Igniting the Flame

The Stewardship Calling

Effective Church Model

“For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required.”
Luke 12:48

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Part 4
The Stewardship Calling Effective Church Model
Stewardship Calling Effective Church Model

Institutional

Effective Worship Experience

Vision

Consensus Vision and Strategic Plan

Engaged Disciples

Stewardship

Culture of True Stewardship

Individual
15 Culture of True Stewardship Practices

1. Stewardship & Generosity
2. Leadership Alignment
3. Tithing
4. Time First
5. It’s personal
6. Engagement
7. Welcoming
8. Thanking
9. Youth
10. Messaging
11. Campaigns
12. Estate Giving
13. Transparency & Accountability
14. Small Groups
15. Team
13. Transparency and accountability

Complete transparency and accountability is essential to having a successful Stewardship program.
1. Transparency & Accountability increases generosity:

“[A] significant increase in the public transparency, accountability, and institutionalized credibility of the many religious and charitable causes and organizations to which American Christians might consider giving money would have the real effect over time of considerably increasing the amount of money they give.”

2. Parishioners want more Transparency & Accountability:

“We asked the question in a number of different ways, and each time the answer came out the same. Parishioners want more say in how their parishes are run.... In parish financial matters they expect accountability and transparency.”
3. Transparency & Accountability is Biblical:

“In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.”

Titus 2:7–8

(To honor Holy Scripture and avoid temptation, Reverend Billy Graham strove to be transparent in everything – going so far as to purchase advertising space in local newspapers to publish financial audits of his evangelistic tours)
4. Transparency & Accountability reduces opportunities for financial irregularities and:

“Sunlight is said to be the best of disinfectants; electric light the most efficient policeman.”

Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis
5. In today’s American society where Transparency & Accountability have become absolute expectations, the absence of Transparency & Accountability raises presumptions of improprieties
6. Conversations in churches about Transparency & Accountability allow for a discussion of money in a productive way that can set the stage for a financial stewardship conversation.
Transparency & Accountability

~ A Parish should regularly and repeatedly provide its financial and stewardship information to all of its stewards

~ The results of the annual audits of your Parish financial records should also be shared

~ Consider the transparency of placing your financial and stewardship statements on your website
~ All Parish Council members (and others involved in stewardship and financial matters should annually go through financial “best practices” training

~ For example, the Metropolis of Atlanta “Good Financial Practices” presentation available here:

https://atlmetropolis.org/2017-presidents-meeting
Effective Parish “To Do” Item

Consistently communicate all stewardship, financial and other Parish information with integrity, accountability and transparency.
You have now been called as one of the 70 Disciples

Luke 10:1
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