



## Course Syllabus

### The Ministry of Money: A Treasurer's Role in the Mission of the Church

**Course Duration:** 9 weeks (9 one-hour sessions)

**Facilitator:** Keith Clark-Hoyos

**Platform:** *Effective Church Leadership Community* Private Space

**Text:** *The Ministry of Money* by Keith Clark-Hoyos (included)

**Course Description:** This cohort-based training program is designed to equip church treasurers, finance committee members, and pastors with the knowledge, tools, and spiritual grounding necessary to steward the church's finances faithfully. Participants will learn how to interpret financial reports, align budgeting with mission and vision, implement protective systems, and communicate finances with integrity.

Each session is dialogical in nature—some will begin with a short presentation followed by breakout discussion, others will center on group dialogue. The course draws from *The Ministry of Money* and weaves together theological insight and practical guidance for ministry-based financial leadership.

#### Weekly Live Format (Zoom):

- 10 min: Gathering and Centering with Keith
- 40 min: Breakout Dialogue (guided by weekly questions)
- 10 min: Group Reflection and Blessing

#### Online Learning Expectations (via ECLC)

##### Each week's module includes:

- Weekly Reading Assignment (from *Embracing Our Call*)
- Group Dialogue Questions
- Optional resources (quotes, tools, downloadable practices)

##### Participants are expected to:

- Post responses to dialogue questions by Friday evening
- Reply to at least two other group members before Tuesday night

## Session 1: A Sacred Assignment

 Reading: Introduction + Chapter 1

 Focus: Why Treasurers Matter

 Dialogue Questions:

- What drew you to this role—or what surprised you about it?
- How does your congregation view the treasurer’s role: burden or blessing?
- What does it mean to you that money is part of your ministry?

## Session 2: Spiritual Leadership and Financial Language

 Reading: Chapters 2–3

 Focus: Discipleship framing of fiduciary duty

 Dialogue Questions:

- Where have you seen spiritual maturity in how leaders manage money?
- What aspects of financial work feel most connected to your faith?
- Which responsibilities in your current role feel spiritually weighty?

## Session 3: Building Trust Through Financial Reporting

 Reading: Chapters 4–5

 Focus: Transparency, clarity, and communicating with care

 Dialogue Questions:

- When you share financials, what story are you telling?
- Where do reports confuse rather than clarify?
- How might you adjust reports to reflect mission and build trust?

## Session 4: Budgeting as a Ministry Tool

 Reading: Chapters 6–7

 Focus: Budgeting for alignment, not just balance

 Dialogue Questions:

- How are your current budgeting practices connected to your church’s Calling?
- What challenges do you face when trying to budget faithfully?
- What’s one change you could make to move toward alignment?

## Session 5: The Role of the Finance Committee

 Reading: Chapters 8–9

 Focus: Structuring the team to support discernment

 Dialogue Questions:

- What is the current role of your finance team—and what should it be?
- How do relationships impact financial conversations in your church?
- What's one agreement or practice you'd like to see adopted?

### Session 6: Safeguards and Controls

 Reading: Chapter 10

 Focus: Financial controls as spiritual protection

 Dialogue Questions:

- What control practices are currently strong in your church?
- Where do gaps exist that could lead to confusion or harm?
- What conversations do you need to initiate about accountability?

### Session 7: The Power of the Monthly Report

 Reading: Chapter 11

 Focus: Moving beyond spreadsheets to spiritual storytelling

 Dialogue Questions:

- What would a faithful financial report look like in your setting?
- How do you know when your reports are helping or hindering?
- What metrics matter most for your church's financial health?

### Session 8: Responding to Red Flags

 Reading: Chapter 12

 Focus: Discernment, not fear, when something feels off

 Dialogue Questions:

- Have you ever had to raise a financial concern? What was difficult?
- What does faithful vigilance look like in your board setting?
- How can a treasurer act without overstepping?

### Session 9: Reframing Stewardship and Closing Blessing

 Reading: Chapters 13–Conclusion

 Focus: Generosity, testimony, and long-term witness

 Dialogue Questions:

- What stewardship practices resonate with your church's culture?
- How might your congregation's understanding of giving deepen?
- What vision do you carry forward after this cohort?

## Course Materials

- Required Text: ***The Ministry of Money*** by Keith Clark-Hoyos (included in registration)
- Optional Resources: Governance covenant samples, policy templates, discussion guides (via ECLC Resource Library)

## Assessment and Grading

This is a voluntary, non-graded course designed to deepen spiritual formation and strengthen leadership practice. There are no exams or written assignments. Full participation in discussions and dialogue is strongly encouraged for mutual enrichment.