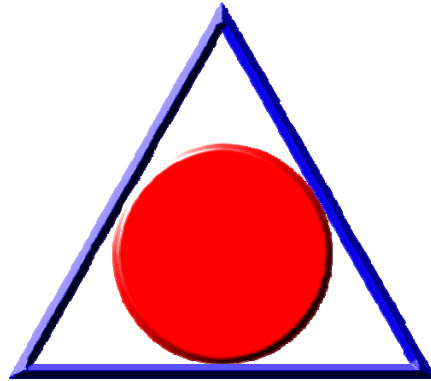


# FINANCIAL FREEDOM



## Facilitator Guide

### INTRODUCTION

Sponsored by C.O.E., Inc.

[www.coeinc.org](http://www.coeinc.org)

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## **Overview of C.O.E., Inc.**

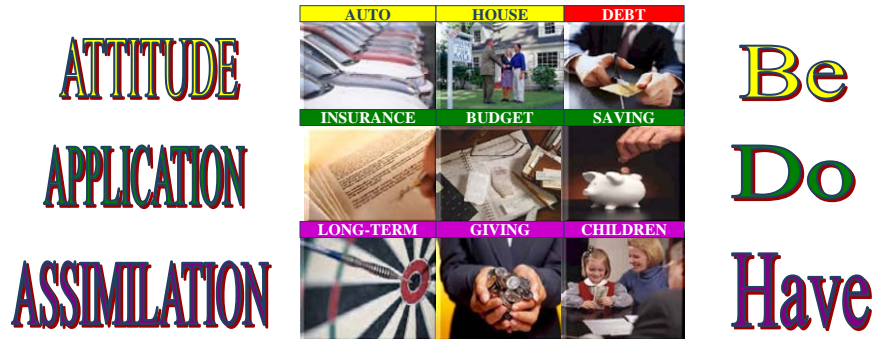
**A.** Christian Oriented Education, Inc. (C.O.E., Inc.) is a non-profit tax deductible ministry founded by Mike Coe. The mission statement is summed up in Colossians 1:28, “...warning everyman and teaching every man in all wisdom: that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.”

**B.** The class goal is to teach the practical application to Biblical principles and restore hope, through God’s plan for *true* financial freedom. *Proverbs 13:12*, “*Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but when your desire comes, it is like a tree of life.*”

**C.** The website ([www.coeinc.org](http://www.coeinc.org)) is designed to work in conjunction with the Financial Freedom class sessions as a review and preview of each lesson, and for extended study sources on each topic.



# FINANCIAL FREEDOM



Sponsored by C.O.E., Inc. - "Teaching the practical applications of Biblical principles"



The **Financial Freedom** class consist of ten sessions: an introduction, and nine sessions. Each of the nine sessions are divided into three major divisions. The first division, **ATTITUDE (BE)**, contains the first three sessions (**AUTO, HOUSE, DEBT**). *True* financial freedom occurs when you assume the attitude of a steward (manager) rather than an owner. The Bible is clear to point out that God is not only the Creator but the Owner. *You* are the manager.

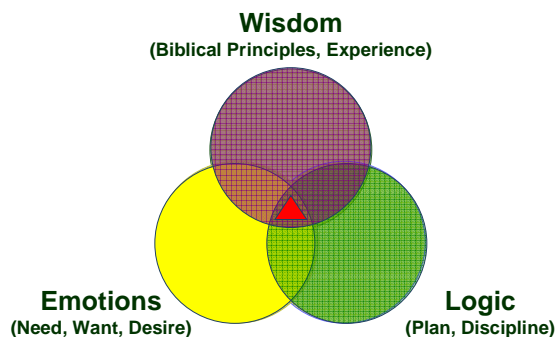
The second division, **APPLICATION (DO)**, contains the next three sessions (**INSURANCE, BUDGET, SAVE**). As a manager, you must learn and incorporate (apply) sound Biblical and practical principles in a consistent disciplined manor.

The last division, **ASSIMILATION (HAVE)**, contains the last three sessions (**LONG-TERM, GIVING, CHILDREN**). When the right attitude (first division) is combined with consistent application (second division) of sound Biblical and wise practical principles the result is a productive and fruitful lifestyle. **ATTITUDE, APPLICATION, and ASSIMILATION** make up the three divisions of financial freedom (see diagram # 1).

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# FINANCIAL FREEDOM



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Spending, saving, and giving decisions are motivated from one of three driving forces, or a mixture of the three: EMOTIONS, LOGIC, WISDOM. Financial decisions made with a purely emotional motive (approx. 80%) are often the decisions that result in regret and remorse. Purely logical decisions tend to make life boring and are often made without sensitivity to a need. Decisions that are made based solely on principle can leave practical needs unmet.

Each of the three areas play an important role in our ability to make sound financial decisions. An athlete will play his best game when he is "in the zone". A baseball bat and a tennis racket realize their greatest power when the ball hits the "sweet spot". The financial decisions that a person makes in life provide the greatest benefit to that person when there is a perfect balance between emotions, logic and wisdom. In the diagram above the small triangle in the center of the diagram—where the circles overlap—represents the sweet spot. The triangle in the center of the diagram is the same triangle illustrated in diagram #1.

Each session includes a review of the three divisions of financial freedom (ATTITUDE, APPLICATION, and ASSIMILATION) as they relate to the main topic of that session. In addition, each session addresses the three forces driving spending, saving, or giving decisions as they relate to the main topic of that session. It is imperative that each class member understands the three divisions of financial freedom and the driving forces that affect our spending, saving, and giving decisions.

Everything you need to teach or facilitate this class is located on the website in the *Materials* section. If you have questions post them on the MONEY TALK blog for Mike to answer. This will allow others to benefit from your questions. Feel free to contact Mike by phone (see contact us).

## **SESSION: INTRODUCTION – “Learning to Manage; not Own”**

Materials needed for this class: Review Questions, Facilitator Guide, PowerPoint file, Transcript of lesson.

The introduction uses the logo to lay the foundation for the course. The primary focus of the introduction is to emphasize the need to merge the practical with the divine. Successful money management is more about attitude than anything else. There must be balance. In this short lesson, you will make clear the difference between financial order and *true* financial freedom. Anyone can have financial order but *true* financial freedom is reserved for those who understand the difference between an owner and a manager. Claiming ownership to anything puts you in bondage to that item. Simply put, you become the slave to the “thing” you call “mine”.

Those attending your class have come for different reasons. There will be those living under heavy burdens: financial, marital, spiritual, etc., crying out for someone to give them hope. Others might have it all together, simply looking for a financial tune-up.

The Financial Freedom class is designed as a balanced class, addressing the practical and the Biblical aspects of personal finance. The sessions are short (approximately twenty minutes), allowing the class to be taught easily within an hour, including time for discussion.

### **LESSON HIGHLIGHTS**

- ✓ Introduce the Logo. It is a visual symbol that is used to represent our responsibilities and purposes: Attitude (Be); Application (Do); Assimilation (Have), and how these practical responsibilities should be merged into God’s plan for our lives (see Diagram 1)
- ✓ Constantly offer encouragement and hope to those who attend the class.
- ✓ Encourage the class to complete one chapter per week in the *Money Management Bible Study*—located in the Materials section of the website.
- ✓ Encourage the class to visit [www.coeinc.org](http://www.coeinc.org) for expanded information and download the review questions in preparation for the next session.
- ✓ Close the class with prayer.

## I. **Learn** from the past; **Live** for today; **Hope** in tomorrow

Often as a result of bad choices, people put themselves into hopeless situations. Regardless of the reason(s), when a person's hope is *perceived* to be gone, the person is defeated. Prov. 13:12 is clear to point this out.

## II. Three divisions of the Financial Freedom Class

A. Attitude (Be) - A right relationship to money begins when we accept our position as a steward (manager) and God's position as Owner – God Owns It All!

### 1. **Auto/House/Debt**

B. Application (Do) - Learning to be a good manager requires that we understand and apply sound Biblical and practical principles in the area of money management.

### 1. **Insurance/Budget/Saving**

C. Assimilation (Have) – Assimilation is realized when the right attitude and the application of sound practical and Biblical principles becomes a lifestyle. Through Assimilation not only will we begin to live life skillfully but we will also be equipped to share our knowledge and success with others (spouse, children, friends and those God brings into our lives).

### 1. **Long-term/Giving/Children**

## III. Three driving motives affecting spending/saving/giving decisions

A. Emotions

### 1. Needs, wants, desires

B. Logic

### 1. Planning & Discipline

C. Wisdom

### 1. Biblical principles & common sense gained from experience and wise counsel.

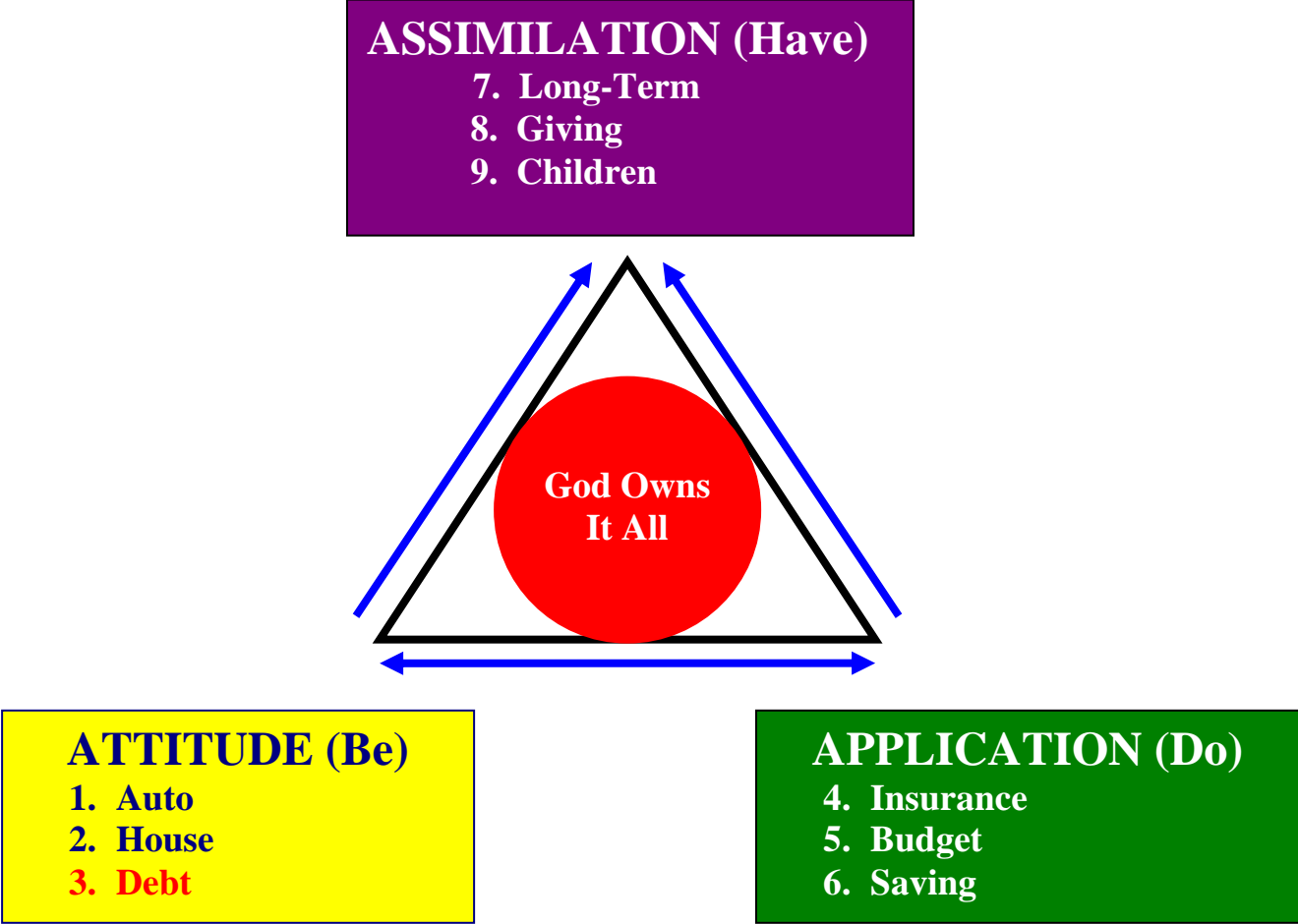


Diagram #1