

STRENGTHENING CHURCH FINANCES

Presenter: District Superintendent Rev. Lloyd Brock – 35 years pastoral experience in 4 Churches (Size 7 to 1100 and income from \$1000 to \$1.5 million+)

Goal: Mindset and Practices that have successfully strengthened Church income that you can implement right away!

Scripture Focus: Matthew 6:21; 2 Corinthians 9:7; Malachi 3:10; Hebrews 13:5; Luke 6:38; Philippians 4:19.

Part One: Foundational Principles

1. God is our provider!
2. As a leader, I am responsible to have the right attitude, heart, and mindset about Church finances.
3. Every ministry leader is concerned about the income and resources for their ministry to thrive. Welcome to the club.
4. Giving and Generosity are discipleship matters. If Jesus is not Lord over our finances, He is not Lord!
5. Strengthening your church finances and resources is a RELATIONAL issue, a TRUST issue, and a PLANNING issue.
6. We must never trivialize giving and generosity. It is a deeply spiritual matter.
7. Money matters to your people. Money matters to God.
8. Financial integrity (Church and personal) is an absolute 100% must for all pastors and leaders. Church can never rise above the leader's example.
9. Become an expert on biblical stewardship and master the budget process.
10. May you have a goal of creating a culture and atmosphere of generosity.

Part Two: Five components for strengthening Church finances

1. INTENTIONAL AND DIRECTED PRAYER ABOUT FINANCES.
2. RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND TRUST WITH OUR CHURCH FAMILY.
3. POSITIVITY AND CREATIVE SOLUTION MAKING.
4. PREACHING AND TEACHING ON GENEROSITY, GIVING AND TITHING.
5. SMART STEWARDSHIP PREPARATION AND PLANNING.

Part Three: Practical and Intentional Planning

1. Preach the gospel for life-change.
2. Give generously to missions, community and to others.
3. As a Church practice “double tithing” (80/20) as you give to others.
4. Prepare a yearly written plan for stewardship for your ministry.
5. Plan a “tithe commitment day” each year. Help your people recommit to tithing, become a new tither or find prayer support for financial struggles.
6. Preach a series on biblical stewardship and giving each year.
7. Mention giving as a part of sermon application when appropriate.
8. Prepare for every offering you receive. Use different voices, testimonies, stories, leaders, scripts, Scripture, etc.
9. Learn the art of “Thanking” people! Have a system of thanks. Use personal contact, letters, email, texts and more. Personally thank the donor base, first-time givers, new regular givers, significant gifts given, special offerings given, giving statements, even non-givers.
10. Create multiple ways for people to give (In-house offering, giving boxes, online, mail envelopes, website, Church app, etc.).
11. Recognize that there are different “pockets” of giving (Tithe, offering, missions, building fund, special projects, Sunday school, kids or youth ministry, outreach, and more).
12. Consider moving the offering to the end of the service when it fits.
13. Some churches have success with year-end or holiday offerings.
14. Use bulletins, posters, and more to communicate generosity.
15. Keep yourself and your leaders accountable concerning giving and tithing. Be bold about it.
16. Use a finance team or committee to help you think through or develop and implement stewardship strategies as well as oversee budget planning.
17. Take photos of key events, baptisms, membership, community events so people see the mission being fulfilled at your Church.
18. Use faithful giving as a measure for leaders and names on nominating ballots.
19. Explain your vision for stewardship, giving and tithing in membership classes.
20. Be creative, well-planned, and committed to your Stewardship plan.

Proverbs 29:18: “Where there is no vision, the people perish.