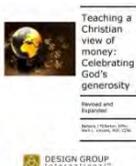


Depth Perception

31 March 2012 -- Commentary from Design Group International™

The skills of a steward leader



Congregational leaders, consider our recent release: [Teaching a Christian View of Money: Revised and Expanded](#). Developed by Barbara Fullerton and myself, this \$25 resource is a comprehensive look at how generosity is taught in congregational life. Purchasing a copy gives the owner permission to make multiple copies for their congregation.

This week brought a wrap-up to an [on-line course](#) module being developed for [Christian Leadership Alliance](#)—a primer on [Steward Leadership](#). The module is offered this summer as part of a [certificate course](#). It also counts toward the [CCNL](#) designation.

The last of the five sessions in the course module covers four counter-intuitive skills a Steward Leader needs to cultivate. Here is the summary:

Rigorous Self-Assessment— This assessment is not secretive, but invites others to speak into the Steward Leader's performance (Those taking the course module will make use of a prototype assessment tool developed around the Steward Leader model).

Engagement— In order to engage in what matters the Steward Leader must disengage from what does not. The formula for this will not be the same from person to person.

Maintenance of Perspective—This skill builds from disengaging in order to engage. The Steward Leader is relentless about the pursuit of mission over the long-term.

Letting Go—An engaged leader who maintains perspective and monitors their character and actions, can still be controlling and reluctant to let others step in and become leaders in their own right and for the future. The Steward Leader recognizes that the timing of letting go might not be of their choosing, but that it is the stewardship that matters.

Yes, these skills are much more about being than doing. But being is a skill that helps the doing, today, tomorrow and among the people and organizations entrusted to us.

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