

Q. Can I get a video or DVD of the seminars instead of bringing in a live trainer?

A. At this time, we are dedicated to offering Abundant Living seminars with a live trainer. We feel that the benefits of having an on-site teacher/facilitator outweigh the benefits of a DVD format. Additionally, the seminars are largely interactive, therefore, having a live trainer is a much better fit for our approach to stewardship training.

Q. What are your plans to provide support and follow-up for people who attend a seminar?

A. We are deeply committed to providing one-on-one financial coaching sessions as a follow-up to the seminars. We recognize that for many, this will be the critical step in improving personal finances. Accordingly, we have a complete financial coach training kit available for local churches to establish a financial coaching ministry (our preference is to work with hosting churches to have trained financial coaches in place prior to the seminar events).

In addition, we now also offer the Abundant Living small-group bible study, "Hidden Treasures: The Secrets to Abundant Living," as another follow-up tool churches can use to equip their members to manage money God's way. For more information about establishing a financial coaching ministry in your church or our other stewardship resources, visit www.abundantlivingministry.org or call 1-877-434-9878.

Q. Who is Matt Schoenfeld?

A. Matt is the National Director of the Abundant Living Ministry and the Founder and Executive Director of Heartland Financial Concepts, a nonprofit stewardship-training ministry in Mission, Kan. Matt is the creator of the Abundant Living stewardship series. He is the author of Abundant Living: The Five Biblical Principles for Financial Success and Hidden Treasures: The Secrets to Abundant Living. Matt and his family attend Risen Lamb International Church of the Nazarene in Kansas City, Kansas. Matt coordinates all Abundant Living training events.

Q. How can we have someone from our church or district trained to teach the workshops?

A. For information on becoming a certified Abundant Living Facilitator, or if you would like to recommend a candidate for training, please contact Matt Schoenfeld. At this time, we are developing our network of trainers, and we are scheduling additional certification events as needed.

Q. Are there any groups endorsing Abundant Living?

A. The following organizations and ministries endorse Abundant Living. Please feel free to contact them:

- Stewardship Ministries, Church of the Nazarene (1-800-544-8413)
- Vibrant Group, Inc.
Dr. Stan Toler (405-820-1107)
- United Methodist Church of the Resurrection
Dr. Clayton Smith (913-897-0120)
- Northwest Christian Credit Union
Mr. Brad Schwartzentruber (1-800-955-7775)

Q. What are others saying?

A. "Matt has clearly captured the key to practically living out the life of a faithful steward. I can say with certainty Abundant Living will give you tools to chart a clear and effective path for handling money God's way and will definitely help you grow in financial discipleship."


Dr. Stan Toler, Author and Pastor

"Not only was Abundant Living a big help to me and my wife, I saw first-hand how our people benefited. The Abundant Living approach to this topic is balanced, biblical, and Kingdom-focused. I'd recommend this ministry to any church on our district."

Matt Rice, Pastor

"Abundant Living was challenging, inspiring, and fun. It takes a complex topic and makes it simple by providing real-world tools and strategies, all firmly rooted in Scripture."

Jeffrey Johnson, Pastor



Q & A GUIDE TO ABUNDANT LIVING



BIBLICAL FINANCIAL FITNESS

On the Web:
www.abundantlivingministry.org



Abundant Living

Q. What are the five seminars in the Abundant Living series?

A. The seminars include:

- Seeds of Change: A Biblical Approach to a Complete Financial Check-up,
- Money Management 101: Discovering God's Plan for Personal Financial Management,
- The Freedom Principle: Get out of Debt and Stay Out!,
- Sowing and Reaping: An Introduction to Investing, Planning for Your Future and Building the Kingdom of God and
- Legacy of Love: Building God's Kingdom through Wise Estate Planning and Charitable Giving

Q. How does Abundant Living differ from other stewardship programs?

A. While most stewardship training programs take 10 to 13 weeks to complete, Abundant Living is designed to be a series of simple, half-day seminars that can be completed in two to four weeks. With people so busy nowadays, it can be difficult to find time for a multi-week program, in addition to a home group. Additionally, people learn differently, so having an alternate way to present stewardship can broaden your church's ability to reach people with this important training. Abundant Living still clearly teaches the core stewardship message – God owns it and we are His managers - through each of its seminars, and the program is firmly grounded in Scripture.

Abundant Living also differs from other programs in that it is modular, not sequential. A church could offer one seminar, the entire series, or any combination of the five. This modular approach provides more flexibility for entry and exit points to and from the program (attrition is the only common exit point to other programs in addition to completion), and it gives the church options regarding what format to offer the workshops.

Q. What are the Five Principles for Biblical Financial Success?

A. Without giving away too much of the seminar content, the five core biblical money management principles we teach through Abundant Living are:

- Give Generously (2 Corinthians 9:6-7),
- Flee the Love of Money (1 Timothy 6:9-12),
- Live Within Your Means (Proverbs 30:7-9),
- Plan for the Future (Luke 14:28) and
- Use a Spending Plan (Proverbs 27:23-24).

Because financial management is such a difficult topic in many people's lives, these five principles form a set of simple, guiding values to help people manage money God's way. Do these five things and we think you can:

- Be debt free,
- Meet the needs of your family,
- Prudently save for the future and
- Have kingdom impact.

Q. Financial success, huh? Am I about to get blind-sided with the Health and Wealth Gospel here?

A. That is a fair question, and our answer is an emphatic, "No way!" Our motivation with Abundant Living is biblical financial success, which focuses on having the fruit of the Holy Spirit flowing through your financial affairs, using your resources to bless God and others and building God's kingdom through generous giving. God may choose to bless us materially, but our position is that if this happens, it puts us in a position to give more generously.



Abundant
Living

Q. What's the best format for completing the seminars?

A. Again, because Abundant Living is offered in a modular format, you have a lot of flexibility in how you run the program. The seminars can be offered in the following ways:

- One seminar a week for four weeks
- Weekend retreat format
- One seminar a quarter
- As a follow-up tool to your church's capital campaign.

Please note that if you offer the seminars weekly, monthly or quarterly, you may incur additional expenses for bringing in the facilitator. However, if you have a certified facilitator in your church or city, this expense will be negligible or removed completely.

Q. How much does it cost to offer Abundant Living?

A. We have attempted to offer a high-quality program for a reasonable price. The series starts for as little as \$9 per seminar (a registration fee to the church will apply). In addition, we will donate \$5 of each registration fee to Nazarene Compassionate Ministries' Child Sponsorship to help children in third world countries. Please contact the Abundant Living ministry for more detailed information on exact costs at 1-877-434-9878.

Q. How long does it take to complete all four seminars?

A. Seeds of Change, Money Management 101 and The Freedom Principle are often presented in a retreat setting, and can be completed in 9.5 hours. Sowing and Reaping will take approximately 4 to 5 hours. Legacy of Love is a two-hour seminar with additional 30 minute one-on-one sessions with the facilitator for each participant. If done separately, each seminar will take three to four hours.