

## **Investing With Your Church's Values**

Biblical truths and values provide organizational building blocks for a church's existence. One potential area a church may not have considered is whether its cash reserves, endowments, and/or other funds reflect its core values through its investments. For example, some funds may help provide loans through a local bank to entities that violate the church's beliefs. For a church endowment, longer-term investments in the market may invest in companies also in opposition to a church's beliefs or values.

Biblical screening of a church's investments, such as cash reserves, endowments, and other accounts, has become increasingly important to some churches and other ministries. Biblical screening helps filter out companies that offend church values. For example, the Louisiana Baptist Foundation has a process to filter out the following sectors: abortion-related, alcohol, gaming, recreational use of marijuana, pornography, and tobacco. Filtering helps churches and other ministries reflect their values with God-honoring money management practices.

One of the Foundation's funds not only filters out specific investments but also promotes Kingdom efforts and opens more "church doors" by investing a portion of the funds in church building construction through a pool of church loans.

Consider strategically thinking through how to best invest in your church's values specifically related to investing the funds God has blessed your church with to minister and advance His Kingdom. To explore more about Biblical screening, please contact the Louisiana Baptist Foundation at 877-523-4636.

Dr. Jeffrey Steed, MBA



The Louisiana Baptist Foundation provides services and consultation related to Biblical screening for investments.