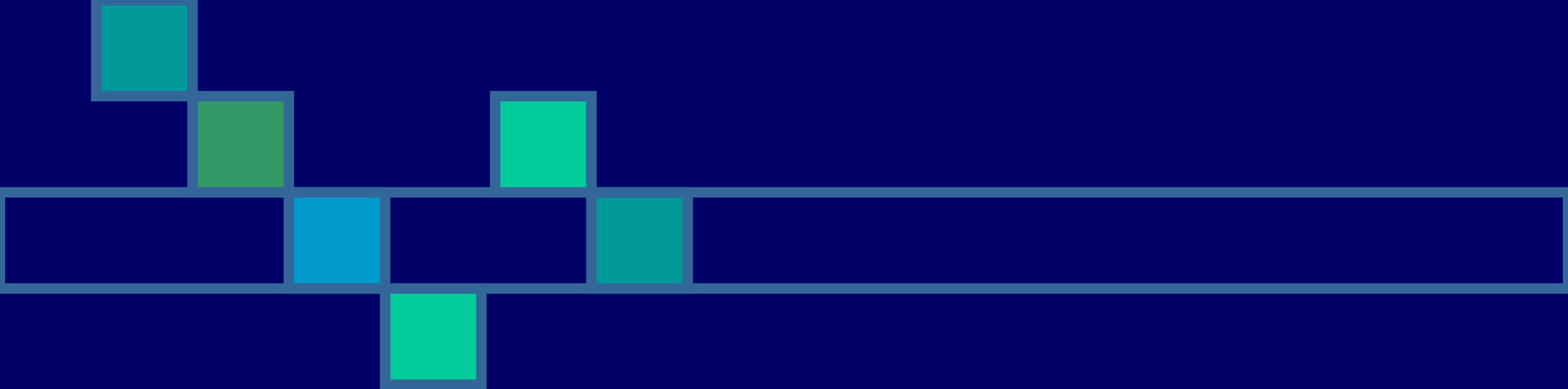


Figuring Out Finances





First of all, whose money is it anyway?



The Lord's!




God's Purposes For Money*

- **To Provide Basic Needs:** I Tim 6:8
 - To Confirm Direction: Ps 37:7
 - To Give To Christians: Rom 12:13
 - To Illustrate God's Power: Mal 3:10
- 

* Taken from Mens Manual Institute in Basic Youth Conflicts



To Provide Basic Needs

- To be dependent on Him: Mat 6:11
 - To deepen our love for the Lord: Col 2:10
 - To develop a spirit of gratefulness
 - To teach us to live within our means: I Tim 6:6
 - To help us enjoy our possessions: Heb 13:5
- 




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To Confirm Direction

- To build our faith and vision: Heb 11:7
 - To determine who is Lord of our lives: I Tim 6:17
 - To protect us from harmful items: I Tim 6:9
 - To teach us patience: Jam 1:3-4
 - To concentrate on true riches: Phil 3:7-8
- 


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To Give to Christians

- To unite Christians: II Cor 8:14
 - To demonstrate the mark of a Christian: Titus 2:14
 - To initiate spontaneous thanksgiving: II Cor 9:11
 - To multiply the potential for giving: II Cor 9:6
- 


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To Illustrate God's Power

- To cause Christians to trust Him
 - To mock the false gods of our age: money
 - To purify our lives and our motives: Ps 66:18
 - To bring non Christians to salvation: Acts 5:12-14
 - To glorify God: Ps 50:15
- 



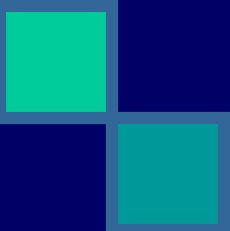

How Can I Best Manage What God Entrusted To Me?

Questions to ask concerning your finances

- Do I Need It?
 - Will It Further The Lord's Work?
 - How Will I Pay For It?
 - Who Gets Credit For It?
- 

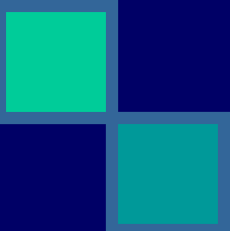



What About Debt?

- 
- Discouraged in Scripture
 - Presumptuous of the future
 - Produces bondage to creditors
 - Gives the illusion of independence
 - It evades self examination
 - It interferes with God's provision
- 




What About Debt?

- 
- It removes barriers to harmful items
 - It demonstrates discontent with basic
 - It promotes impulse buying
 - It damages God's reputation
 - It weakens personal faith
 - It causes overspending
- 



Practical Applications

- Live within your means and be content
 - Never borrow money to invest
 - Pay off debt before you invest
 - The “Joneses” don’t matter (keeping up)
 - Develop and use a budget
- 



Figuring out Finances

- God Has A Purpose For Money
 - Managing God's Money
 - Understand the Dangers of Debt
- 