

Using Financial Podcasts to Grow as Faithful Stewards

Often when we talk of faithful stewardship, we jump immediately to acts of financial generosity. However, stewardship means intentionally caring for God's gifts that we hold in trust, including our personal finances.

Where do you receive guidance for personal finance and investment? Some of us turn to financially wise people we know or engage a Certified Financial Planner. We tune into nationally known financial guides like Dave Ramsey, Suze Orman or Jill Schlesinger. Along the way we may pick up a guide on budgeting or investing.

Consider adding a personal finance podcast in order to enhance your stewardship practices. Podcast production and listenership is on the rise. According to a February 2021 [article by Brad Adgate](#) at forbes.com, "In 2020, an estimated 100 million people listened to a podcast each month and it's expected to reach 125 million in 2022." Adgate writes that during the pandemic there has been a surge in both those who are listening to podcasts and those who are creating them. "In February 2021, there were 1,750,000 podcasts with over 43 million episodes available, up from 18.5 million in 2018."

Hundreds of financial experts are offering podcasts. Episode lengths vary from 10 minutes to over an hour. Formats include solo hosts, teams of hosts, and interviews with guest experts. Some hosts get right to the episode topic and others are comfortably "chatty". Nearly all podcasts contain some advertising or the promotion of the host's products.

Most financial advisors who appear in national news media host podcasts. In addition, there are podcasts that appeal to different audiences depending on financial interests.

There are several podcasts that offer a Christian perspective on money management. At [SeedTime Money](#), Bob Lotich leads discussions at the intersection of money and the Bible. His personal mission is to "make, save, grow and give money to benefit others. After all, life isn't about the accumulation of things but is about how we can make the world a better place by giving."

For those who are new to independent money management, there are podcasts that offer explanations and tips. Chris Browning offers, in [Popcorn Finance](#), brief episodes with a warm, friendly tone. He shared this podcast description, "Managing the finances can be one of the most important yet scariest tasks we are given, but it doesn't have to be. Popcorn Finance is a short form podcast that teaches listeners how to handle all aspects of their finances in just a few minutes each week."

For those who are a little further along in personal finance management, there are podcasts that offer a wide spectrum of financial topics. The podcasts **Money Girl**, **Journey to Launch** and **More Money with Jessica Moorhouse** offer interviews with authors and financial leaders. These podcasts emphasize working toward freedom from debt and financial independence.

In **How to Money**, friends Matt and Joel, have conversations about money, saving for the future and using income wisely. Joel shared, "How to Money' attempts to help folks from all walks of life handle their finances with purpose."

A few podcasts are specifically designed for young families. Podcasts like **Marriage, Kids, and Money** can help families with financial planning. Andy Hill created this podcast to "strengthening the family tree", living financially free and retiring early. The content is curated by a "parent in the trenches."

Retirees and those nearing retirement can find helpful podcasts. On **Friends Talk Money**, topics include retirement transition, money management, investing, healthcare costs and estate planning.

For active investors who are seeking insights, podcasts exist for all levels of knowledge and experience. On **ChooseFI**, hosts Jonathan Mendonsa and Brad Barrett talk personal finance, with the goal of helping hearers achieve financial independence and retire early. **Money Life with Chuck Jaffe** offers in-depth discussions concerning current market trends and insights from investment experts.

Several podcasts are specifically produced for women listeners. **Clever Girls Know** host Bola Sokunbi's mission is to "empower women to ditch debt, save money and build real wealth." She shares financial concepts and hosts conversations for women about business, life and living. Her website includes multiple free resources. Host Jean Chatzky of **Her Money** shares, "We are your judgement-free zone for all things financial. And we are focused on changing our relationships with money. . . one woman at a time."

If you would like to strengthen your general knowledge and understanding of economics, finance and investment, try podcasts like **Planet Money**. This podcast offers brief clear explanations of current financial topics.

Whatever finance-themed podcast you may choose to follow, your choice to listen can help you to grow in skill as a caretaker of God's gifts. Strengthening your understanding of personal finance can free you for joyful generosity in the name of Jesus Christ.

Do you have a finance podcast that has helped to strengthen your stewardship practices? I'd be interested in hearing from you at sherry@umfmichigan.org.