

L*esson*
13

Stewardship

“What Should be My Attitude Toward Money and Possessions?”



One of the greatest temptations you face as a Christian is materialism. There is a tendency to think that success is measured by the abundance of material wealth when, in reality, success is measured by fulfilling God’s plan for your life.

LESSON 13

The Bible has a great deal to say about your attitude toward physical possessions. The object of this lesson is to determine how God would have you deal with this matter in light of Biblical principles.

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INTRODUCTION

Christianity is not a religion; it is a relationship. It is a way of life which begins at salvation and encompasses every aspect of life.

One of those aspects of life is a biblical perspective of money and possessions. It is vital that we develop the right understanding of material things early in our new life as a Christian.

The Bible has much to say about our attitude regarding these things. The concept in Scripture is known as stewardship.

This lesson is designed to give us a basic understanding of the biblical concept of stewardship. As we study this lesson, we shouldn't just fill in the answers on a page, but we should begin to incorporate these principles into the daily practice of our life.

Christianity is living by the principles of God's Word. We should never be afraid to do what the Scriptures teach us to do. We will find our greatest joy in walking with God is obeying His Word.

Not only do we experience the joy of obeying, but we also will receive the blessings that God gives to those who obey Him.

STEWARDSHIP PRINCIPLE #1

God is the owner of all things.

1. According to Psalm 24:1-2, what does God own?

2. In Psalm 50:7-11, who owns the beast of the forest and the cattle on a thousand hills?

3. Romans 14:8 teaches an interesting truth. To whom do you belong?

4. Answer the following questions from I Corinthians 6:19-20.
 - a. According to verse 19, are you the owner of your life?

Yes No

 - b. Based on verse 20, what gives God the right to own your life?

This concept may be totally new to you as a young Christian because it is exactly opposite of the philosophy that pervades our world. It must be stressed that this teaching is **important** for you to understand and practice. **You belong to God!**

STEWARDSHIP PRINCIPLE #2

**Whatever you have is not yours, but God's.
You are the caretaker of all God has entrusted to you.**

John Wesley said it this way:

When God, who is the Possessor of Heaven and Earth, brought you into being and placed you in this world, you were placed here not as an owner, but as a steward. He entrusted you for a season with goods of various kinds — but the sole property of these still rests in Him, and can never be alienated from Him. As you are not your own but His, such is likewise all you enjoy.

1. Read Matthew 25:14-30, the parable of the talents, and consider the following questions:
 - a. According to verses 14 and 15, where did the servants get the talents?
 - b. Who then was the owner of the talents?

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- c. What was the responsibility of these men with these talents?

2. From I Corinthians 6:19-20, what are you to do with your body that is owned by God?

3. In I Corinthians 4:1-2, what does God require of you as a steward or manager of His belongings?

Stewardship is understanding God owns everything including our life. It is also recognizing that God has placed many things into our care to manage for Him.

Understanding these two principles will change our entire outlook on life. We manage what God owns. That is an important responsibility.

STEWARDSHIP PRINCIPLE #3

How you manage what God entrusts to you determines whether you can be given additional responsibility.

1. What does Jesus teach in Luke 16:10-11?

2. What is the principle taught in Matthew 25:21?

Now we see the importance of faithfulness in our life. If we faithfully use what God has given us, then He can give us more.

STEWARDSHIP PRINCIPLE #4

**You will give an account of your life to
God.**

1. Romans 14:12 explains that you are accountable to whom as a steward?
2. According to II Corinthians 5:10, of what must every Christian give account?
3. Read Luke 19:15-21. Why did these men have to give an account to the Master?

Stewardship is understanding God's ownership, our responsibility, and our accountability to Jesus Christ.

As we think of any and every area of our life, we need to recognize that it is from God. He gave us the ability to acquire possessions and wealth. Everything we are all we possess belong to God. Our car, our house, our children all belong to Him.

But we have a responsibility to use all of these things to glorify God. We must properly manage what He has placed into our care. Some day we will stand before Christ and will be held accountable for how we used His things.

CONCLUSION

Briefly ponder and explain what difference this Biblical concept will make in your life.

Memory Verse *I Corinthians 4:2*



Write down any questions you may have regarding this lesson.

