

"MOAGA - Boast in the Lord"

Jeremiah 9:23-24; Micah 6:1-8; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

As we consider what it will take to MOAGA we move to perhaps the most important topic of all: _____.

Before you get nervous, I have _____ news and also _____ news. The good news is I won't spend the bulk of today talking about _____. The bad news is the _____ about stewardship is far more unpleasant!

Believe it or not stewardship has a lot to do with _____. Boasting is commonly defined as "*speaking with excessive pride and self satisfaction about one's own achievements, possessions, or abilities.*"

But **why** do people boast? It points to their source of _____. It's what makes them feel like a _____. It's what they _____ in; what they go back to when feeling _____.

Yet, boasting always _____ because there's nothing in this world strong enough to keep us secure forever.

But boasting is not just done by _____, outspoken NYers, politicians, professional athletes, generals, or journalists. We _____ do it. We just do it _____. Our use of time, talents, and treasure make it obvious.

Our schedules, skills, and finances often _____, "My confidence is in what my parents/kids/neighbors/coworkers think of me" And, "I trust in my financial prowess and the size of my bank account/house/vacation bill/kids' trophy case/academic achievements." Said another way, "I don't really care what my pastor/brothers and sisters in Christ/Lord Jesus think. My _____ is NOT in them."

The unpleasant truth about stewardship is that it's not a time, talent, treasure problem, but a _____ problem. So, this is not an OA problem or an American problem. It's a _____ problem and we can all use a reset.

If we are going to boast about anything, may it be the _____. *"Let the one who boasts boast in the LORD."*
No one/nothing will _____ up what Jesus did for you.
No one/nothing will _____ you the way Jesus does.
No one/nothing can _____ you what Jesus can give you.
No one/nothing is as _____ as Jesus is.
No one/nothing is as _____ and resilient as Jesus is.

How do we "boast in the LORD"?

- Recognize all we are and all we have is a gracious _____ from the LORD and are "on loan."
- Consider how God might want you to _____ how you use His gifts.
- Remember our schedules, skills, and finances are all opportunities to show _____ in the LORD.
- Pray and _____ God what changes to your life might do that best.
- Ask him to _____ you DO IT.

What, apart from the LORD, are you boasting in or finding confidence, safety, and security in?

What changes to your life is he calling to mind? How is he leading you to more fully “boast in the LORD?”

Is he leading you, or someone you know, to be a “champion” for stewardship at OA, or part of a team?

What are you going to DO about it?