

Stewardship

Pt. 1 – What Is Stewardship?

Stewardship Principles:

I don't own anything; God owns it all.

Mt. 25:14 “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them.”

The owner has rights; the steward has responsibilities.

Mt. 25:15 “To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.”

Stewardship is using God-given resources to accomplish God-given goals.

Mt. 25:16 “The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. ¹⁷So also, the one with the two talents gained two more.”

As a steward, I am accountable to the owner.

Mt. 25:18 “But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.”

I will be blessed according to my faithfulness.

Mt. 25:20 “The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.’ ²¹His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!’”

Key Question: What am I doing with what I have?

Mt. 25:22 “The man with the two talents also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.’ ²³His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge with many things. Come and share your master's happiness!’ ²⁴Then the man who had received the one talent came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’ ²⁶His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. ²⁸Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. ²⁹For everyone who has will be given more, and he will

have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. ³⁰And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

I fail as a steward when:

I do nothing with what God has given me.

I decide easier is better.

I give in to fear.

Mt.6:19“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Key Question: What am I doing with what I have?