

STEWARDSHIP & TREASURY

A partnership to nurture a God-first lifestyle!

We are created and redeemed as stewards. Therefore, nurturing a God-first lifestyle as the basis for a holistic approach to stewardship allows church members to see the connection more clearly between their personal spiritual growth, personal worship through giving, and personal witness in mission. The following five points describe how the partnership between Stewardship and Treasury will nurture this connection.

1. We believe that stewardship is about faith-raising and not fund-raising	
Action	Implementation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the world annual Stewardship Revival Week which invites members to embrace a God-first lifestyle. 	GC/Divisions/ Unions/ Conferences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the weekly offertory devotionals, which include stories that strengthen the concept of worshiping through giving. 	GC/Divisions/ Unions/ Conferences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the GC Working Policy and the Church Manual and bring necessary amendments to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harmonize with previous actions taken related to adopting the Combined Offering Plan. - Accommodate the alternative modes of giving to the church that have emerged recently. 	GC/Divisions/
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage local conferences to invest in the training of elders, church clerks, treasurers, stewardship directors, and other church ministries leaders regarding a holistic perspective of stewardship. 	Conference

2. We value the trust and confidence of church members.	
Action	Implementation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request local conferences and other administrative levels to communicate to church members at least annually about finances through accessible and user-friendly platforms about the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of tithes and offerings - Real-life stories, following an agreed standard format, linking giving with progress in mission. 	GC/Divisions/ Unions/ Conferences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that Local Conferences implement an internal control system, that includes an annual local church audit. The audit reports are to be presented to respective church boards, church business meetings, and preferably shared to the church at large whenever possible. 	GC/Divisions/ Unions/ Conferences

3. We believe stewardship principles guide every aspect of daily living.

Action	Implementation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up an editorial committee to develop a resource material for financial literacy seminars that local churches can adapt to their context. A particular attention should be given to the financial education of the younger generation.¹ 	GC/Divisions/ Unions/ Conferences
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Train a pool of financial literacy educators comprising of treasurers, stewardship leaders, pastors, and other resource people to regularly organize Financial Literacy Seminars for the local church and the community as a nurturing and evangelistic tool. 	GC/Divisions/ Unions/ Conferences

4. We expect church members to grow in a trusting relationship with God.

Action	Implementation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add a line to the treasurers' report at all levels that indicates the monthly number of giving units. For nurture and retention purposes, local church treasurers should apply the provisions of the Church Manual in this regard. 	GC/Divisions/ Unions/ Conferences/ Churches
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an instrument and collect information for local churches, conferences, unions, and divisions to consolidate data for their territory about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the pattern in participation for tithing and regular offerings. - the Generosity Index regarding total offerings as a percentage of tithe. 	GC/Divisions/ Unions/ Conferences/ Churches
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the information collected in the previous suggested action and engage in any needed collective or personal interventions. 	GC/Divisions/ Unions/ Conferences/ Churches

¹ As the need for financial education is diverse, there is a need to explore the needs of various regions before deciding on the content. Existing material could be updated and used as a resource.

5. We believe stewardship is for everyone everywhere.

Action	Implementation
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare inspiring stewardship resources in formats and on platforms that are user-friendly to the generational and geographic profiles of church members.	GC/Divisions/ Unions/ Conferences
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invest in the development of a curriculum to teach Stewardship to children, teens, and young adults.	GC/Divisions/ Unions/ Conferences
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work in close partnership with other ministries of the church to ensure that prospective members are adequately instructed about stewardship principles before and after baptism.	GC/Divisions/ Unions/ Conferences/ Churches