward Being: Steward formation foundations



1. God created us to be stewards. (Ephesians 2: 4-10)
2. Stewardship is a commitment to becoming Christ-centered rather than self-centered. (Colossians 2:6-7, Romans 12:1-2)
3. How we relate to possessions and money is a spiritual issue and matters to God. As stewards we are not owners of anything; rather, we are caretakers who let the money and material things God has entrusted to us flow through us for the benefit of others and for God's work in the world. (Luke 12:13-34, 1 Timothy 6:17-19)
4. Care for all of God's creation is a critical part of our identity as stewards. (Psalm 24:1-2)
5. How we care for one another is also a critical part of our identity as stewards. (1 Peter 4:10)
6. Stewardship is an incredible responsibility (Matthew 25: 14-30), privilege (1 Corinthians 3:9), and joy (2 Corinthians 9:6-8).

Steward Doing: Questions to consider for 2021



1. What has changed?
2. How are we being faithful stewards as a church?
3. What does our stewardship ministry look like now?
4. How can we better form faithful and generous stewards?

Steward Doing: MMFA's stewardship services



1. Grounded in scripture
2. Focused on culture change
3. Dependent on committed leadership
4. Built on four components:
 - theology
 - mission and vision
 - leadership
 - holistic year-round stewardship ministry
5. Comprised of 8 sessions
6. Free!

Stewardship Tools: Financial management courses



Six Weeks on Money
Freed Up Financial Living

1. Favorite aspects
2. Recommended audience
3. Testimonies
4. Bottom line

Food for thought: as churches, we plan, know our values, and budget wisely. Do we encourage these same behaviors for individuals and families who are part of our community of faith?

Stewardship Health Assessment

How are these four areas being developed in your church's stewardship ministry?

THEOLOGY

Practices are grounded in a biblical understanding of stewardship



MISSION & VISION

Gifts are tied to helping the church accomplish its mission & support its vision



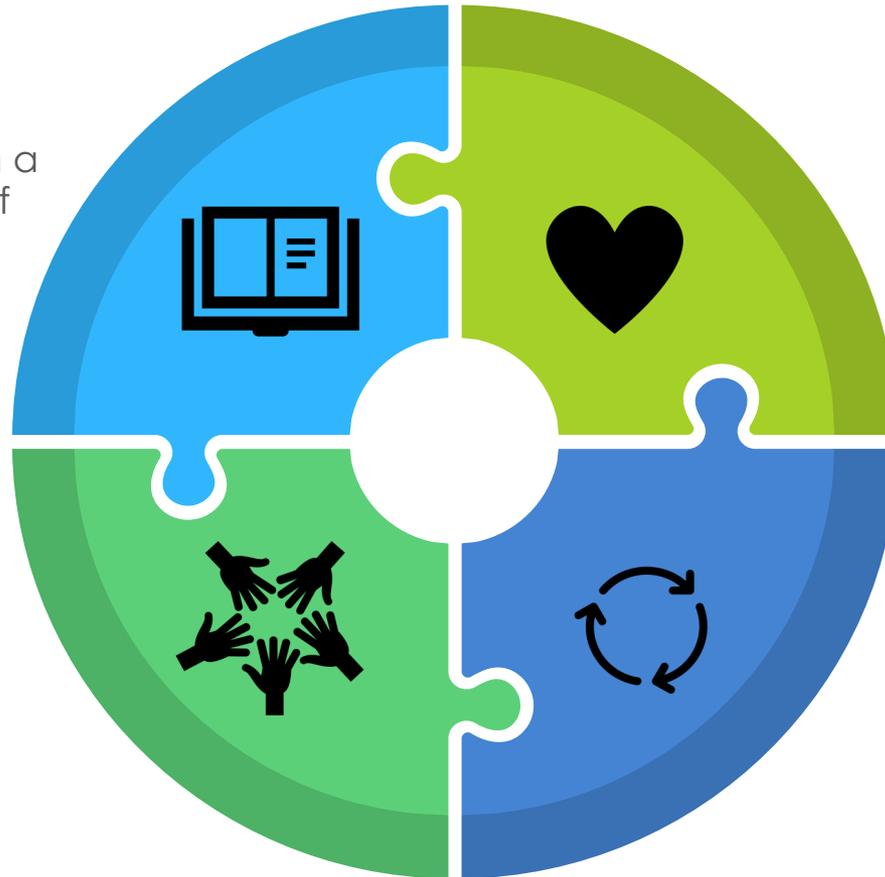
LEADERSHIP

Leaders are engaged in & transparent about all aspects of stewardship



YEAR-ROUND

The church is focused on forming and nurturing faithful & generous stewards



Very great extent (5)

Great extent (4)

Average (3)

Hardly (2)

Not at all (1)



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Theology of Stewardship

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | Our church spends time talking about the theology of stewardship. |
| | | | | | We communicate our belief about stewardship in the bulletin, newsletter, and other places. |
| | | | | | Our pastor talks about the theology of stewardship. |
| | | | | | Our C.E. or other program discusses stewardship with children, young people, and adults. |
| | | | | | Our church invites and celebrates stewardship through intentional offertory practices. |

TOTAL THEOLOGY OF STEWARDSHIP SCORE

Ownership of Mission and Vision

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| | | | | | Our church has active mission and vision statements that guide congregational life. |
| | | | | | We are intentional about identifying assets to use to support our mission/vision. |
| | | | | | We budget to our mission/vision. |
| | | | | | We help people connect how their stewardship helps the church achieve its mission/vision. |
| | | | | | Church leaders revisit our mission/vision statements at least annually. |

TOTAL MISSION AND VISION SCORE

Engaged Leadership

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| | | | | | Church leaders agree on a stewardship belief statement and articulate it effectively. |
| | | | | | The pastor feels comfortable about and supported in talking about financial stewardship. |
| | | | | | Church boards, finance, and stewardship committees collaborate regularly. |
| | | | | | Church leaders are transparent around matters of financial decision-making and stewardship. |
| | | | | | Leaders have a system for learning people's values and priorities regarding ministry funding. |

TOTAL LEADERSHIP SCORE

Holistic and Sustainable Stewardship

| | | | | | |
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| | | | | | We have an intentional plan for inviting gifts of time, talent, treasure, and testimony. |
| | | | | | We acknowledge, celebrate, communicate about, and give thanks for gifts of all kinds. |
| | | | | | Our church has an annual financial campaign. |
| | | | | | We encourage people to tithe. |
| | | | | | We use a narrative budget to help people understand how financial gifts support ministry. |

TOTAL HOLISTIC AND SUSTAINABLE STEWARDSHIP SCORE

- * Scores of 22-25 indicate that you have well defined practices in this area.
- * Scores of 18-21 indicate that you would benefit greatly from developing this area more fully.
- * Scores of less than 18 indicate that you would see dramatic improvement in church health & growth by investing in developing this area.

| January | Epiphany | Theme: Light | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <u>Categories</u> | <u>Activity</u> | <u>Resources</u> | <u>Ministries</u> | <u>Publicity</u> |
| Spirituality | | | | |
| Ministry Focus | | | | |
| Finance | | | | |
| Environment | | | | |
| Outreach | | | | |
| Gratitude | | | | |
| Event | | | | |
| February | Lent | Theme: Sacramental Life | | |
| <u>Categories</u> | <u>Activity</u> | <u>Resources</u> | <u>Ministries</u> | <u>Publicity</u> |
| Spirituality | | | | |
| Ministry Focus | | | | |
| Finance | | | | |
| Environment | | | | |
| Outreach | | | | |
| Gratitude | | | | |
| Event | | | | |
| March | Lent/Easter | Theme: Discipline | | |
| <u>Categories</u> | <u>Activity</u> | <u>Resources</u> | <u>Ministries</u> | <u>Publicity</u> |
| Spirituality | | | | |
| Ministry Focus | | | | |
| Finance | | | | |
| Environment | | | | |
| Outreach | | | | |
| Gratitude | | | | |
| Event | | | | |
| April | Easter | Theme: New Life | | |



Next steps:

1. Schedule a one-on-one with Laura to review your community of faith's stewardship plans for 2021
2. Identify two new ways you will incorporate steward formation into your 2021 stewardship ministry
3. Explore whether there is interest in your church for a faith-based financial management course
4. Visit MMFA's website (www.mmfa.info) for stewardship resources