




# CAN Financial Institute

Session 1: September 9, 2018

A laptop screen is shown in a dark, dimly lit environment. The screen displays a dashboard with a line graph at the top and a pie chart below it. The line graph has a blue line with markers and a legend that includes 'New Visitor' and 'Returning Visitor'. The pie chart is partially visible, showing a green slice and a blue slice. The text '19 av.' is visible on the screen. The overall scene is dark, with the laptop screen being the primary light source.

# Session 1: A Call to Christian Financial Stewardship

# Introduction: Who are we?



**Daniel Perez**

CAN Deacon, Social Worker,  
YNAB Ambassador,  
Facebook Influencer,  
Mexican Immigrant



**Hikari Nakane**

CAN Director of Fellowship,  
College Ministry Pastor,  
Residential Mortgage  
Underwriter for WFHM,  
Immigrant from Japan

# Intro: Goals of the Financial Institute

- Expose our assumptions, myths and questions about finances & generosity
  - Clarify the financial logic of empire, its history, means and ends
  - Psychology of debt vs. spirit of generosity
  - Community and kinship central to true financial freedom
  - Define Christian Financial Stewardship as radical activism
  - Identify places of growth and learning
  - Provide helpful resources and tools towards financial freedom and faithfulness
-

# Exposing assumptions...

## *American Dream Says...*

- *Financial matters are private*
- *Radical Individualism - Have enough wealth to not depend on others*
- *Inheritance by family and "fairness"*
- *Debt determines credit-worthiness*
- *Ownership is happiness (consumerism)*
- *Charity is good, but only out of excess*
- *"Bootstrap" attitude towards financial savviness*

## *Truly, truly we say unto you...*

- *Help is available within community*
- *Radical community - practicing interdependence will lead to communal financial freedom*
- *Kinship and expansion of "family"*
- *Character and responsibility determines credit-worthiness*
- *Joy of sharing (community)*
- *Spirit of generosity is more important than quantity of giving/receiving*
- *Gratitude of receiving generosity as driving force - leads to generosity towards others*

# What's wrong with the American Dream?

- It's not extended to everyone (racism and classism)
- In fact, it's based on exploitation
- Uncontrolled consumerism and "needs"
- Radical Individualism

# Putting it out on the table:

## Why are you here?

Take a few minutes to fill out the Index Cards (can be anonymous)

Tell us why you are interested in this series: questions, assumptions, particular struggles with finances, fears, hesitations, and what you would like to learn.

# Putting it out on the table:

Group Reflection

Series Overview



# Roadmap: What to Expect In the Series

## Session 1:

A Call to Financial Stewardship:  
Uncovering Assumptions and Principles

Sept  
9

Sept  
16

## Session 2:

Capitalism and Financial Enslavement in the  
USA: A Brief Racialized History

Sept  
23

## Session 3:

Moving Towards a Common Purse: Breaking Away  
from Financial Individualism to Interdependence

Sept  
30

## Session 4:

Coming Full Circle:  
Learnings, Realities and  
Next Steps