THE BASICS OF CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP I Corinthians 4:1-2

<u>Stewardship</u> – Everything we have belongs to God and we are to manage it for His glory. As stewards, we are responsible for our material goods, our bodies and our lives. In order to understand how we are to do this correctly we must understand three basic things regarding our stewardship for Christ. 1. Who am I in Christ. 2. What am I to do in this life. 3. Where am I going.

II Corinthians 8:1-5 The greatest example of stewardship is found in the church of Macedonia. They were in poverty because of their faith in Christ but still were motivated to give a great offering for others. The greatest example they left for us is that they "first gave themselves to the Lord".

I Corinthians 6:19-20 The Macedonians understood that the stewardship for a believer was first found in the basic truth that we do not belong to ourselves but to God and we are to live for His glory.

Who I Am In Christ

Galatians 3:26 Several scriptures teach me that by trusting in Jesus finished work on Calvary I have become a child of God and have been adopted into His family. As a child I am subject unto my Father.

II Corinthians 5:20 God has made me an ambassador for His Kingdom. I am a representative for Him and bring good news to those people outside of His country.

II Corinthians 5:18-19 I am a minister for Christ with the message of reconciliation for people in need. I have the ministry of restoring people to "become in favor with God" and bring the good news to people that Christ has already paid for their sins.

I Corinthians 12:4-7 I learned from the bible that I have been gifted with a Spiritual gift in order that I might benefit my local church and help make my church complete the way Christ wants it to be.

Why Am I Here

I Corinthians 10:31; Hebrews 11:6 By reading and understanding my bible I understand that I am to exercise faith in God by glorifying Him in my everyday life. Glorifying God is more than church attendance. Everything I do, say or act upon is to honor Him and not be self edifying.

Matthew 5:16; Ephesians 2:10; Galatians 6:10 The bible says I am to seek out opportunity to serve God through good works. I am to especially have these good works toward other believers in need.

Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8 According to the bible I am suppose to tell others about Christ and how they can make certain of heaven. I am also to participate in helping get the gospel to the whole world.

Romans 14:10; I Corinthians 3:10-15 I am encouraged in knowing that I can prepare to meet Christ when He will judge me for rewards according to my works for Him during my life as a believer.

Where Am I Going

I Thessalonians 4:13-17 Whether by way of resurrection or by way of the Rapture I am assured by God that I will have a new glorified body and I will spend eternity with Christ my savior.

Luke 19:12-19; Revelation 5:10 According to Jesus I will have some kind of roll in ruling with Him in the Kingdom Age on earth after the Tribulation.

John 14:2-3; Revelation 21:9-16 The bible makes clear that some time after the Judgment Seat of Christ I will be with other believers living in that great new city of God called New Jerusalem where Jesus has spent over two thousand years preparing for His bride.