

Biblical Stewardship and the Ministry of Giving

Presented by:

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Smart Christian Givingsm

The Objective of this Session

To equip and motivate Development professionals to serve their donors by implementing Biblical wisdom in *their lives* and *their ministry to their donors*.



BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP

What words come to your mind when you think of the word "Stewardship"?



What is Stewardship?

- 1. Stewardship is not Giving
- 2. Stewardship is Management
- 3. Biblical Stewardship is about the management of the resources God has entrusted to us



BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP

How would you define *"Biblical Stewardship"?*

BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP Defined

Biblical Stewardship is the use of God-given Resources for the accomplishment of God-given Goals/Objectives

What are the Practical Consequences (*implications*) of accepting the Biblical definition of Stewardship versus the World's View of Stewardship?

IMPLICATIONS OF BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP

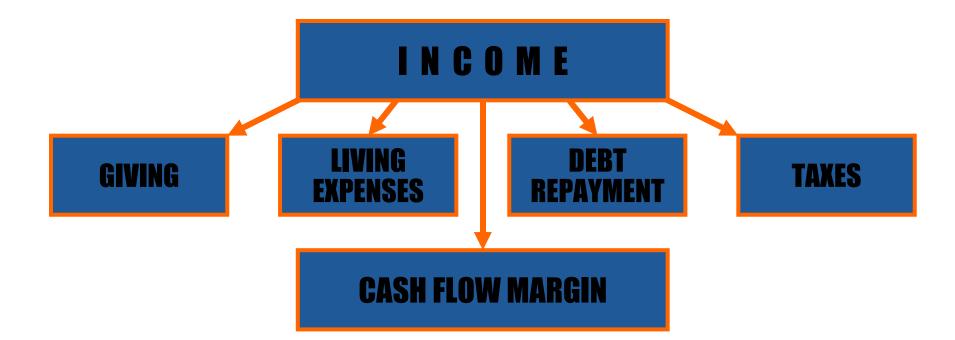
- Every Spending Decision is a Spiritual Decision
- There is no such thing as an independent financial decision
- The way we spend our money is a real sense of our priorities and commitments (Matt 6:19-21)
- God can take or add "Whatever He wants Whenever He wants"

Only Five Possible Uses of Money

3. Giving 4. Living Expenses 5. Debt Repayment 6. Taxes 7. Savings/Cash Flow Margin



THE 5 SHORT-TERM USES OF MONEY



1. Giving

"On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come" (1 Corinthians 16:2)

"Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ". (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

"Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35)

1. Taxes

"And Jesus said to them, 'Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.'" (Luke 20:25

"Let every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God . . . Because of this you also pay taxes, for rulers are servants of God, devoting themselves to this very thing. Render to all what is due them; tax to whom tax is due" (Romans 13: 1,6-7)

1. Debt Repayment

"The wicked borrows and does not pay back, but the righteous is gracious and gives." (Psalm 37:21)

"Just as the rich rule the poor, so the borrower is servant to the lender" (Proverbs 22:7)

1. Providing for the family - Lifestyle

"Prescribe these things as well, so that they may be above reproach. But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. (1 Timothy 5:7-8)



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The Key: CONTENTMENT

"I have *learned* to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have *learned* the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:11-13)

Financial contentment results from spending less than one makes not from how much one makes.

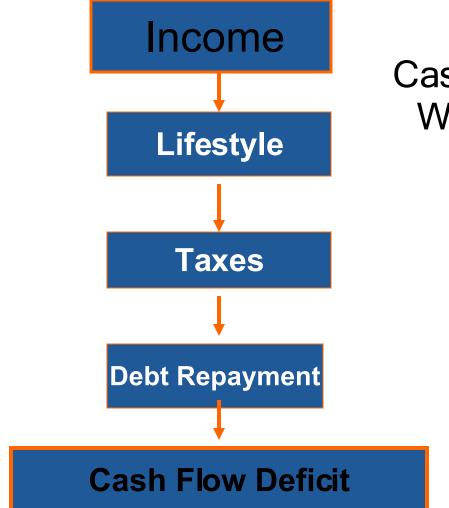
The Bible does not define an "appropriate lifestyle". Each couple/single must determine this for themselves

5. Savings

"Go to the ant, you sluggard: consider its ways and be wise! It has no commander, no overseer or ruler, yet it stores its provisions in summer and gathers its food at harvest." Proverbs 6:6-8

"In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has." Proverbs 21:20

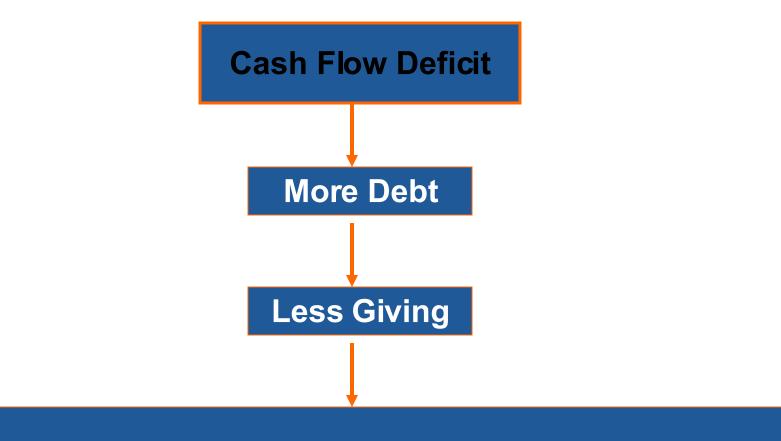




Cash Flow The Worlds Way

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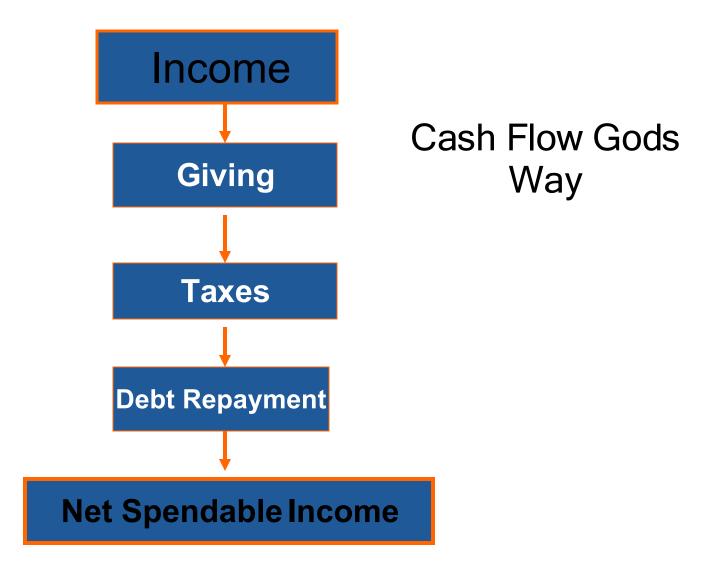




No Ability to Meet Long Term Goals

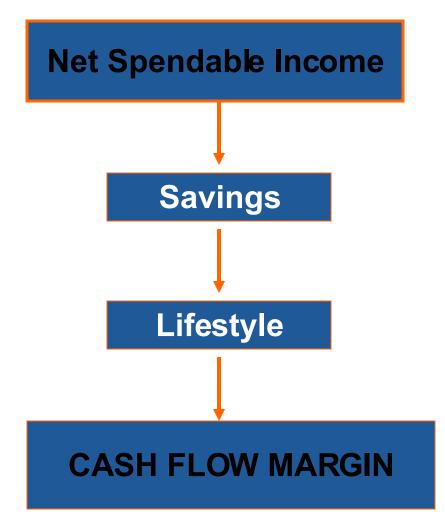
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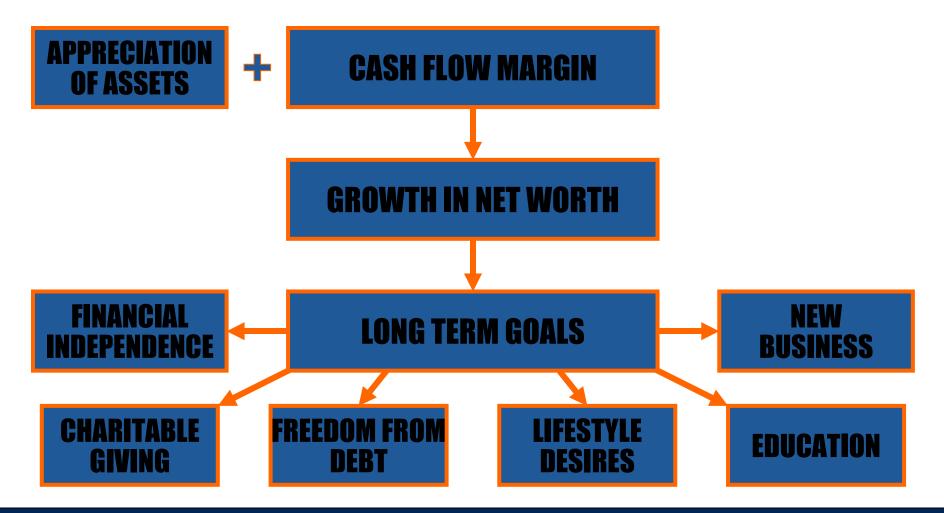
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Only Six Long-term Uses of Money

- 1. Financial Independence
- 2. Freedom from Debt
- 3. Charitable Giving
- 4. Lifestyle Desires
- 5. Children's Education
- 6. New Business



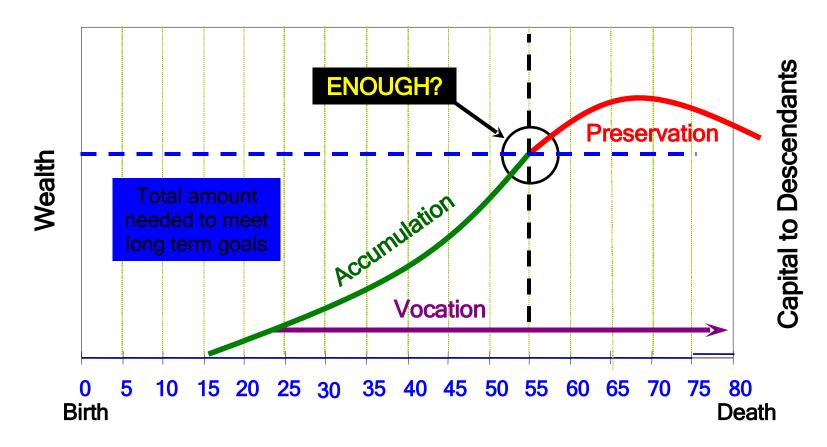
LONG-TERM PLANNING



PROACTIVE STEWARDSHIP

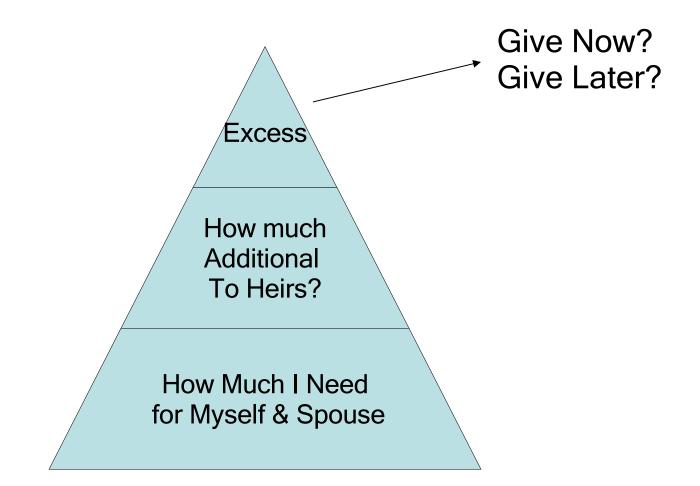
The Continuous Predetermined Allocation of Limited Financial Resources to Unlimited Changing Alternatives

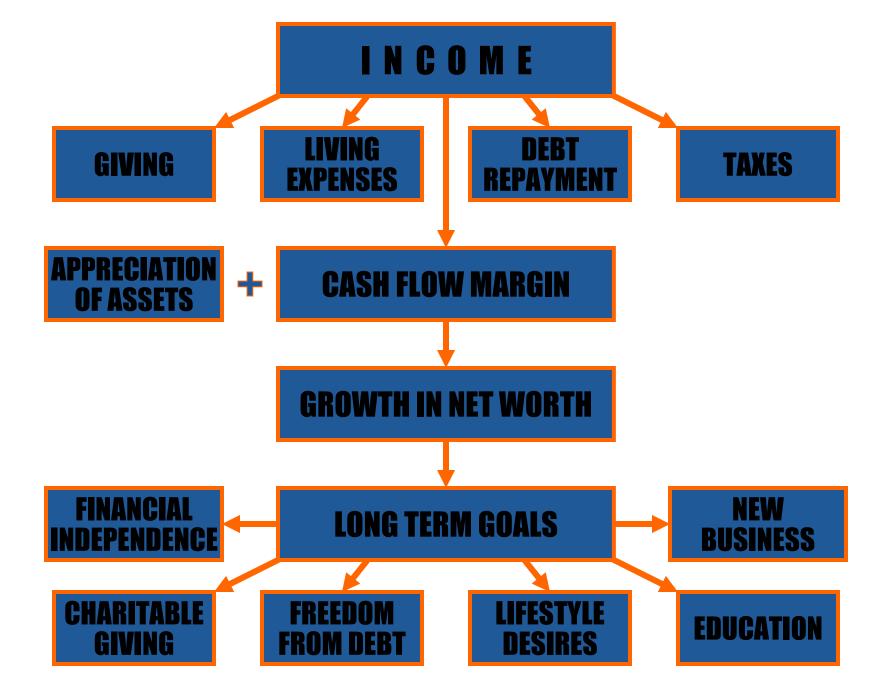
HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH?





Giving Permission to Give





1. Spend Less than you Earn

"Wealth hastily gotten will dwindle, but those who gather little by little will increase it."

Proverbs 13:11

- 1. Spend Less than you Earn Proverbs 13:11
- 1. Avoid the Use of Debt

"The rich rules over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender" Proverbs 22:7

- 1. Spend Less than you Earn Proverbs 13:11
- 1. Avoid the Use of Debt Proverbs 22:7
- 1. Build Personal Liquidity

"Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise, which, having no captain, overseer or ruler, provides her supplies in the summer, and gathers her food in the harvest." Proverbs 6:6-8

- 1. Spend Less than you Earn Proverbs 13:11
- 1. Avoid the Use of Debt Proverbs 22:7
- 1. Build Liquidity Proverbs 6:6-8
- 1. Set Long-Term Goals

"I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus"

Philippians 3:14

- 1. Spend Less than you Earn Proverbs 13:11
- 1. Avoid the Use of Debt Proverbs 22:7
- 1. Build Liquidity Proverbs 6:6-8
- 1. Set Long-Term Goals
- 2. Remember God Owns It All

"Everything in the heavens and earth is yours, O Lord, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as being in control of everything. Riches and honor come from you alone and you are the Ruler of all mankind; your hand controls power and might, and it is at your discretion that men are made great and given (1 Chronicles 29:11,12 LB) strength"

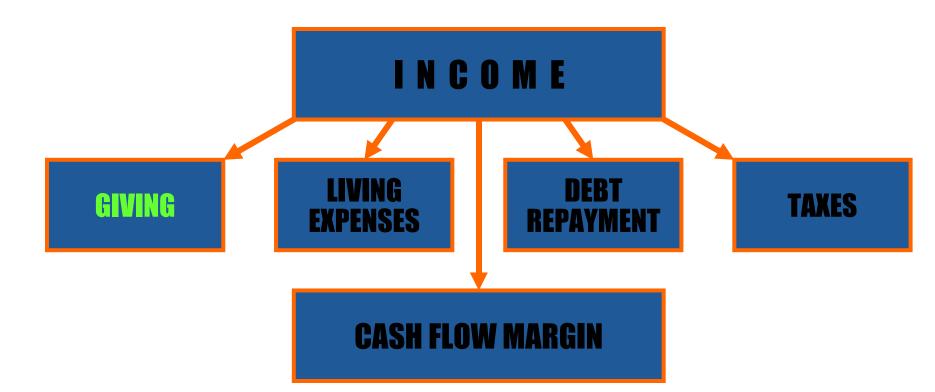
Your Role as a Gatekeeper

"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Matthew 25:21

"We prodaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man complete in Christ. For this purpose also I labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within me." Colossians 1:28-29







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It is Good to Give – Jesus says:

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves don not break in or steal; **for where your treasure is**, **there will your heart be also**." Matthew 6:19-21

It is Good to Give – Paul says:

"Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy. Instruct them to <u>do good</u>, to <u>be rich in good</u> <u>works</u>, to <u>be generous and ready to share</u>, storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed." 1 Timothy 6:17-19

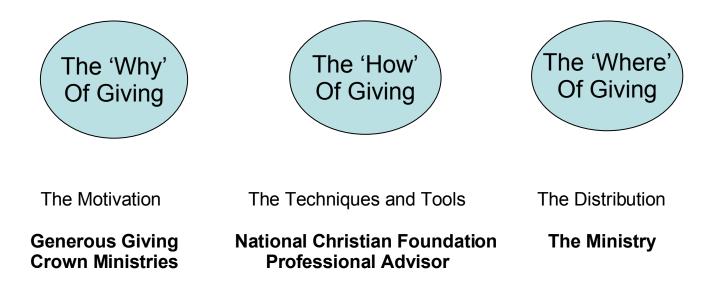
"Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for <u>the profit</u> which increases to your account." Philippians 4:17

Benefits of Charitable Giving

- 1. Personal and Spiritual Benefits
 - Accomplish charitable giving goals
 - Personal satisfaction
 - Experience the joy of giving
 - Eternal rewards
- 2. Tangible Economic Benefits
 - Charitable income tax deductions
 - Potentially avoid capital gains tax on certain assets
 - Increase cash flow by tax savings
 - Remove assets from estate
- 3. Benefits to the Kingdom of God



Three Ways a Donor Can Be Helped as a Giver



The 'Why' of Giving - Generous Giving

The transformation of hearts and minds for revolutionary stewardship www.generousgiving.org



Five Keys to Uncovering Hidden Resources

- 1. A Strong Foundation of Beliefs
- 2. Prayer
- 3. Research
- 4. Relationship
- 5. Involvement and Challenge

Beliefs – What Do You Believe About God and Money?

- Do you believe God lives on a budget?
- How rich do you think God is?
- Do you believe God has all the money He needs to accomplish His plans?
- Who owns everything in the world?
- Where is the disconnect for us?

Beliefs – How Do You Think God Views Money?

- A good thing?
- A bad thing?
- A necessary evil?
- A fruit of His creation with a divine purpose?

Beliefs – What Do You Believe About Money?

- Is it good or evil?
- Whose is it?
- Where did it come from?
- Why are we given it?
- What are we supposed to do with it?

Beliefs – What Do You Believe About God and People and Money?

- Do you think we should encourage people to give?
- Do you believe we should encourage people to give generously?
- Do you give generously?
- Are you willing to be encouraged toward greater biblical generosity?

What Do You Believe About Development?

- Whose Job is it?
- What is your role?
- What is God's role?
- What about the donors needs and aspirations?

God and Money

"Everything in the heavens and earth is yours, O Lord, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as being in control of everything. Riches and honor come from you alone and you are the Ruler of all mankind; your hand controls power and might, and it is at your discretion that men are made great and given strength" (1 Chronicles 29:11,12 LB)

Truths About God and Money

- God owns it all (11; Psalm 24:1)
- God is in control of everything (11; Job 42:2)
- God is the source of all money(12;Deut.8:18)
- God is in charge of how He distributes it (12)
- God knows your needs (Matthew 6:32)
- God promises to supply your needs (Phil.4:19)

The Role of Prayer

"You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures" (James 4:2-3)

The Role of Research

- "Know well the condition of your flocks" (Proverbs 27:23)
- Know your donors
- Understand your organizations strategy
- Know what your needs are and what you are looking for
- See attached 'Donor Profile'

The Role of Relationships

- People give to people
- Truly care about your people (1 Thess.2:5-8)
- Become a student of your donors
- Ask questions and be genuinely interested in them and their families
- Your goal is to serve them and their needs

The Role of Involvement and Challenge

- Look for creative ways to involve people in your ministry effort
- Invite people to ministry events
- Take them on vision trips
- Challenge them People need to be challenged



"Never be afraid to challenge someone to do something significant for God "

How to Build a Biblical Stewardship Mindset?

- It starts with your beliefs about God and your view of God
- See people as God sees them people with needs, not people with money
- Write out your own Biblical Beliefs as it relates to Stewardship and Development



Create your own Donor Profile (see attached)



What About You?

- Are you a faithful steward?
- Are you a generous giver?
- Have you developed your own Biblical worldview as it relates to Stewardship and Development?



Questions and Comments?

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