

CBC BIBLE STUDY

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

DISCIPLESHIP - STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship—the task of supervising or taking care of something—such as an organization or property.

Stewardship—the conducting, supervising, or managing of something; especially the careful and responsible management of something ENTRUSTED to one's care.

Biblical Stewardship—utilizing and managing all the resources God provides for the glory of God and the betterment of His creation.

A. “The central essence of biblical world view stewardship is MANAGING everything God brings into the believer's life in a manner that HONORS God.”

QUALITIES OF A CHRISTIAN STEWARD

Compassionate—compelled to leave one better than you found them.

Content—state of existence

Generous—giving of self and all resources entrusted to you.

Grateful—an attitude of gratitude

Loving—like Jesus—a sacrificial attitude

Obedient—love of God in action

Prayerful—totally dependent upon God

To STEWARD is to: control, protect, supervise, direct, guard, superintend, keep, or minister.

The Four Pillars of Stewardship

A. Hospitality—Christian kindness— “when I was a stranger, you welcomed me.”

B. Prayer—a heart to heart with God— “Prayer is as necessary to our souls as food is to our bodies”—Prayer is the muscle that moves the omnipotent arm of God!

C. Formation—continuous conversion (sanctification)

D. Service—Love in Action (Gospel in shoe leather)

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF STEWARDSHIP

A. Genesis 1:28 NLT

“Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.””

Genesis 1:28 NLT

Genesis 9:1-7 NLT

“Then God blessed Noah and his sons and told them, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth. All the animals of the earth, all the birds of the sky, all the small animals that scurry along the ground, and all the fish in the sea will look on you with fear and terror. I have placed them in your power. I have given them to you for food, just as I have given you grain and vegetables. But you must never eat any meat that still has the lifeblood in it. “And I will require the blood of anyone who takes another person’s life. If a wild animal kills a person, it must die. And anyone who murders a fellow human must die. If anyone takes a human life, that person’s life

will also be taken by human hands. For God made human beings in his own image. Now be fruitful and multiply and repopulate the earth.””

Genesis 9:1-7 NLT

2Samuel 23:14-16 NLT (David’s Mighty Men)

“David was staying in the stronghold at the time, and a Philistine detachment had occupied the town of Bethlehem. David remarked longingly to his men, “Oh, how I would love some of that good water from the well by the gate in Bethlehem.”

So, the Three broke through the Philistine lines, drew some water from the well by the gate in Bethlehem, and brought it back to David. But he refused to drink it. Instead, he poured it out as an offering to the Lord.”

2 Samuel 23:14-16 NLT

“We are to take the priceless gifts that God has given us and pour them out as a sacrifice in service to Him and to our fellow human beings. This is what the Bible calls STEWARDSHIP.”

We are STEWARDS of everything we have been given—time, money, abilities, information, wisdom, relationships, and authority. We will all GIVE ACCOUNT to the rightful owner as to how well we managed the things he has entrusted to us.

STEWARDSHIP—recognizing that everything we have—and everything we are—is a gift from God—and being grateful and generous with those gifts.

A. A STEWARD makes God’s love visible by imitating Jesus.

B. Being a good STEWARD of our talents means using our God-given abilities to serve others and bring glory to God. This is not an attitude of “I WANNA BE RICH”, but instead the desire is to ENRICH THE LIVES OF OTHERS!

C. Stewardship is using our talents/gifts to help BUILD UP THE BODY OF CHRIST.

STEWARDSHIP—about GENEROSITY and the grace that returns to us in abundance, when we disperse what we have been so freely given.

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF STEWARDSHIP

A. Ownership

B. Responsibility

C. Accountability

D. Reward