

Wednesday — April 29

Stewards of the Same Life

Acts 2:44–45

And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

This is the part of the passage that tends to make us squirm. They had all things in common. They sold possessions and shared the proceeds. We live in a world built on personal property rights, and this sounds foreign — maybe even unsettling.

But look at the logic behind it. If God is the true owner of everything, and we are stewards of what He has entrusted to us, then our things are not really "mine" in the deepest sense. They are gifts I am holding in trust. And if my neighbor is also a steward, then we are not two separate owners — we are two members of the same household, managing what belongs to the same Lord.

The early Christians did not give because they had to. They gave because the resurrection had changed how they saw everything — including their belongings. When you know that Jesus has conquered death, the grip of possessions loosens. What is the point of hoarding when eternity is open?

This does not mean we must sell everything today. But it does mean asking: Is my car just mine, or could it be my neighbor's ride to church? Is my home just mine, or could it be a place where someone is welcomed and fed? When we give an offering, we are placing what we steward into a common pot — together — so the Gospel can go where it needs to go. That is the life we share.

Discussion Questions

1. What would it look like in your daily life to think of your possessions as things you are "stewarding" rather than owning?
2. Can you think of a time when someone in your church or community shared something they had with someone who needed it? What did that mean to the person who received it?
3. Why do you think the resurrection changed the early Christians' relationship to their belongings?

Closing Prayer

Lord of all, everything we have comes from Your hand. Loosen our grip on the things You have entrusted to us, and open our eyes to see the needs around us. Give us generous hearts that reflect Your generosity — hearts shaped by the resurrection of Your Son, who gave Himself freely for us. Amen.

Family Action Item

As a family, identify one thing you own — a skill, a tool, a car, a gift for cooking or hospitality — that you could intentionally share with someone else this week. Maybe it is offering a ride, inviting someone to dinner, or helping a neighbor with a task. Do it, and notice what it feels like to live a little more like the Acts 2 church.