

Sermon Title: It is not your OWN

Scripture reading: Psalm 24:1, Psalm 147:1-11, Proverbs 27:23-27

God calls us to responsible stewardship & growing generosity with our resources because He wants something for us not from us.

“If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
for the world and its fullness are mine.
Psalm 50:1

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein,
Psalm 24:1

Guiding Principle 1

It is not my own, it belongs to God.

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. **And let them have dominion over** the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷ So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ **And God blessed them. And God said to them,** “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”
Genesis 1:26-28

Steward:

A steward is a person who manages the resources of another.

Stewardship:

Stewardship represents the activity of oversight & management of the resources someone has been entrusted with

Praise the Lord!

For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

² **The Lord builds** up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

³ **He heals** the brokenhearted
and **binds** up their wounds.

⁴ **He determines** the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.

⁵ Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.

⁶ **The Lord lifts up** the humble;
 he casts the wicked to the ground.
⁷ Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;
 make melody to our God on the lyre!
⁸ **He covers** the heavens with clouds;
 he prepares rain for the earth;
 he makes grass grow on the hills.
⁹ **He gives** to the beasts their food,
 and to the young ravens that cry.
¹⁰ His delight is not in the strength of the horse,
 nor his pleasure in the legs of a man,
¹¹ but **the Lord takes pleasure in** those who fear him,
 in those who hope in his steadfast love
Psalm 147:1-11

God has not abdicated His stewardship over creation; He invites people to participate with Him in the stewardship of the world.

Know well the condition of your flocks,
 and give attention to your herds,
²⁴ for riches do not last forever;
 and does a crown endure to all generations?
²⁵ When the grass is gone and the new growth appears
 and the vegetation of the mountains is gathered,
²⁶ the lambs will provide your clothing,
 and the goats the price of a field.
²⁷ There will be enough goats' milk for your food,
 for the food of your household
 and maintenance for your girls.
Proverbs 27:23-27

Guiding Principle 2

I am personally responsible to steward my resources well, in a way that honors God.

Know well the condition of your flocks,
 and give attention to your herds,
v23

I passed by the field of a sluggard,
 by the vineyard of a man lacking sense,
³¹ and behold, it was all overgrown with thorns;
 the ground was covered with nettles,
 and its stone wall was broken down.
³² **Then I saw and considered it;**
 I looked and received instruction.

³³ A little sleep, a little slumber,
a little folding of the hands to rest,
³⁴ and poverty will come upon you like a robber,
and want like an armed man.
Proverbs 24:30-34

A basic budget for **responsible stewardship**

1. Know

Know well the condition of your flocks,
and give attention to your herds,
Proverbs 27:23

A basic budget for **responsible stewardship**

1. Know

2. Give

“When you come into the land that **the Lord your God is giving you** for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, ² **you shall take some of the first of all** the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the Lord your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. ³ And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘**I declare today to the Lord your God** that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our fathers to give us.’ ⁴ **Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the Lord your God.**

Deuteronomy 26:1-4

Honor the Lord with your wealth
and with **the firstfruits of all** your produce;
¹⁰ then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine.
Proverbs 3:9-10

³⁰ And **the first of all the firstfruits of all kinds**, and every offering of all kinds from all your offerings, shall belong to the priests. You shall also give to the priests the first of your dough, that a blessing may rest on your house
Ezekiel 4:30

Bring **the full tithe into the storehouse**, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.
Malachi 3:10

The blessing of the Lord makes rich,
and he adds no sorrow with it.
Proverbs 10:22

A basic budget for responsible stewardship

1. Know
2. Give
3. Save

for riches do not last forever;

and does a crown endure to all generations?

²⁵ When the grass is gone and the new growth appears
and the vegetation of the mountains is gathered,

²⁶ the lambs will provide your clothing,
and the goats the price of a field.

Proverbs 27:24-26

“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.

Matthew 6:19-21

A basic budget for responsible stewardship

1. Know
2. Give
3. Save
4. Spend

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches,
and favor is better than silver or gold.

² The rich and the poor meet together;
the Lord is the Maker of them all

⁷ The rich rules over the poor,
and the borrower is the slave of the lender.

Proverbs 22:1,2, & 7

Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

Romans 13:7-8

Needs **vs** Wants

Measuring God’s faithful provision by wants **not** my needs is “_____”

Befriend **Contentment**

Matthew 6:25-33, 1 Timothy 6:6-10, Proverbs 30:8-9, Philippians 4:11-13

There will be enough goats' milk for your food,
for the food of your household
and maintenance for your girls.
Proverbs 27:27

There will be enough.

And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"⁸ Abraham said, "**God will provide for himself the lamb** for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.
Genesis 22:7-8

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "**Behold, the Lamb of God**, who takes away the sin of the world!
John 1:29

Guiding principle 3

My practices reveal & reinforce my heart.