



## **Biblical Foundations for Development**

1. We believe that God owns everything, and that people serve as stewards of God's resources (Psalms 24:1; 1 Chronicles 29:10-20).
2. We believe that ministry administrators engage in development work as ministry to encourage people to participate in God's work (Philippians 1:3-6; Proverbs 29:18).
3. We believe that prayer serves as the channel through which we make our needs known to God and seek guidance for our work with people as partners in God's work (Psalm 17:6; Proverbs 3:5-6; Matthew 6:9-13; John 15:16; Philippians 4:6-7).
4. We believe that our efforts result in both spiritual growth and financial giving as we call people to conversion in relationship to resources and to deploy all they are and all they have to accomplish God's work (Psalm 49; 2 Corinthians 9:8; 1 Peter 4:10-11).
5. We believe that encouraging faithful stewardship prepares stewards to hear "Well done!" from God and to reap eternal rewards (Philippians 4:17; Revelation 22:12).
6. We believe that building God-honoring relationships requires us to learn peoples' stories and share our story in order to discern together how we might collaborate in God's greater story linked to the spiritual awakening of communities in which we serve (Malachi 4:5-6; Galatians 2:8-10).
7. We believe that our ministry touches followers of Jesus Christ as well as those outside of the community of faith (Exodus 25:1-2; Nehemiah 2:1-9; Galatians 6:10).
8. We believe that God's workers who rally financial partnership should receive fair wages just like any other minister of the gospel (1 Corinthians 9:14; 1 Timothy 5:17-18).
9. We believe that every giver matters to God (regardless of their level of giving) and should be thanked sincerely and in a timely manner for their partnership in the gospel without showing favoritism. This thinking does not conflict with the fact that ministry administrators and development staff may prioritize time with key ministry partners (Mark 12:41-44; Luke 8:1-3; Titus 3:12-15; Philippians 4:10-20; James 2:1-9).
10. We believe that our work ethic, strategies, and tactics must focus on pleasing God, not man, and that we must direct all praise to God for the fruit that comes from our faithful work in the ministry of development (Colossians 3:23; 2 Corinthians 8-9).