



July 5, 2026 | Dr. Jimmy Stewart

## Jesus Changes Everything

### Ownership → Stewardship

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 4:1-2; Luke 12:42–48; Matthew 25:14–30; Ephesians 3:20-21

**Spotlight:** In Christ, we do not own our lives or any created thing—we are called to faithfully steward all that belongs to Him including our Nation.

**Summary:** Jesus changes the way we view all we have and all we are. Apart from Jesus, we are tempted to think of *ourselves* as owners—my life, my body, my time, my car, my house, my money, my family, my future, my plans, even my country. But the gospel confronts the ownership illusion. Paul writes, “God bought you with a high price,” reminding us that we belong to Jesus because He purchased us with His own blood. Jesus becomes Lord over our lives. In Luke 12 and Matthew 25, Jesus teaches that His people are servants and stewards who will one day give an account for what has been entrusted to them and receive reward. In 1 Corinthians 4, Paul states the first requirement of a steward is faithfulness. Stewardship is about surrendering everything to Jesus and faithfully managing all He has placed in our hands for His glory and His church.

### 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.

**1. Ownership is an illusion that my life and everything in it belongs to me.**

The language of ownership sounds natural to us: my body, my schedule, my family, my resources, my dreams. But Scripture reminds us that life itself is a gift from God. Sin convinces us to seize control. Grace teaches us to surrender control.

## **2. Redemption gives Jesus rightful claim over all that I am and have.**

1 Corinthians 6:20 says we were bought with a high price. That means salvation is not simply rescue from judgment; it is transfer of ownership. We no longer belong to sin, self, or the world. We belong to Christ.

- Galatians 2:20

## **3. Stewardship is consistent faithfulness with what has been entrusted.**

### **1 Corinthians 4:2**

This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.

In 1 Corinthians 4:2, Paul describes believers as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. The requirement is not fame, comparison, applause, or visible success. The requirement is faithfulness.

## **4. Jesus will hold His servants accountable and will reward faithful stewardship.**

### **Luke 12:42-44**

A faithful, sensible servant is one to whom the master can give the responsibility of managing his other household servants and feeding them. If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a reward. I tell you the truth, the master will put that servant in charge of all he owns.

### **Matthew 25:21**

The master was full of praise. "Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!"

Luke 12:42–48 and Matthew 25:14–30 both remind us that the Master returns. Stewardship is temporary. Accountability is certain. Reward and loss are real. What matters is not how much we were given compared to others, but whether we were faithful with what we received. Are you being faithful with what He has entrusted to you?

“What has Jesus entrusted to me, and how can I use it faithfully for His Glory and His Church in my life and in our nation?”

### **Ephesians 3:20-21**

Now all glory to God, who is able, through His mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to Him in the church and Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.

### **Challenge**

Ownership says, “I am in charge.” Stewardship says, “Jesus is Lord of All.” Ownership clings tightly. Stewardship opens its hands. Ownership asks, “What can I keep?” Stewardship asks, “How can I be faithful?” Today, Jesus invites us to stop living as though life belongs to us and to surrender everything back to Him. He bought us. He loves us. He entrusts us with gifts, opportunities, relationships, resources, and gospel responsibility. The faithful response is simple but costly: “Lord Jesus, all I am and all I have belongs to You. Use me for your glory in the church and for your name’s sake.”

**Next Steps:** Today, move from ownership to surrender. Give Jesus your life, and ask Him to make you a faithful steward with everything He has entrusted to you.

## Life Application:

1. When you hear the phrase "my life belongs to Jesus," what area of your life is easiest to surrender, and what area is hardest to surrender?
2. Why do we naturally drift toward thinking like owners instead of stewards? What does that reveal about the human heart?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 6:20. How does the truth that you were "bought with a high price" change the way you view your body, choices, habits, and priorities and even your citizenship in your country?
4. In 1 Corinthians 4:1-2, Paul says stewards must be faithful. How is faithfulness different from success, popularity, productivity, or comparison?
5. In Matthew 25:14–30, each servant received a different amount, but each was judged by faithfulness. Where are you most tempted to compare what God has given you with what He has given someone else?
6. Luke 12:48 says, "When someone has been given much, much will be required in return." What has God clearly entrusted to you in this season of life? What has He entrusted to our nation? How are you doing? How are we doing?
7. What would change this week if you started asking, "Lord, what do You want me to do with what belongs to You?"
8. What is one specific area where you need to move from ownership to surrender becoming a steward: finances, calendar, family, ministry, body, words, plans, future, health, nation?
9. When you stand before the Lord, what would it mean for you to hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant"? What needs to change now as you prepare and think of that day?