

Right on the Money 01: "Myth of Ownership"

1Chronicles 29:1-14

February 11, 2024

Main Idea: We are stewards NOT owners.

Stewardship

"Stewardship" is an old English word that dates to 13th century Scotland. The "lord" owned the castle and all of the land. In addition, he owned all of the commerce and trade in the land. Next to the lord's castle was another large estate. This house belonged to the lord's "steward." The steward did not own anything. He took care of everything that belonged to the lord. It was his job to manage the estate and the affairs of the lord.

Very Interesting!

In almost every other area of the faithwalk, people are willing to try God's prescription. More often than not, it is a matter of understanding what God wants, as opposed to believing what God says. But when it comes to our money and stuff, we are hesitant. Generally, we know what God wants, but we resist believing what God says.

Background

From David's OT perspective, God lived in a box – a gold plated box, but a box nonetheless – "The Ark of the Covenant." Inside were kept the Ten Commandments. The Ark resided in a tent called the tabernacle. One day, David realized that while he was living in a lavish palace, God was living in a box in a tent! He decided to build God the best house ever constructed – Solomon would actually build the temple, but David would gather materials.

1. **Context: Ownership vs. Stewardship (v.11).** David understood what we are discussing today. David was NOT an owner; he was a manager – a steward. Any time we claim ownership, it must sound pretty silly to God. And yet it's so easy living with a sense of ownership.
2. **Case Study: David (v.2).** David gave with all of his ability. It wasn't about a percentage. It wasn't about giving just enough to make God happy. He gave whole-heartedly.
3. **Conclusion: "I Am a Steward" (v.14).** This is not very popular these days, but we're not all equal. God distributes to whom He wants, what He wants, when and how He wants. Consequently, there is no reason to envy others. We're all held to the same standard: "How did you manage what I gave to you?"

Family Night Big idea – Read 1Chronicles 29:1-14

Children need to be taught stewardship. They are naturally selfish. Help them recognize that everything we have is loaned to us by God for a time.

- **Elementary School** – Ask, "What was David trying to build? How much did David give to purchase the materials? Where does our money come from (v.12)?"
- **Middle/ High School** – Ask, "Why are people drawn to money and stuff? Why is it difficult to let go of our possessions? What should matter most to us regarding our money and stuff?"

Prayer "Father, thank You for your blessings. Help us use our money and stuff to honor You. Amen."

Velocity (Middle and High School Students)

Velocity: No Velocity Wednesday. Happy Valentine's Day!

Gravity: No Gravity Today

Today's Songs

All My Fountains.....Chris Tomlin

How Great is Our God.....Chris Tomlin

Running Home.....Cochran and Co

Women's Event

You can sign up in February to see Priscilla Shirer live in Athens for her "Going Beyond" Event. The date is August 24th. Total cost is \$170 and that includes ticket and hotel. Pick up a flyer at the Welcome Desk to find out more information. Act now before it sells out.

Bracelets and Board Games

Event for KidsJAMMERS on Wednesday, February 21st from 6-7:30pm. Sign up today in KidsJAM.

Kenya Mission Trip

We are putting together a team to travel to Mission Thome in July. If you are curious about Mission Thome and what it is like to travel there, you are welcome to attend a meeting between the services on Sunday, February 25th.

Mother/Son Basketball Game

Meet at GSU Hanner Fieldhouse on March 1st at 7pm. Registration is open online at www.gracestatesboro.com.