



REWARD OF GOOD STEWARDSHIP

Lesson Objective: Understanding God's ownership, and the responsibility and rewards of good stewardship.

- Stewardship – the conducting, supervising, or management of something entrusted to one's care. – Merriam Webster

Lesson Preparation: Everything belongs to God.

Psalm 24:1-2 KJV – The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

Psalm 50:10 KJV – For every beast of the field is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills.

Haggai 2:8 KJV – The silver is mine and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts.

Our individual responsibility

Romans 14:12 NKJV – So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.

Genesis 39:1-6 Joseph is an example of good stewardship

WEEK 1: The Reward

Discussion Question: How do we access God's reward for good stewardship?

- Reward: to give money or another kind of payment for something good that has been done. Merriam-Webster

Matthew 6:33 KJV – But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

I Timothy 6:17 – Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

Romans 8:32 NKJV – He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

Responsibility

Matthew 25:16-30 The reward of faithfulness - Be faithful with what God has given you

- Matthew 25:14-15 Take personal responsibility for what God has given you.
- God personally edifies and encourages you: “well done, good and faithful servant”
- God will promote you because of your faithfulness.

What talents/abilities has God given you? How would He grade you on your stewardship of what he has given you? How would you grade yourself?

WEEK 2: We are Stewards not owners.

Discussion Question: What goals have you set for good stewardship?

II Peter 1:3 – We have been entrusted by God with money, ideas, people, (promises).

“In 1989 a family in West Palm Beach Florida gave permission to the film crew of a TV show to use their front lawn as a set for a dramatic car crash scene. But while their front yard was being blown up, the owner of the house called from New York demanding to know what was going on. It turns out the family who gave permission were renters, not owners. And now the owner was very upset and was holding everyone accountable for what they did to His property. “

Owners will hold managers accountable! And God will hold us accountable for anything He has entrusted to us. There is seriousness to having things!

In the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30): the owner returned from his travels to get an accounting of what his servants had done with the “talents” he had given them.

God is a just God and notice he gave according to the ability of each of his servants. God will always give the talent according to our capability.

- Love and forgive our enemy
- Give 10% of our income
- Pray without ceasing

- Walk in the spirit
- Grow in grace
- Be a generous giver
- Take care of our bodies (His temple, remember everything belongs to Him.)

We don't have to be jealous or covet what God has given someone else. If we become faithful stewards, the Lord will reward us with increase. Stay faithful to God and his Word and you will be rewarded.

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' Matthew 25:23 NIV

WEEK 3: Others will be blessed because of your faithfulness and obedience.

Discussion Question: How has God blessed others due to your good stewardship?

Genesis 39:1-6 – Potiphar was a captain/officer of Pharaoh.

And it came to pass from the time that he had made him overseer in his house, and over all that he had, that the LORD blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; and the blessing of the LORD was upon all that he had in the house, and in the field.
Genesis 39:5

God will place you in a position of great favor.

Genesis 41:38-40 – And Pharaoh said unto his servants, can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is? And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art: Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou.

Your dreams will be realized.

Genesis 47:5-6 – And Pharaoh spake unto Joseph, saying, Thy father and thy brethren are come unto thee: The land of Egypt is before thee; in the best of the land make thy father and brethren to dwell; in the land of Goshen let them dwell: and if thou knowest any men of activity among them, then make them rulers over my cattle.

Zechariah 8:23 – Blessed to be a blessing

Thus, saith the LORD of hosts; We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.

Zechariah 8:13... so will I save you and you will be a blessing.

WEEK 4: Everyone has room to grow, change and live more aligned with God's will.

Discussion Question: What specific areas in your life are you willing to grow or change to become a "good steward"?

Romans 12:2 KJV – "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Setting Goals for Good Stewardship (from Master your Money by Ron Blue)

We all set goals in hopes of achieving them, but do we write them down?

- Goals provide direction and purpose
- Goals cause your thoughts and desires to become clear
- Goals provide personal motivation (must maintain it though)
- As believers our goals should be a statement of God's will for us

Do not focus on the past but reach forward (where God is) for your future of good stewardship.

Philippians 3:13 KJV.... Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before

Spend time with God to seek his will and direction

Matthew 7:7-8 KJV Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asks receives; and he that seeks finds; and to him that knocks it shall be opened.