

# The Christ Centered Life: Stewardship

Matthew 6:19-21



## Matthew 6:19–21 (ESV)

<sup>19</sup> “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, <sup>20</sup> but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.



The Sin of those that have is the fear of  
loosing what they have and wanting  
More – Greed!!!!

The Sin of those that have not is wanting  
the things of those who have –  
Covetousness!!!!

# Stewardship is more than money

- Stewardship is about our resources.
- Stewardship is about where we invest our resources.

# Stewardship is more than money

- Stewardship is about the resources God has given us.
  - Finances/possessions
  - Time
  - Talents/abilities/gifts
  - Body/health
  - Knowledge/wisdom
  - The people in our lives

All these resources are on loan from God.

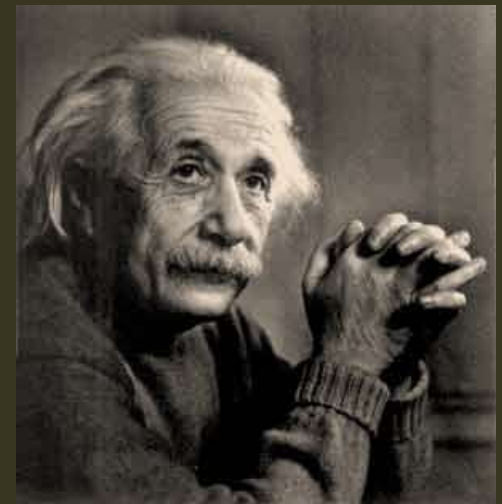
God is more concerned about how we manage resources than what they are.

# What are your resources?



Your talent is  
Gods gift to you  
What you do  
with it  
is your gift  
back to God

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# Stewardship is more than money

- Stewardship is about the resources God has given us.
- Stewardship is about where we invest our resources.
  - Family
  - Work
  - Recreation
  - Education
  - Community
  - Church

# These are your ministries





# We are all Stewards of the Gospel

Think of us in this way,  
as servants of Christ  
and stewards of  
God's mysteries.



1 Corinthians 4:1

Where do you invest your resources?

Do you have a Kingdom purpose in  
your investment?

# Matthew 6:19–21 (ESV)

19 “Do not  
store up  
treasures on  
earth, where  
they rust and  
where they  
are stolen,  
for your  
treasures  
are where  
your heart is  
also.  
neither  
do you  
store up  
treasures  
in heaven,  
where  
thieves  
do not  
steal and  
where  
no moth  
destroys  
your  
treasures.



What does it mean to lay up  
treasures on earth?

Investing in what can not last.

## Luke 12:13–21 (ESV)

<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” <sup>16</sup> And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, <sup>17</sup> and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’

<sup>18</sup> And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' <sup>21</sup> So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

We can be so close yet so far away.

## Luke 18:18–25

<sup>18</sup> And a ruler asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>19</sup> And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. <sup>20</sup> You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.’ ” <sup>21</sup> And he said, “All these I have kept from my youth.”



<sup>22</sup> When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” <sup>23</sup> But when he heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely rich. <sup>24</sup> Jesus, seeing that he had become sad, said, “How difficult it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.”

Faith means trusting God to provide  
what you need and not worrying  
about what you have or don't have.

## Luke 12:22–34 (ESV)

<sup>22</sup> And he said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. <sup>23</sup> For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. <sup>24</sup> Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! <sup>25</sup> And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?

<sup>26</sup> If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? <sup>27</sup>

Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>28</sup> But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! <sup>29</sup> And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried.

<sup>30</sup> For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup> Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you. <sup>32</sup> “Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

# Where is your treasure?



# Nothing you have is yours.



# Everything you have is on loan from God.

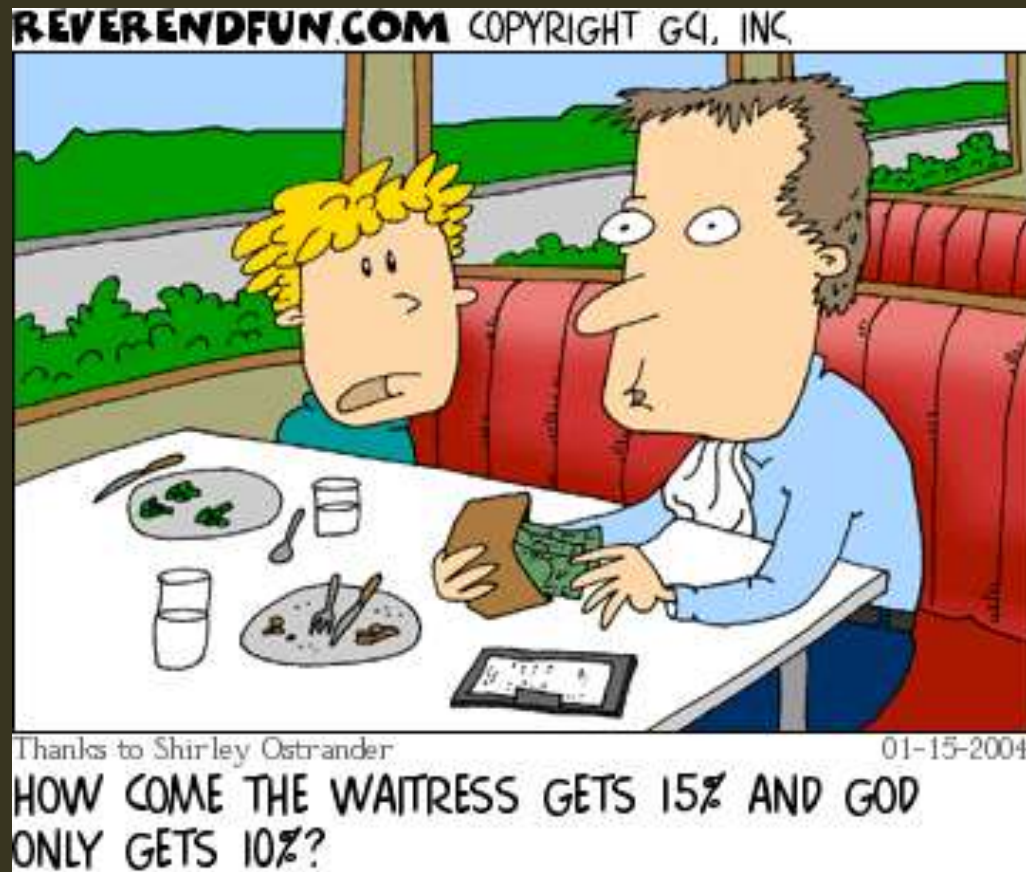
You are a Steward of:

- Your possessions
- Your time
- Your talents
- People in your care.





- It's not about giving 10% of what you have to the church.



# What is Stewardship?

Romans 12:1–2 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

- It is an investment of myself into God's Kingdom.
  - My physical being
  - My resources
  - Time
  - My mind
  - It is worship.
- It is through testing, which includes being stretched in our resources and stewardship that we discern God's will.

# The Attitude of the heart counts

2 Corinthians 9:6–7 (ESV)

<sup>6</sup> The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. <sup>7</sup> Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.