

## How Can Your Church or Ministry Be Financially Healthier?

Stewardship is a 113 year old Christian Charity that provides services to thousands of Churches and Church plants in the UK. In this session they share what they have learned about the 3 A's of Church finance: Advocacy for a biblical attitude to finance, Accountability for managing resources and strong Administration of money. This session will look at a financial health check for your church and how this might apply along the typical church planting pathway.

**John Keskeys** is the Head of Partnerships at Stewardship and is pioneering their relationships with church planting organisations across the UK. John has developed Stewardship's church planting pathway now being deployed across hundreds of churches in the UK to grow financially strong churches. He is passionate to see the church resourced, strengthened, generous, sustainable, and mission focused. John is married to Rebecca with 2 young children.

### Introducing the AAA

1. Attitude (Advocacy for a biblical view of money)
2. Administration
3. Accountability

### Outcomes and evidence

1. See the benefit of engaged and disciplined church members and supporters;
2. Be increasingly able to fulfil the New Testament call to be generous and well resourced;
3. Operating with best practice in managing money; and...
4. Be a church that is 'good to give to'.

#### I. ATTITUDE:

- A. Your attitude to money
- B. The spiritual battleground

#### II. ADMINISTRATION:

2 Corinthians 8:19 the gift was administered "...to honour the Lord Himself"

- A. Financial controls
- B. Budgets and planning

- C. Finance is a team game
- D. Church Planting Pathway
- E. Church Financial Healthcheck

### **III. ACCOUNTABILITY:**

2 Corinthians 8: 17 – 21 Avoid criticism do things right in the eyes of the Lord and of man

- A. Establish a finance team
- B. Share financial information regularly with the church.
- C. Recognise the lure of money
- D. Encourage a culture of challenge
- E. Ensure finance serves the church

### **IV. What happens where AAA is not evident?**

- A. Sickness in attitude becomes evident in the church when:
- B. Sickness in accountability becomes evident where:
- C. Sickness in administration can emerge in:

### **V. Starting New Churches:**

- A. Apply the AAA to a blank canvass
- B. Process helps formation
- C. Generosity fuels mission

### **VI. Conclusion**

1. Healthy ministries and churches can respond from a place of strength to God's agenda
2. Sustainability is a crucial aspect in our strategies and plans and finance is a critical aspect
3. Church Planting is the perfect opportunity to establish healthy new leaders and churches
4. Learning best practice and modelling to others over time is essential