



# Depth Perception™

Commentary from Design For Ministry™

Los Angeles – Milwaukee – Philadelphia

## Creation questions an organization might ask

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(excerpted from *Creation: the moral meaning of money*, by Mark L. Vincent,  
©2005 Design For Ministry™. The complete paper is available from <http://www.designforministry.com/>)

I recently completed a fairly significant study on the moral meaning of money. The finding of that study is simply stated in an excerpt from my paper:

“Creation themes provide greater assistance to a person or an organization managing ethical dilemmas related to money than do consumption, conservation or being ascetic. The identified creation themes form a checklist one can use when trying to figure a way through an ethical morass.

- √ What makes it not just about us?
- √ What helps us embrace possibility?
- √ What aids our sustainability?
- √ What helps us remain focused on ends and not just means?
- √ What helps us persist in the face of an uncertain future?
- √ What builds or enhances life in others?

- √ How will we evaluate our choice and seek improvement?

Attempting to find moral meaning in the middle of ethical dilemmas about money, the perspectives of consumption, conservation and the ascetic perspective are inadequate to the task. They must appropriate creation language and end up occupying a common space when doing so. Moving into creation themes makes perceived polarities disappear and complexity more manageable.

The creation perspective then, is a means to bridge the artificial separation between the other three perspectives. Embracing it allows a person and/or organization to more freely solve problems, moving in fluid fashion between consuming, conserving and withdrawing as it is appropriate to do so.”

- mark l. vincent