

Stewardship University
Part 1 – Understanding Stewardship

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Series Summary

The main purpose of this series will be to help people understand the true nature of Biblical Stewardship. We will examine and be challenged by God’s Word as we determine what it means to be a good steward and learn how to implement His commands in practical ways.

Series Objective

The main objective of this series is to help each person debunk the number one myth about God and possessions.

Primary Myth – God wants to take my possessions from me!

Primary Truth – God wants to give true riches to you!

Sermon Summary

The main objective of this sermon will be to discuss the very nature of stewardship. We will examine the five basic principles of Biblical stewardship found in 2 Corinthians 6:9-15. One passage that we must continually place at the front of our minds is found in Galatians 6.

Galatians 6:7 – Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.

Five Principles of Biblical Stewardship

- The five principles of Biblical stewardship will help us shatter the primary myth that the world has about God and possessions. We will learn about the true definition of stewardship from a Biblical reference.

Principle #1 – You Must Sow

- John 12:24 – I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.
- **Key Point** – This main point helps us understand that if there is no sowing then there can be no expectation of a bountiful harvest. We can clearly see that God’s desire is for us to have an abundant harvest but that means that we must be willing to sow the seed.

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Principle #2 – You Must Sow Seeds of Quality

- Genesis 1:12 – The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.
- Galatians 6:7 – Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.
- **Key Point** – This main point helps us understand that we will reap what we sow. Again God’s plan for our lives is to prosper us and give us hope and a future (Jer. 29:11.) This means that we must sow quality seeds and only then will we reap quality fruit from the harvest.

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Principle #3 – You Must Sow a Large Quantity of Seeds

- Acts 20:35 – ... Remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’
- Malachi 3:6-10 – ⁶“I the LORD do not change. So you, O descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. ⁷ Ever since the time of your forefathers you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD Almighty. “But you ask, ‘How are we to return?’ ⁸“Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. “But you ask, ‘How do we rob you?’ “In tithes and offerings. ⁹ You are under a curse—the whole nation of you—because you are robbing me. ¹⁰ Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,” says the LORD Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.
- **Key Point** – This main point helps us understand that the more seed that we so, the greater the harvest will be. We must also reflect on the aspect of the tithe and offering that we give to the Lord. The more we give to the Lord, the more we receive.

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Principle #4 – You Must Sow at the Right Time and Place

- Mt. 13:3-9 – ³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹ He who has ears, let him hear.”
- **Key Point** – This main point helps us understand that there is good soil and bad soil that we can cast the seed upon. God’s desire is for us to get the most from our harvest which means that we must be cautious about where and when we are scattering the seed.

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Principle #5 – You Must Sow With the Right Motivation

- Mk. 11:22-23 – ²²“Have faith in God,” Jesus answered. ²³“I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him.”
- **Key Point** – This main point helps us understand that we must sow with the right motivation in mind to reap the most bountiful harvest. The right motivation is the aspect of having faith in God and His provision.

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Primary Investment Tip #1

- This week commit your family to setting up an overall plan for your financial future.
- Make several goals that you want to achieve with your finances throughout this year. Example: Get out of debt, Save 10% of your income, Give 10% of your income to the Lord, and Live on the rest.
- Experience the Total Money Makeover as outlined by Dave Ramsey.

Memory Verse

2 Corinthians 9:6 – Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

