# Introduction

From the Streets to Financial Freedom by Faith
by Dr. Angie Kelly

My name is Dr. Angie Kelly, and I was born and raised in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn. My story doesn’t start with money or success. It starts with pain, poverty, crime, addiction, and a God who refused to let me die in the streets.

At just 11 years old, my mother took me shopping, and I slipped a pair of pants over the ones I was wearing. That moment was the start of a cycle — one that led to a life of stealing, boosting, running the streets, and being in and out of jail. I became known as a booster, traveling across states to shoplift and hustle. I fell into addiction, using crack cocaine and spiraling deeper into a lifestyle of survival and destruction.

I went to prison. I went to rehab. I lost myself. And at one point, I should have lost my life. A man pulled a gun on me, and when he pulled the trigger, it jammed. I don’t say this lightly — that moment was divine intervention. God spared my life, and I knew it wasn’t just to stay alive, but to finally live with purpose.

In 1990, I got clean from crack. But even after that, I struggled with stealing. It wasn’t until nearly ten years later that I completely surrendered my life to Christ. That surrender changed everything.

Fast forward — I’m now a pastor, a mother, an entrepreneur, and a woman walking in purpose. I’ve owned businesses, including a daycare I ran for over 20 years. I once made only $365 a week, and yet I was blessed to purchase my first home. Two weeks after the closing, I was fired — but God opened doors. I launched my own business with no money, and people donated supplies, fire extinguishers, radiator covers — everything I needed to start.

I rented out the downstairs, lived upstairs, and began building. Today, I own a home, multiple cars, and several businesses including Financial Freedom by Faith LLC and my nonprofit, Each One Reach One Radical Generation. I also run a youth mentorship program that teaches teens about money, purpose, and transformation through faith.

But even after being blessed with homes and cars, I had a moment that changed everything. One day, I was in church, praising God for all the blessings — the house, the vehicles, the businesses. And in the middle of my praise, it hit me: I’m still in debt. That moment was my wake-up call. I realized that God didn’t just want me to be blessed on the outside — He wanted me free on the inside, and financially free too.

That’s when I began to birth Financial Freedom by Faith. I started digging into God’s Word even deeper and discovering that He calls us to be good stewards, lenders and not borrowers, the head and not the tail. That revelation sparked a fire in me to help others experience that same freedom — not just spiritually, but financially.

This book is not just a testimony — it’s a tool. A tool to teach you how to budget, manage debt, build credit, and create wealth — not just with knowledge, but with the power of faith.

If God could take me from the streets to financial freedom, He can do it for you too.

Let’s begin.