



# | pathways

## Talk About It...

### Stewardship

**Matthew 25:21** - *“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 masters happiness!’”*

1. What thoughts come to your mind when you think of the word stewardship?
2. What are some of the things that God has given mankind stewardship over?
3. What are some of the things that God has given you personally stewardship over?
4. What is one area of your life that you think you could possibly be a better steward and how?

### Generosity

**2 Corinthians 9:7** - *“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”*

1. Why do you think generosity is something we should practice in our Christian culture?
2. In what ways have you witnessed or experienced Christian generosity?
3. What prevents people from being generous?
4. In what areas of your life do you think you could be more generous?

## PATHWAYS

### “Stewardship and Generosity”

*“I don’t really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don’t do it. Instead, I do what I hate. ...I want to do what is right, but I can’t. I want to do what is good, but I don’t. I don’t want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway.”*  
Romans 7:15-19 (NLT)

*“Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.”* Romans 7:24-25 (NLT)

#### **Pathways is a discipleship initiative that will help Christ followers do three things:**

- Assess where we are spiritually
  - Guide us in practicing spiritual disciplines that will help us grow
  - Help us measure our progress
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- Generosity - having a heart to give freely and offer help to others
  - Stewardship - being a good manager of all that God has entrusted to us

*“Now about the collection for the Lord’s people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to Jerusalem.”*  
1 Corinthians 16:1-3 (NIV)

#### 1. Generous Stewards LOVE joining God in His amazing Kingdom work!

“Jesus Christ is the hope of the world,  
and his Bride, the Church, is the bearer of that hope!”

#### 2. Generous Stewards don’t wait to feel moved to give.

*On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.*

- Priority giving “On the first day of every week...”
- Percentage giving “...set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income”
- Progressive giving “...challenge to up the amount by a percentage every year.”

If you wait until you feel generous to give,  
you will likely never grow into a truly generous person.

3. Generous Stewards don't wait until they have excess time and money to give.

*On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income...*

*"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse... Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."*  
Malachi 3:10 (NIV)

### Pathways Process

1. Pick a Pathways Partner
2. Choose your Pathway(s)

### Pathways:

- **Scripture** - reading, studying, memorizing and meditating on the Bible
- **Prayer** - regularly talking with God and interceding for ourselves and others
- **Rest** - honoring the sabbath and practicing healthy life rhythms.
- **Accountability** - having someone that helps us reach our God-given potential
- **Generosity** - having a heart to give freely and offer help to others
- **Stewardship** - being a good manager of all that God has entrusted us
- **Reaching** - sharing the hope of Christ's love through evangelism and outreach
- **Gathering** - engaging in community within the body of Christ
- **Service** - meeting the needs of others with our gifts, talents, and time
- **Fasting** - sacrificing food (primarily) or common things (secondarily) to focus on God
- **Relationship** - being authentic with and encouraging to others
- **Worship** - expressing adoration for the Almighty God

3. Walk the Pathway(s)

4. Evaluate your progress