STEWARDSHIP

What is it? Using your time, talent, and treasures as an act of obedience and in response to what God has done for us and what we can do to further the Kingdom of God. We have a limited amount of time, talent and treasures, and are called to invest them into His Kingdom.

[1]"Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. [2] "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. [3] But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, [4] so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in s secret will reward you. Matthew 6:1-4, ESV

[19] "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, [20] but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. [21] For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also… [24] "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. Matthew 6:19–21, 24, ESV

[32] For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. [33] But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matthew 6:32-33, ESV

How Do I Steward?

"Only one life, 'twill soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last." – C.T. Studd

1. Give to God _____ (Priority): Wherever we are using our time, talent and treasure first shows priority and value. God has called us to use these first to seek His kingdom and then all else will be added. Therefore, we should serve and give to the House of God first as an act of worship and obedience.

2. Give to God _____ (Percentage): We are called to be wise in how we handle our resources. The Bible speaks of the principle of tithing, which literally means 10%, as a means to manage our resources. Giving of our time/talent/treasures by percentage forces us to be wise stewards of the rest as it helps us to think in terms of budgeting. We need to budget our resources in what we are giving to God and how we are spending the rest.

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3. Live on _____ to _____ (Progressive): When we begin to steward our lives well by giving of our time, talent and treasure to God first and by percentage, then we will begin to create margin in our lives. As we create margin, we should be asking ourselves, how can we be more generous with these things.   We should always be looking to increase our investment in the Kingdom of God