

Scripture

*“Honor the Lord with your wealth,
with the firstfruits of all your crops;
then your barns will be filled to overflowing,
and your vats will brim over with new wine.”*

— Book of Proverbs 3:9–10

This verse assumes something important: money is already part of our lives.

And it invites us to approach it with wisdom, intention, and trust.

Honoring God with our wealth starts with understanding what we’ve been given and learning how to steward it well.

Ministry Introduction

That’s why we’re launching the **Financial Empowerment Ministry**, and why the name matters.

Finances can look straightforward on paper, but in real life they carry emotion, history, and pressure. Money affects how safe we feel, how we make decisions, and how confident we are about the future.

When we talk about empowerment, we're talking about **confidence**.

Confidence to understand how money works.

Confidence to make thoughtful choices.

Confidence to steward what God has entrusted to us.

This ministry exists both for the entire church and the Charlotte community. Anyone who wants to learn more about how to grow in their personal finances belongs here, no matter where they are in life.

Many of us were never taught how personal finances actually work. We learned by trial and error while juggling real responsibilities like rent, mortgages, debt, saving, and giving.

Our purpose is to teach practical financial principles and help people connect those principles to a faith-filled life.

We'll do that by helping people live within their means, by shaping healthier money mindsets, and by remembering that money is something God invites us to steward and share as a blessing.

Why Now?

You may be thinking...why now? This ministry is starting now because the timing matters.

Our church is in a season of transition with new ministry staff and renewed focus on growth.

And more importantly, right now, finances are a major source of pressure for many families.

Across the country, household debt is high and everyday costs continue to rise. Housing, groceries, childcare, insurance, and interest rates have all made financial decisions feel heavier than they used to.

That's exactly why this matters.

We can't control every economic shift around us, but we can grow in wisdom. We can build stronger habits. We can learn how to make steady decisions in uncertain seasons.

And as we do that together, we build a church that is financially grounded and ready for whatever comes next.

Our Ask

As we begin, we're asking for two things.

The first is **patience**. This ministry will start small and grow carefully. We want to listen well and build something that truly serves the church.

The second is **participation**. Next week, you'll be invited to complete a short, anonymous survey. It helps us understand where people are and what kinds of support would be most meaningful.

Your input will shape how this ministry takes form.

If you have any questions at all please reach out to anyone you see on the screen. We are a small but mighty group of disciples who are passionate about personal finance. Georgina, Onesimus, George, Trang, and myself are here to serve.

Thank you.