

MONEY MINDSETS

There are three different mindsets as to how you could approach your money as a Christian: **Poverty**, **Prosperity**, and **Stewardship**. Here is a brief chart explaining the differences between the three:

	POVERTY	PROSPERITY	STEWARDSHIP
Possessions are	Evil	A right	A responsibility
I work to	Meet only basic needs	Become rich	Serve Christ
Godly people are	Poor	Wealthy	Faithful
Ungodly people are	Wealthy	Poor	Unfaithful
I give	Because I must	To get	Because I love God
My spending is	Without gratitude to God	Carefree and consumptive	Prayerful and responsible

MINDSETS EXPLAINED

Having a mindset that Christians must live in **poverty** is believing that you must be poor because a wealthy person cannot have a close relationship with Christ. Due to the value that the world puts in material success, many Christians have concluded that they should completely avoid material things and live poor.

Having the mindset that Christians deserve **prosperity** is the belief that any Christian walking by faith will always be rich. With this mindset, people believe that the stronger your faith is, the more the Lord will bless you. Also, with this mindset comes the idea that if the Lord isn't blessing you, you must not have enough faith or perhaps you did something wrong.

The third way to approach our finances in accordance with God's purpose is through **stewardship**. This requires us to trust God to use us to accomplish His purposes for both our finances and our life. When we do this, we can live more freely in the design He has for our life.