

#### *PARTICIPANT GUIDE*



#### **OBJECTIVES**

By the end of this module, you will be able to:

1. Guide the church to an understanding of holistic stewardship.
2. Describe the five T's related to stewardship.

#### **TIME FOR SHARING & PRAYER**

Read Luke 12:42-48

What is it we should avoid doing as believers regarding the good use of money and material assets?

Do you practice generosity? Do you know some generous person? Why do you think of them as generous?

## **Session 1: Biblical Foundation**

**ADEQUATE STEWARDSHIP** | Matthew 6:19-21, 2 Corinthians 9:6-9, 15

### **THE "5 T'S" OF STEWARDSHIP**

1. Terrain or Earth

2. Time

3. Talents and Gifts

4. Temple, our Body

5. Treasure

Session 2: Tools

**DISCUSSION GROUPS:** Divide into 2 to 4 discussion groups. Each group will take a set of the following questions. Designate a reporter for each group. Don't only think about congregational application, but also personally and with your family.

**GROUP 1**

What happens when leaders of the church don't teach that daily tasks are important and glorify God?  
*Genesis 1:28, 2:15; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-10*

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What happens when pastors don't help the members of the church find a productive job or task?  
*1 Thessalonians 4:11-12; 2 Thessalonians 3:10; Titus 3:14*

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What happens when pastors give the impression that their own job is more important than ordinary tasks?  
*1 Corinthians 12:21-26; Acts 20:34-35, 18:1-3; James 2:1-5*

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**GROUP 2**

What happens when the church seems to be more interested in obtaining members' funds rather than in developing their gifts and being productive? *1 Peter 5:2, Acts 20:34-35, Ephesians 4: 11-13*

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What happens when the offerings are presented as a burden instead of an opportunity to thank God?

*Psalms 50:7-15, Matthew 10:8, 2 Corinthians 9:7, 15; Deuteronomy 16: 9-17*

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What happens when we don't give God our "first fruits" (the best)?

*Genesis 4:1-5, Hebrews 11:4, Deuteronomy 26:1-3, 9-11*

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### **GROUP 3**

What happens when we think some Christians just can't give?

*Exodus 23: 15-17, 1st Corinthians 16:2; Exodus 34:20b*

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What happens when we think we can belong to God but ignore giving to God?

*2 Corinthians 8:1-7*

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What happens when we don't provide for our children and neighbors in need?

*Proverbs 28:27, James 1:27; Matthew 25:31-46*

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#### GROUP 4

What happens when we don't teach that each one must give according to their own resources?

*Deuteronomy 16:17, Luke 12:47-48, 1 Corinthians 16:1-2*

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What happens when we don't teach that tithes and offerings are important demonstration of our faith?

*Malachi 3:6-10, Matthew 6:31-33, Psalm 37:25-28*

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What happens when we don't teach that God blesses those who give generously?

*Proverbs 22:9, Luke 6:38, 2nd Corinthians 9:6-11 (See also: Malachi 3: 6-10)*

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#### SIX PRINCIPLES OF CHRISTIAN OFFERING: *1 Corinthians 16:1-3*

1. What should be given? (v.2)

2. What should be the frequency with which Christians give? (v.2)

3. When should Christians give? (v.2)

4. How should money be managed when we give together? What did the Apostle Paul say the church in Corinth should do to practice honesty, transparency, and responsibility? (v.3)

5. To whom should we give? (v. 1) Also read 2 Corinthians 9:1-2. Who are the needy in your church?

6. How can your church teach children and youth to manage their financial resources in this way?

Write a list of ways to properly use your time. Then, write another list of ways in which you waste your time.

## EVALUATING OUR HOLISTIC STEWARDSHIP

The following tool uses a 1-10 scoring system, in which 1 represents complete disagreement or the lowest score and 10 represents excellence or strong agreement.

PROPER STEWARDSHIP OF RESOURCES											
1.	Our facilities are appropriate to carry out vocational and ministry activities.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	Our church practices good stewardship, managing well its budget and resources.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	Members voluntarily give of their time to serve the church in its ministries.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	Our church regularly teaches about stewardship and tithing.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5.	I feel motivated to contribute with resources for ministry in our church.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6.	The leadership reports to the membership about the use of finances.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7.	The congregation takes good care of the pastor and its leaders.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

## Session 3: Action Plan and Goals

Based on what you learned in this module, create an action plan with clear goals for you and your local church.

### For Pastors:

Have you identified a leader to mentor as a future church planter? Y or N

If yes, did you meet this month? Y or N

### For Review:

Did you turn in a Healthy Church Report this month? Y or N

Look at the 7 Take Your Church's Pulse (TYCP) questions for this module (Session 4) and review your overall measurements.

What are your areas of strength (scores greater than 7)? \_\_\_\_\_

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What are areas for growth (scores equal to or fewer than 7)? \_\_\_\_\_

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Begin to develop an action plan. An action plan for implementing today's materials into your respective ministries is important and should be a habitual process for every step forward in your ministry. Based on what you learned in this module, create an action plan with clear goals for you and your local church.

An acronym that is helpful in planning is to develop **SMART** goals:

**S**pecific: It describes specifically what I plan to do.

**M**easurable: I will be able to tell whether it was done or not.

**A**ppropriate: Is it in line with God's will?

**R**ealistic: It considers my limitations and availability.

**T**ime-bound: It mentions an exact time period.

Example:

- By the end of the month, I will preach a sermon on integrated faith so that people will realize that God should be a part of every portion of life.
- By the end of the year, financial giving will increase by 5% from the previous year.
- In 6 months, 12 new believers will be saved.
- By next week, we will develop a plan for small groups that will start next fall.

## Coming Up: Stronger Churches Module 6

You will help the church understand the concrete reality of the society where it serves to articulate a biblical message that is relevant and appropriate.



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CHURCH NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Healthy Church Report	MONTHLY GOAL	MONTHLY RESULT
<b>SHARED THE VISION</b> How many people inside and outside the church has the vision been shared with?		
<b>LEADERS</b> How many leaders has the church trained for small groups and ministry?		
<b>SPIRITUAL GIFTS</b> How many people has the church trained to use their spiritual gifts?		
<b>TITHE</b> How many people has the church asked to tithe toward the mission of the church?		

## How to Use Reports

- 1. REPORTING** - Included in each module is a tabulation sheet with ten metrics for measuring entitled *Healthy Church Report*. As the participant progresses through the modular training a new measurement is revealed on the tabulation sheet for monthly reporting. Monthly reporting is a key part of the training. This provides accountability and focus on what matters most for the training participants. If the participants know ahead of time what will be asked of them at the next module, they are more likely to do those activities that lead to the results to be reviewed.
- 2. PASTOR TRACK MENTORING** - Pastors are encouraged during the training to identify and mentor a future leader to be a church planter. Each month of the modular training the pastor is asked if a leader has been identified and if they have met for mentoring (see [www.multiplicationnetwork.org/resources/ministry-toolbox/203-mentoring-workshop-2](http://www.multiplicationnetwork.org/resources/ministry-toolbox/203-mentoring-workshop-2) for mentor training material). At the end of the Stronger Churches modular training: Pastors are encouraged to turn in a church planter profile report (<https://www.multiplicationnetwork.org/resources/ministry-toolbox/159-church-planter-profile>) and churches are encouraged to plant a church by sending the new leader for More Churches Modular training.