

THE BELIEVERS STEWARDSHIP OF LIFE I Corinthians 4:2

Steward – The scriptural meaning of a steward is one who manages and administrates that which has been entrusted to him by another. We believers are the stewards of whatever God has allowed us in life.

Principles Of Stewardship

Psalm 24:1 *God owns all things* – We see this principle in this and other verses. Since God owns everything, whatever He entrusts us with we are to manage and administrate for His benefit.

I Corinthians 4:1-2 *Stewardship is a sacred trust* – Whatever every believer has for possessions must be respected, used and managed at the very best of our ability because we are not the owners.

Luke 19:13 *Every believer has personal responsibility to manage what He has given to us* – According to this parable Jesus commanded us to keep busy working with what He has given us.

Luke 16:2; Romans 14:12 *Every believer will give account of their stewardship* – The parable warns of our accountability, the Judgment Seat of Christ is His promise of the inevitable appointment.

The Stewardship Of Life

Colossians 1:10 God has blessed us with health and eternal life. We are commanded to live our life worthy of the family of God. We are to be fruitful and live such a life that we know pleases Him.

I Corinthians 6:19b We have been given the gift of life by God and are told once again that “we are not our own..” We usually wake up every morning and are concerned with how to please self.

I Corinthians 6:20a; I Peter 1:18-19 Every person has three reasons to be great stewards for God. First, God created us. Second, God sustains us by His grace and mercy. Thirdly, Jesus purchased every person ever born by paying for us on the cross with God's own blood.

I Corinthians 20b God makes it clear throughout the scriptures that our life is not ours to spend it like we want. The life and body He has given us is to be used and managed for God's glory not ours.

The Expectations Of Stewards

John 15:5 Believers are trees of righteousness that are planted and nourished by God. In order to bring forth fruit we must abide in Him in order to be fed with the truth and holiness necessary to grow.

II Thessalonians 2:17 The word *stablish* means to be resolute, or to be fully committed. We are to be *fully committed* in every good word and every good work. A good steward has Godly words and works.

I Timothy 5:10 The context of this verse is obviously dealing with widows seeking help from the church. It is however, revealing the standards that should be used for those seeking help whether members or non-members of the church. The phrase *diligently followed every good work*, - means that she has devoted herself to doing good. She serves others, she is a good mother, she is hospitable.

Hebrews 10:24 The word *provoke* in our common English has a negative slant to it. However, it's true meaning is to – sharpen, to stimulate, to excite. A good steward takes note of other believers spiritual welfare and will encourage them to good works.

Romans 12:1-2; Galatians 2:20 Good stewards will live a holy and sacrificial life for God.

II Corinthians 6:17-18 Good stewards of God will live a separated life away from sins influences.

Mark 5:19; Acts 1:8 It is highly expected as a believing steward that we be witnesses for Christ.

Ephesians 5:7; I John 1:7 A true God fearing steward will be a loving person with compassion, kindness and devotion to others, especially those of the household of God.