

Stewardship

Managing God's Gifts for His Glory

"Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful." (1 Corinthians 4:2)

Stewardship is one of the most **overlooked but essential** principles in Scripture.

- ✦ **What does it mean to be a good steward?**
- ✦ **Is stewardship only about money?**
- ✦ **How does stewardship impact every area of life?**

The Bible teaches that **everything we have**—our time, talents, resources, and even our **influence**—**belongs to God**. We are simply **managers, not owners**.

Let's break it down.

What Is Biblical Stewardship?

The word **stewardship** comes from the Greek **οἰκονόμος (oikonomos)**, meaning **"manager" or "overseer."**

- ✓ **A steward does not own what they manage.**
- ✓ **A steward is entrusted with something valuable.**
- ✓ **A steward is responsible to the owner (God).**

Psalm 24:1

"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein."

 **Lesson: Stewardship is about faithfully managing what God has given us, for His glory.**

Areas of Stewardship

Biblical stewardship is about **more than money**—it includes **everything God entrusts to us**.

◆ 1. Stewardship of Time

📖 Ephesians 5:15-16

"Look carefully then how you walk... making the best use of the time, because the days are evil."

- ✓ Time is a non-renewable resource—once spent, it cannot be recovered.
- ✓ We are called to use our time wisely—not just for productivity, but for God's kingdom.

💡 **How we spend our time reveals our priorities.**

◆ 2. Stewardship of Talents & Gifts

📖 1 Peter 4:10

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."

- ✓ Every skill, ability, and spiritual gift comes from God (James 1:17).
- ✓ Gifts are not meant for self-promotion but for serving others.

💡 **Are you using your talents for God's glory or personal gain?**

◆ 3. Stewardship of Finances & Resources

📖 Proverbs 3:9

"Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce."

- ✓ Money is a tool, not a treasure.
- ✓ God calls us to be generous, avoid debt, and manage resources wisely.
- ✓ Jesus spoke about money more than any other topic—because it reveals the heart (Matthew 6:21).

💡 **Are you controlling your money, or is your money controlling you?**

◆ 4. Stewardship of Influence & Leadership

📖 **Luke 12:48**

"To whom much is given, of him much will be required."

- ✓ Influence is not about power—it's about responsibility.
- ✓ Leadership should reflect humility, integrity, and service (Mark 10:45).
- ✓ We are accountable for how we lead and impact others.

💡 **True leaders are stewards—not owners—of their influence.**

◆ 5. Stewardship of the Gospel

📖 **2 Corinthians 5:20**

"We are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us."

- ✓ The Gospel is the greatest treasure we have.
- ✓ We are entrusted to share it, defend it, and live it.
- ✓ Evangelism and discipleship are acts of stewardship.

💡 **Are you keeping the Gospel to yourself or sharing it faithfully?**

The Mindset of a Biblical Steward

✓ 1. Recognize God Owns Everything

📖 **Deuteronomy 8:18**

"You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth."

- ✓ We don't own anything—we manage what belongs to God.

✓ 2. Be Faithful in Small Things

📖 **Luke 16:10**

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much."

- ✓ Stewardship is about character, not just responsibility.

✓ 3. Seek God's Kingdom First

📖 **Matthew 6:33**

"Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

- ✓ Stewardship means putting God's priorities ahead of our own.

✓ 4. Live Generously

📖 **2 Corinthians 9:6-7**

"God loves a cheerful giver."

- ✓ True stewards give freely because they trust God as their provider.

Common Misconceptions About Stewardship

✗ 1. "Stewardship Is Only About Tithing"

- ✓ Stewardship includes money but also time, gifts, and influence.

✗ 2. "God Wants Me to Be Rich"

- ✓ Biblical stewardship is about faithfulness, not financial prosperity.
- ✓ Wealth is a blessing when used wisely—but a curse when idolized.

✗ 3. "I Can Do Whatever I Want with My Life"

- ✓ We belong to God (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).
- ✓ Stewardship means aligning our lives with His will.

The Reward of Faithful Stewardship

Matthew 25:21

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

- ✓ Stewardship isn't about obligation—it's about joy.
- ✓ God rewards faithfulness with greater responsibility and eternal blessings.

💡 Living as a steward leads to purpose, peace, and God's blessing.

Final Thought: Stewardship Is a Lifestyle

- ✦ Stewardship is not about what we give—it's about how we live.
- ✦ Everything we have is a gift from God, and we are called to use it wisely.
- ✦ One day, we will give an account for how we managed what He entrusted to us.

"Each of us will give an account of himself to God." (Romans 14:12)

 **How has biblical stewardship changed your perspective on life? Let's discuss!** 

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