transforming generosity

Creating Your Money Autobiography
What is a Money Autobiography?

- How we have been taught to think about money.
- How we feel about money.
- How money influences our lives.
- A navigational tool for our relationship with money.
Where to start?

- Concentrate on your feelings.
- Think instinctively about money in your life.
- Be open to surprising revelations.
- Begin by working alone.
- Eventually, you might want to share with others you trust.
Childhood Memories of Money

• What do you remember about money when you were a child?
• What did your parents think about money?
• Did the issue of money cause stress or comfort?
• Was there talk about debt?
• Was there talk about giving to church or charity?
As You Grew Older…

• Did you get an allowance?
• Did you have a job to earn your own money?
• How did you decide to spend your money?
• Did you buy your own clothes, stereo, car?
Moving into Adulthood

• Did you go to college? If so, how did you pay for the cost of college?

• Did you go right into the work force. If so, was money the issue?

• How do you feel about either option?
Becoming More Independent

- Did you feel prepared to manage your own finances?
- Did you know how to plan a budget and stick to it?
- What did you wish you had known when you launched on your own?
- What did you have to learn the hard way?
Growing Older

• Has your relationship with money shifted?
• Have any of your habits around money changed over the past 10-20 years?
• Were those changes accidental or on purpose?
• Have you committed to give more to church/charity?
• If you are married, are you able to talk openly and non-anxiously about money?
Currently

• How do you feel about your current financial situation?
• What would make your feelings better or worse?
The Future

- Are you hopeful or anxious as you think about the future?
- How do those feelings impact your feelings about growing older?
- Have you used a financial planner to help you get ready for retirement?
Retirement and Beyond

- Have you considered how your life might change on a fixed income?
- Do you believe you will have enough money in retirement?
- Have you developed a will and considered leaving money to your church or charity?