

OUR FINANCIAL PHILOSOPHY

LESSON 5

I. Biblical Principles of Stewardship

- A. God owns everything. Genesis 14:19; I Chronicles 29:11b; Job 41:11b; Psalms 24:1; 50:10; Haggai 2:8; Luke 16:12; Romans 11:36
- B. Every person is responsible to God for the stewardship of the possessions He has entrusted to their care. Genesis 28:22b; Proverbs 3:9,10; Malachi 3:8,10; Luke 6:38; I Corinthians 4:2; 16:2; II Corinthians 9:6-8
- C. Methods other than voluntary offerings will not be used to finance the work of God.

II. Practical Guidelines for Handling Church Finances

- A. Concerning the budget
 - 1. The fiscal year for the church runs January to December.
 - 2. The budget is prepared by the Pastor and deacons and presented to the congregation for approval at our annual business meeting.
 - 3. The Pastor and deacons seek to expend the funds in a manner consistent with the budget. This keeps the congregation from being encumbered with details of day-to-day church administration, and frees us to focus on our mission of reaching the lost and ministering to God's people.
- B. Concerning your giving
 - 1. Giving records are maintained through the use of offering envelopes made available at church. Only gifts given in these envelopes are recorded on your annual giving statement.
 - 2. The financial secretary records all the giving of the church.
 - 3. A statement of your giving will be provided to you each year in January.
- C. Concerning our financial accountability
 - 1. The pastor and deacons are responsible to deal with the financial details on a monthly basis.
 - 2. A general financial report is presented to the congregation each year at the annual business meeting.
 - 4. Any active member should feel the liberty to discuss financial matters with the Pastor and/or deacons.
 - 5. The Pastor and deacons consider themselves to be the stewards of the church's resources, and operate on behalf of the congregation, and not independent of it.
 - 6. We will not sell, rent or loan our mailing list, or a list of our contributors, to any individual or ministry.