

Biblical teaching about money and wealth
V. Money and the church

1. Biblical teaching about money and wealth
2. V. Money and the church
3. Key passage
 - i. Churches helping churches
 - b. Of course, I don't mean your giving should make life easy for others and hard for yourselves. I only mean that there should be some equality. Right now you have plenty and can help those who are in need. Later, they will have plenty and can share with you when you need it. In this way, things will be equal. As the Scriptures say, "Those who gathered a lot had nothing left over, and those who gathered only a little had enough." 2 Cor 8:13-15 (NLT)
4. The church's responsibility
 - a. The church is to treat poor and rich alike: James 2:1 -4 James 2:9
 - b. Encourage giving as an act of worship
 - c. The Bible contains examples of both anonymous and public giving: Matt 6:4
 - d. People should be encouraged to give faithfully as their first priority. Then, they should add spiritual graces to their giving such as a generous and willing heart, cheerfulness, and joy 2 Cor 9:7
5. The individual's responsibility
 - a. Be faithful in our giving and honor our commitments
 - b. Give willingly and cheerfully as unto the Lord
 - c. If your church allows you to designate the use of funds you give, do it prayerfully with the heart of a steward
 - d. Leave the final decision of how the church offering is distributed to those in authority
 - e. Leave the results up to God. Your gifts really belong to Him. He has ultimate control over them
6. Financial relationship between churches
7. Financial relationship between churches
 - a. Churches helping churches-attitude is a voluntary act of service: 2 Corinthians 8:1-5
 - b. Churches helping churches-goal is equality: 2 Corinthians 8:10 - 15
 - c. Church helping churches: wonderful way to finance a daughter church (Example of Kanaan church)
8. Church helping churches: wonderful way to finance a daughter church
 - a. 1998: First EFC in Colorado Springs partnered with the mother church in Mulhoi to build a permanent building in Kanaan
 - b. 1999: Kanaan church was dedicated to the Lord
9. Financial management within the local church
 - a. The makeup and responsibilities of the financial committee
 - i. Chairman, secretary, treasurer
 - ii. Members must have utmost fiduciary. Integrity is a critical character quality of a steward

- b. Financial policy may vary from church to church or be determined by the District/Denomination
 - c. Financing a part-time pastor (tent ministries)
 - d. Financing a building project (saving vs pledging)
10. Teaching stewardship in the local church
- a. Teaching Biblical financial principles
 - b. Emphasize that God wants our knowledge, but he wants our heart even more
 - c. Leadership training
 - d. Teach responsibility according to God's Word
 - e. Encourage a culture of faithful giving
 - f. Teach the joy of generosity (Brian Kluth materials)
 - g. Testimonies of God's faithfulness
11. Building projects in the church
12. Building projects in the church
- a. Building projects will need strong, steadfast, visionary, and competent leadership: Ezra, Nehemiah
 - b. Getting the support of the congregation before proceeding is critical: Exodus 35:29, 1 Chronicles 29:14 -19
 - c. Obtaining public gift and leadership gifts can glorify God and result in great rejoicing and increased generosity: 1 Chronicles 29:1 - 9
 - d. Getting support of local officials is important: Neh 2:5, Ezra 6:1-18 end
13. Class discussion
- a. What is your church's financial relationship to other churches with your area of district?
 - b. Has your church ever helped a struggling church financially? What was the result? What has that experience taught your church leaders moving forward?
 - c. Has your church ever been in need financially? Did other churches offer assistance? What lessons has your church leadership learned from that experience?
14. Quiz
- i. Multiple choice or True/False
 - b. Create one or more quizzes that deal with this module
 - c. Usually 4 or 5 choices or statements work best for each quiz
 - d. After allowing a minute or two for the students to complete the quiz, go over the answers. For false statements, ask the class what change could be made to make the statement true