

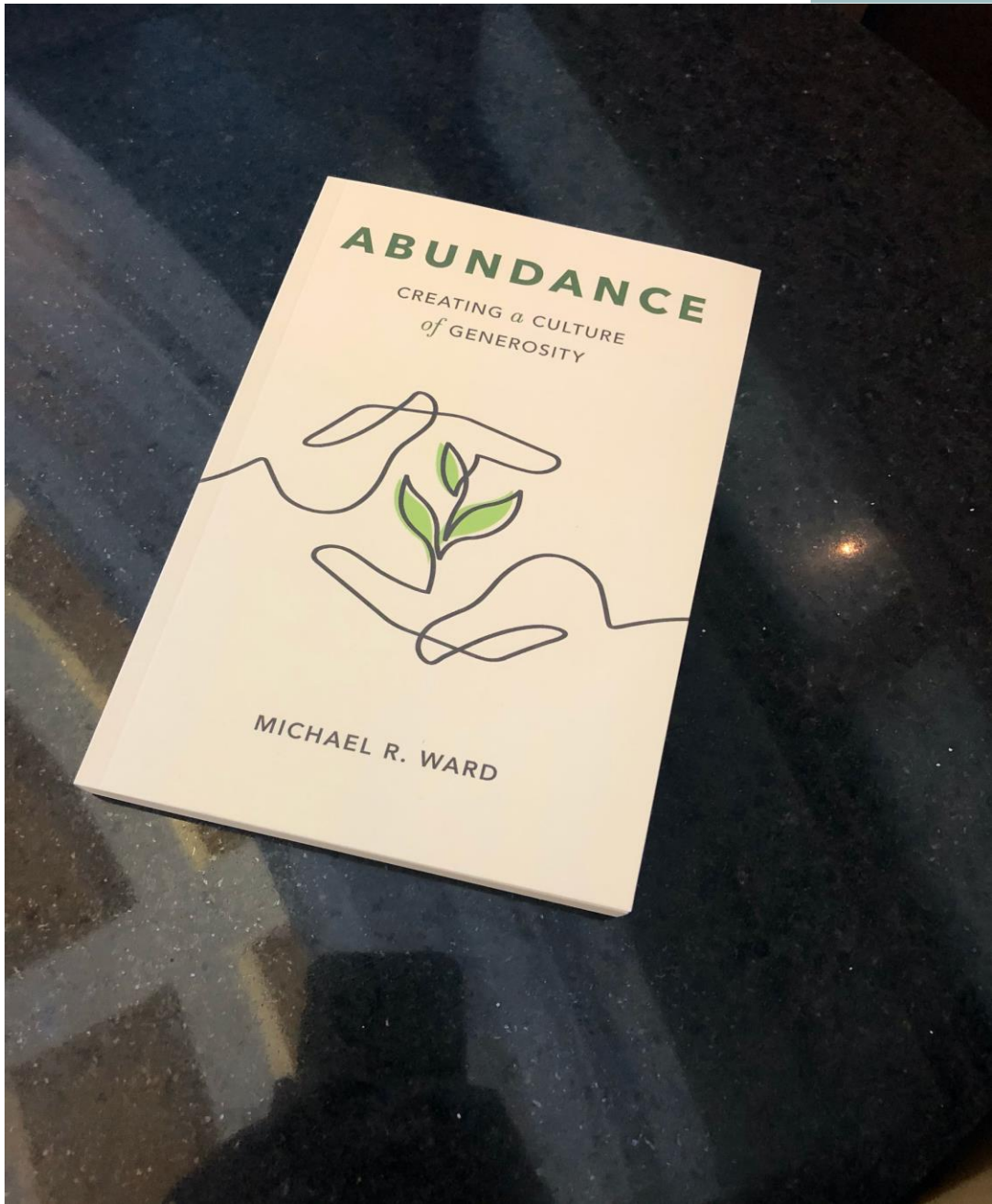
Stewardship: Leading to Vitality

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gsb

Financial Development is Ministry

“Fundraising is proclaiming what we believe in such a way that we offer other people an opportunity to participate with us in our vision and mission. Fundraising is precisely the opposite of begging.”

— Henri Nouwen

Financial Development is Ministry

“We have a vision that is amazing and exciting. We are inviting you to invest yourself through the resources that God has given you—your energy, your prayers, and your money—in this work to which God has called us.”

— Henri Nouwen

The Pyramid Of Giving



Key Takeaway for day

- What we must do
 - Inform
 - Motivate
 - Ask
 - Thank
- Where it all starts
 - Vision



Slido Question

- **www.slido.com**

using the event code **#26452**

<https://app.sli.do/event/j8pgosod>

- **What percentage of income does the median protestant give away annually?**



Questions

- Does tithing have anything to do with our conversation anymore?

13.6% of Mainline Christians tithe 10% or more

59.1% of mainline Christians give less than 2% of income

Why we Give

- **Generationally**
 - **Greatest Generation—80+** give to church because it is right thing to do. Don't need to be asked and don't care so much about special appeals. They will give to any opportunity to make the church better
 - **Baby Boomers—**Need to know the tangible results of their giving. Like to give to specific projects. Like to see the results of their giving. This group loves facilities
 - **Age 40-55-** Give to make their own lives or their children's lives better.
 - **Under 40—**Give to what they are involved in. Gift must be able to make a difference

Why we give

—or how we have failed to give

- 20% give nothing to the church
- Majority of Christians give very little to the church
- A small minority of donors contributes most of the dollars given—top 10% of donors give 72.9% of all gifts
- Higher income Americans don't give a higher percent than lower income Christians
- 20th century had massive growth in per capita income while percent of giving declined slightly

Why we give

—or how we have failed to give

- Majority of money given by Christians for religion is spent on its own local community of faith—little spent on missions, particularly outside the US
 - This is because we fail to have a VISION of what God is calling us to do. We fail to “dream God-sized dreams”

A new way to generosity

- Raise expectations for giving—honor generous giving
- Congregations need to teach theology of giving
- Leaders need to boldly encourage believers to make decisions from that belief
- Make it easier to give (credit card??)
- Churches need to be more transparent and accountable
 - (Above from Passing the Plate by Smith and Emerson)

Spirituality of Stewardship

✻ I believe that God has created me and all that exists. He has given me and still preserves my body and soul with all their powers. He provides me with food and clothing, home and family, daily work, and all I need from day to day....All this God does out of fatherly and divine goodness and mercy, though I do not deserve it. Therefore I surely ought to thank and praise, serve and obey him. This is most certainly true.--*Martin Luther*

Spirituality of Stewardship

✻ Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also--*Matthew 6:21*



Spirituality of Stewardship

☀ On a practical level, for the church to lead people to spiritual stewardship, strong vision and mission for the congregation is necessary. When all we are about is paying the bills of the church and not really doing or sharing any stories of making a difference in the world for God' s Kingdom, it will be difficult at best to lead people to glad and generous hearts.--*Mike Ward*

A key concepts

- Always, Always, Always have more ministry you desire to accomplish than you indicate in your operating budget.
 - You must clearly state this ministry
 - You must tell the congregation what you will fund and in what order you will fund it when you exceed your budget
 - You must decide ahead of time if you will accept designated gifts for items above the budget, particularly if you will fund them before fulfilling other items