

Practicing The Power Of Stewardship

Introduction: There is a common saying, “**practice what you preach.**” An individual on a daily basis should practice being a good steward. While being a good steward covers every area of your life, focus on the four (Time, Temple, Talents, Treasure) general areas.

This is not a sermon about what I should have done in the four areas. Rather, it is a sermon about what I am doing now and any changes I need to make in order to be a “Good Steward.” God will hold each of us accountable. Remember, it all belongs to God. We are God’s managers.

(Suggestion: If you do not normally have a handout with a place for people to make sermon notes, make sure they have one today. List a place for each of the four areas. As you cover the areas, give them time to make notes of their response to the questions you are going to give.)

I. Stewardship of my Time

- a. Take a moment and mentally review a typical day and how you invest the time God has given you.
- b. If you had to give account to God today on how you “spend” you time, what changes would you want to make?

II. Stewardship of Temple

- a. Your body is a gift from God. No one in the past, present or future was designed exactly like you.
- b. If you had to give account to God today on how you take care of the awesome, complex house (body) God designed for you to spend your time here on earth in, what changes would you make?

III. Stewardship of Talent

- a. Every person has unique talents or gifts. List three gifts in which you excel?
- b. If you had to give account to God today as to how you use the gifts to share the love of God, what changes would you make?
- c.

IV. Stewardship of Treasure

- a. Reflect on God’s financial blessings: food on the table, etc
- b. If you had to give account to God today on how you manage the treasure - paying debt in a timely fashion (tithe is a debt), being honest in all financial transactions, etc. what changes would you make.

Conclusion: Nine things God will not ask when we stand before Him¹:

1. He will not ask what kind of car you drove. He’ll ask how many people you drove who didn’t have transportation.
2. He will not ask the square footage of your house. He’ll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
3. He will not ask about the clothes you had in your closet. He’ll ask how many you helped to clothe.

1 Source unknown

4. He will not ask what your highest salary was. He'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.
5. He will not ask what your job title was. He'll ask if you preformed your job to the best of your ability.
6. He will not ask how many friends you had. He'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.
7. He will not ask what neighborhood where you lived. He'll ask how you treated your neighbors.
8. He will not ask about the color of your skin. He'll ask about the content of your character.
9. He will not ask why it took you so long to seek salvation. He'll lovingly take you to a mansion in Heaven and not to the gates of hell.

When you practice the power of Stewardship, you will have the correct answer to each of the above questions. As you review the areas of stewardship we have covered in this sermon, celebrate the areas where you excel. If you are short in any of the four areas, purpose today, with God's help, to become a better steward. Take this sermon home with you. Sit down as a family and discuss the areas – strengths and weakness. Determine to celebrate each day, God's gift of life, by being a good steward.