



## **Enough: Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity Stewardship Program**

*by Adam Hamilton (Cokesbury \$23.20)*

This program offers materials for a holistic and straightforward stewardship emphasis that focuses on how the church and individuals view their relationships with money and how our money can connect with our life-purpose and making a difference.

The active phase of the program is six weeks, with planning work and communications at least one month prior to the program start date. And there is about three weeks of follow-up for the committee after Consecration Sunday.

People will hear and learn about stewardship in several areas of church life:

- 4-part sermon series
- 4-part small group study, with optional fifth part that introduces the series
- 3 direct mail pieces, targeted to individuals based on their level of involvement within the church; 2 additional follow-up mailings
- A series of emails from the pastor (6)
- A series of bulletin articles (6)
- Bulletin inserts/resources to help people begin changing their financial lives

Hamilton discusses the importance of tailoring these excellent materials to fit the culture of your church. **This does not mean that shortcuts should be taken!** Rather, he suggests that churches may wish to customize the letters, articles and resources and perhaps extend or shorten the program by 1 – 2 weeks.

The sermon series and small group study are integrated with Hamilton's book, *Enough: Discovering Joy through Simplicity and Generosity* (Cokesbury, \$8)

Sermon outlines, worship aids and video clips are provided for the sermon series, which coordinates with the small group study:

1. "When Dreams Become Nightmares"
2. "Wisdom and Finance"
3. "Cultivating Generosity"
4. "Defined by Generosity"

The small group study has an optional Introductory Session: "Faith in the Midst of Financial Crisis". A 15-20 minute video segment provides the "input" for group discussion in all sessions. For churches that do not have a small group ministry, the sessions could be integrated in a one-hour adult Sunday School setting. For those that have no formal adult education offering, the books could be purchased and distributed one-to-a-family.

The Communications Plan has several levels.

- There are weekly bulletin “articles”. These brief paragraphs overview the topic and any resources that may be available to supplement the day’s message.
- A series of mailings provide detailed information about the stewardship program and follow-up components. Some letters are targeted to people based on their level of involvement in the church.
- An optional series of emails sent from the pastor during the active part of the program
- Artwork is provided to use in creating various communication pieces and commitment cards. Churches have permission to use these designed pieces or create their own.

Timelines and schedules are included to assist the leadership team in coordinating the pieces.

A DVD included with the Stewardship Program Guide offers the sermon video clips and resource files for the communications and artwork.