



BUILDING A CULTURE of STEWARDSHIP

Growing in Stewardship

Matthew 25:23 "Jesus will say to you, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your Savior.' (abridged)

NAME _____

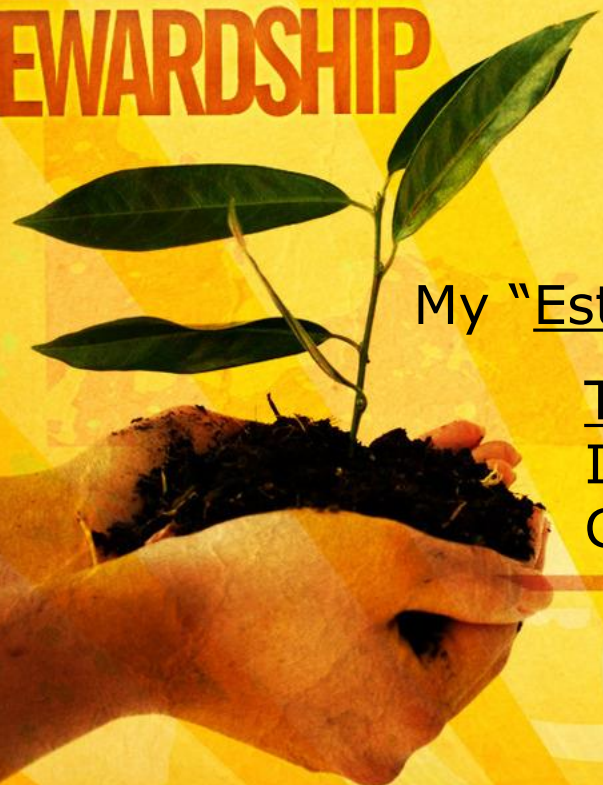
Yes, I want to deepen my relationship with God by trusting Him to care for all of my needs. As a step of faith in this growth, I intend to be faithful in giving my sacrificial offering to God through Pathway Fellowship.

My "Estimate of Giving" in the year of 2017 is: \$ _____ per _____

This is not a pledge.

It is only my estimate of what I hope to be able to do through God's grace in supporting the ministry of my church.

**BUILDING A
LIFE
of STEWARDSHIP**



**Poverty or Prosperity
Worry or Wealth**

**Which is Biblically Correct?
Matthew 6:19-34**

Matthew 6:19-34 NLT

Teaching about Money and Possessions

- 19 “Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where **moths** eat them and **rust** destroys them, and where **thieves** break in and steal.
- 20 Store your **treasures in heaven**, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal.



21 Wherever your **treasure** is,
there **the desires of your heart** will also be.

Gospel of Poverty:

Do Not Love This World



1 John 2:15-17

15 **Do not love this world** nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you.

16 For the world offers only a craving for **physical pleasure**, a craving for **everything we see**, & **pride** in our **achievements & possessions**.

These are not from the Father, but are from this world.



17 And **this world is fading away,**
along with **everything that people crave.**
But anyone who does what pleases God
will live forever.

Poverty Theology:

Non-materialistic

Possessions are a curse

Luke 18 – The Rich Young Ruler



The pitfall of Poverty Theology is worry!



The Gospel of Prosperity:

Health & Wealth

3 John 1-4 ^{NLT}

- 1 This letter is from (John,) the elder.
I am writing to Gaius, my dear friend,
whom I love in the truth.

MORE THAN THEY
ASKED FOR

2 Dear friend, I hope **all is well** with you and that you are as **healthy in body** as you are **strong in spirit**.

3 Some of the traveling teachers recently returned and made me very happy by telling me about **your faithfulness** and that you are **living according to the truth**.

MORE THAN THEY
ASKED FOR

4 I could have **no greater joy** than to hear that my children are **following the truth**.

Matthew 7 “Ask, seek, and knock.”

John 16:24

“Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full.

The Pitfall of Prosperity Theology
is **Materialism** produced by wealth



If I had a Million Dollars



Stewardship

The issue is what you're doing right now with what you've got.

What are you doing with:
the **time** God has given you?
the **money** God has given you?
the **tithe** that belongs to God?



The Stewardship perspective
is that possessions are a trust

Being a Trustee over God's resources
is a **Privilege**.

Tithing was instituted by God to remind us,
that **we are just a trustee** not the Owner.

**GOD'S
TRUST**



God says,

Be faithful with what you've got.

Whatever you've got, **I've given to you,**

Whatever you've got, **you're responsible for.**

Whatever you've got, **you're accountable to Me.**

**GOD'S
TRUST
TRUST**



Money Rant

REMEMBER ME
FOR MY STUFF

22 “Your **eye is a lamp**
that provides light for your body.
When your **eye is good,**
your whole body **is filled with light.**

23 But when your **eye is bad,**
your whole body **is filled with darkness.**

And the light you think you have
is actually **darkness,**
how deep that darkness is!



24 “No one can serve two masters.
For you will hate one and love the other;
you will be devoted to one and despise the other.
You cannot serve both God and money.

“Mammon”

Mammon is an Aramaic term for money or wealth.

It comes from a root meaning “to trust.”





3 words describe the owner/trustee relationship

1. **Choice:** We choose who we will serve.
2. **Control:** That will control our lives.
3. **Confidence:** That is where we place our **confidence**,
our **trust**,
our **dependence**
and **our Hope for Eternity.**



Stewardship asks 2 very simple questions.

“Whose is it?”

**“What are you doing right now
with what He Gave you?”**

It is that simple.

25 “That is why I tell you
not to worry about everyday life—
whether you have enough food and drink,
or enough clothes to wear.

Isn't life more than food,
and your body more than clothing?



26 Look at the **birds**.
They don't plant or harvest
or store food in barns,
for your heavenly Father feeds them.
And **aren't you far more valuable to Him**
than they are?

27 **Can all your worries**
add a single moment to your life?



28 “And why worry about **your clothing?**
Look at the lilies of the field
and how they grow.
They don’t work or make their clothing,
29 yet Solomon in all his glory
was not dressed as beautifully as they are.

30 And if God cares so wonderfully
for wildflowers that are here today
and thrown into the fire tomorrow,
He will certainly care for you.
Why do you have so little faith?



31 “So **don't worry about these things**, saying,
‘What will we **eat**?
What will we **drink**?
What will we **wear**?’

32 These things
dominate the thoughts of unbelievers,
but your heavenly Father
already knows all your needs.



33 **Seek the Kingdom of God** above all else,
and **live righteously,**
and **He will give you everything you need.**

34 “So **don't worry about tomorrow,**
for tomorrow will bring its own worries.
Today's trouble is enough for today.





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