

## **Principles of stewardship: Text Matthew 25:14-30 NIV**

**MISSIONAL// We aim to live outside ourselves.** Whether it be across the street or around the world, we believe serving changes the people around us as well as the heart within us.

We want to take a holistic approach to missions = All of you!

Our conversation is about more than giving its stewardship.  
Giving in a Behavior, Stewardship is a principle. **Principles inform Behaviors.**

Stewardship, is recognizing that everything we have and everything we are, is a gift from God and being grateful and generous with those gifts.

### **- GOD HAS ENTRUSTED US WITH BLESSINGS -**

We are all blessed with gifts, and we all have a responsibility to steward them.

### **- BLESSINGS ARE A GRACE GIFT FROM THE START-**

We don't earn these gifts; we can't earn these gifts.

All were given something of great value: 1 talent was 16years of wages.

the Amount of the blessing does not equate the value of the blessing. The Gift of the blessing does however equate our responsibility to the blessing.

### **- DON'T COMPARE YOUR BLESSINGS OR STEWARDSHIP TO THE PERSON NEXT TO YOU -**

You are not held accountable to the people around you; you are held responsible to the Godly potential inside of you.

Stop comparing yourself to all the people around you and start committing to the potential inside of you.

This principle is not once you have wealth, this is a heart position towards the wealth that you have.

### **- OUR VIEW OF GOD INFORMES YOUR PRACTICE OF STEWARDSHIP –**

When we look at the third servant, he was not cast out of heaven because of his bad performance,

It is because of his misconception of the master.

**We can think that stewardship is transactional, but it is relational.**

Wickedness = attitude towards the master. His attitude towards the master dictated his behavior.

Ultimately, he puts the blame on the master for his actions.

**If we are not careful our view of God can be defined by our circumstances rather than His Character**

**Q) what is our attitude towards God?**

**- WE ARE AND WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE -**

We always want to focus on the anger of the master, but what about the joy of the master.

**Q** what if we become so engaged in living in the joy of the master, being good stewards of the gifts, he has given.

**The Parable teaches it is ok to have stuff as long as that stuff doesn't have us.**

It's not wrong to have stuff, it gets wrong when our stuff is purely for personal gain and enjoyment.

Good things become bad things when they become ruling things.

**Q) have you dug any Holes keeping you from living as a good steward of Gods gifts.**

**Application**

**Ability over amount:** Steward what you have

**Posture over practice:** heart dictates behavior

**Invitations over demands:** Stewardship is a gift we are invited into.