

# Defeating Stress with Margin

Marginless is fatigue; margin is energy.

Marginless is red ink; margin is black ink.

Marginless is hurry; margin is calm.

Marginless is anxiety; margin is security.

Marginless is culture; margin is counterculture.

Marginless is the disease of the new millenium;  
margin is its cure.

2 primary areas that a lack of margin causes us stress:

Finances

Time

Being good steward is: learn to leverage temporary resources for eternal impact.

To be a good steward of our money and our time is to handle our money and time in such a way that we do not eat up all of the margin, leading to anxiety and stress, which tends to have a negative impact on our relationships.

Our natural inclination with money and time: Live with assumption that it's all for my consumption.

## Luke 12

**13** Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

**14** Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” **15** Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

## Luke 12

**16 And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. 17 He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’**

**18 “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain.**

## Luke 12

**19 And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."**

**20 "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'**

Luke 12

**21 “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”**

Why do you want to  
experience Immeasurably  
More?

Being good steward is: learn to leverage temporary resources for eternal impact. Good stewards live with margin so that they can do extra with the extra.

Psalm 46:10 says, “Be still and know that I am God.” Do I need to create time in my life to be still before God?

Do I live with the assumption that it's all  
for my consumption?

Am I stressed because of a lack of margin?  
How does this impact my relationships?

Am I eating up margin by choosing some temporary things that I need to let go of?

God is still in the business of leading us beside quiet waters and restoring our soul. To experience that, we might need to ask God for wisdom and for His help creating margin in our lives.