

28-DAY FOCUS ON

# BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP

28-Day Journey to Living with  
Open Hands and a Faithful Heart



**THE FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**  
CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY

**A 28-DAY FOCUS ON BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP**

*“We are not reservoirs to  
store up God’s blessings,  
but rivers through which  
His provision flows.”*

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Open Hands and a Faithful Heart

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# INTRODUCTION

*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." —1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)*

Generosity is not just about money—it is a lifestyle rooted in understanding that everything we have belongs to God. From our finances to our time, talents, and even relationships, we are stewards, not owners. A steward manages what belongs to someone else, and Scripture makes it clear: we are called to manage faithfully what God has entrusted to us.

In 1 Peter 4:10, Peter reminds us that the gifts we have received—spiritual and material—are meant to be used to serve others. This is the heart of generosity. Stewardship calls us to hold our resources loosely and our responsibility tightly. We are not reservoirs meant to store up God's blessings, but rivers through which His provision can flow to others.

Generosity is not about abundance; it's about willingness. The widow who gave her two small coins in Mark 12 gave more in God's eyes than those who contributed from their wealth. Why? Because her heart trusted God, not her limited means. True generosity flows from faith and is motivated by love.

Stewardship matters because it aligns our hearts with God's priorities. When we steward well, we acknowledge His lordship over every area of our lives. It keeps us from idolatry, greed, and selfishness. Stewardship also enables us to participate in God's mission—caring for the poor, supporting the church, and expanding the reach of the gospel.

The question isn't whether we are stewards, but whether we are *faithful* stewards. Are we using our time to serve others? Are we using our influence to lift others up? Are we giving generously, even when it's sacrificial?

As you read this resource, consider what God has placed in your hands. Ask yourself: "Am I managing this with eternity in mind?" Faithful stewardship doesn't just bless others—it transforms us and honors the One who gave it all.

Let us pray:

*Lord, help me to live with open hands and a faithful heart. Teach me to see all I have as Yours and to use it in ways that reflect Your generosity. Amen.*



## Authentic Stewardship Living

### Scripture Reading

*"Moreover, it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful."* —1 Corinthians 4:2 (KJV)

### Devotional

When we hear the word *stewardship* in the church, most people immediately think of money. Yet authentic stewardship reaches far beyond finances. From our Wesleyan-Pentecostal heritage, stewardship means faithfully managing every part of our lives—our time, our talents, our treasures, and even our testimony. It is not just a principle, but a way of life that flows from a sanctified heart and a surrendered spirit.

Holiness, as we have been taught, is not limited to what happens at the altar; it must follow us into our homes, workplaces, and relationships. Stewardship is one of the clearest ways holiness becomes visible in everyday living. It means seeing all we have as God's and living with open hands, willing hearts, and obedient feet.

The early church in Acts understood this well. They did not simply give offerings; they first gave themselves wholly to the Lord. Their stewardship was Spirit-filled, love-driven, and kingdom-focused. That same fire and faithfulness must burn in us today. Authentic stewardship isn't flashy, but it is always faithful. It shows up in small, daily choices—how we spend our time, how we speak to others, how we treat resources entrusted to us. Others may not

always notice faithful stewardship, but God always sees—and faithful stewardship always leaves a lasting kingdom impact.

Let us be the kind of people who live intentionally, give sacrificially, and serve joyfully—because we know our lives are not our own. Everything we are and have belongs to Him.

### **Personal Application**

Take time to reflect on these questions:

- What part of my life needs a fresh surrender in my stewardship journey?
- How does my daily living reflect the Spirit-led stewardship seen in the book of Acts?
- What would it look like for me to live this week with a steward's mindset?

### **Journaling Prompt**

Where have I been managing instead of surrendering? How can I shift my heart from ownership to obedience?

### **Prayer**

“Lord, help me to see everything in my life as a gift entrusted to me for Your glory. Teach me to live faithfully and to give joyfully, just as You have so freely given to me. Amen.”



## Stewardship Begins in the Heart

### Scripture Reading

*“Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it.”* —Proverbs 4:23 (NIV)

### Devotional

Stewardship begins long before an offering is placed or a task is completed. It begins in the heart—the hidden space where motives and desires are formed.

The heart is the source of our words, actions, and decisions. If it is shaped by pride or obligation, even our service can lose its spiritual value. But when our heart is aligned with God, stewardship becomes a joyful act of love and obedience.

Jesus taught that God sees the heart behind every gift and every act. When the widow gave her two coins, it wasn't the amount that mattered—it was the surrender that fueled her giving. God is still looking for that kind of heart today.

To steward well is to guard and surrender the heart daily. Uproot what distracts. Nurture what draws you closer to Him. Then, and only then, will your hands reflect a life stewarded in grace.

### Personal Application

Take time today to reflect on the motives behind your service and generosity:

- Am I doing this for recognition or out of love for God?
- Is my giving a response to grace or a religious routine?

**Journaling Prompt**

“Today, I offer God my heart in this area. . . .”

**Prayer**

“Lord, help me to steward my heart first. Purify my motives, align my desires with Yours, and let my actions flow from a heart that honors You.”



## From Transparency to Transformation

### Scripture Reading

*"But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light."* —Ephesians 5:13 (NIV)

### Devotional

Transparency is the first step toward transformation. When we bring our struggles, doubts, and imperfections into the light, we open ourselves to the healing and refining work of God.

Often, we are tempted to hide behind polished images and quiet pain. But stewardship of the heart includes a willingness to be real—with God, with ourselves, and with trusted community. True transformation does not come from pretending we are whole but from presenting ourselves honestly before the One who makes us whole.

In Scripture, transformation often began with confession and exposure. The woman at the well was honest with Jesus about her life, and in return, she was offered living water and became a witness to her community. When we are transparent with God, we invite His Spirit to work in us at the root—not just to fix symptoms but to heal the source.

God does not despise brokenness. He honors it when it is surrendered. Transparency is not weakness; it is a doorway to growth. And when we allow God to transform us, our testimony becomes light for others.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Am I hiding parts of my life from God or others out of fear or shame?
- What would it look like to be more transparent in prayer or in trusted community?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Today, I choose to bring into the light . . . .”

### **Prayer**

“Lord, I bring myself fully into Your light. Help me to be honest in Your presence, and through that honesty, transform my heart, my thoughts, and my life.”



## Stewardship of Weakness: When Struggles Preach

### Scripture Reading

*“But he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.”* —2 Corinthians 12:9 (NIV)

### Devotional

Weakness is not something we often think of as valuable. We are taught to hide it, minimize it, or overcome it quickly. But in God’s kingdom, weakness is not a liability—it is a vessel.

Stewardship is not limited to what we are good at. It includes how we carry the things we struggle with. When we are honest about our pain, transparent in our trials, and faithful in our limitations, God uses those very places to display His strength. Our struggles preach—not because they make us impressive, but because they reveal the sustaining power of Christ.

Paul did not boast in his victories; he boasted in his weaknesses, because in them, the power of God was on full display. The gospel does not require perfection. It requires surrender. Our moments of weakness can serve as testimonies when placed in God’s hands. They speak to others who feel like they must have it all together. They give permission to be real. They remind the church that grace is still enough.

To steward your weakness means to stop hiding what hurts and start trusting God to redeem it—for your growth and for His glory.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Where am I tempted to hide my struggles instead of surrendering them?
- Who might be encouraged if I allowed God to use my weakness as a testimony?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Lord, this is the area of weakness I am bringing to You today. . . .”

### **Prayer**

“Father, I surrender my weakness to You. Let it be a place where Your power is seen and Your grace is known. Use even this part of my story for Your purpose.”



## Testimony as Stewardship: Sharing the Real Story

### Scripture Reading

*“But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”*  
—1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

### Devotional

Feeling reserved about sharing personal experiences is a common sentiment. Many people, introverts and extroverts alike, find it challenging to articulate their faith journey or describe God’s work in their lives. Peter’s call to “always being ready to explain the reason for your hope” isn’t about being an outgoing personality or effortlessly striking up conversations with strangers.

Rather, it emphasizes internal preparedness. It is about deepening your understanding of your faith so that when opportunities arise—whether in a casual chat with a friend, a vulnerable moment with family, or a direct question from someone curious about your peace—you can offer a sincere response. This kind of sharing naturally flows from a life lived authentically, rather than feeling forced or performative.

By studying the Bible to understand God’s will, we can then apply those principles in our interactions. We are called to be

compassionate, kind, and to extend God's grace to everyone. In essence, we aim to be genuine, live in alignment with God's Word, and reflect Christ's character in every aspect of our lives.

Ultimately, we want to share a picture of stewardship that encompasses all of life—our time, talents, resources, and experiences. All of these are to be used for God's glory, with our personal stories powerfully expressing His work in our lives.

### **Personal Application**

Take time today to reflect on these questions:

- Am I striving to live a life that is marked by authenticity, honesty, and integrity?
- Am I trying to deepen my understanding of my faith?

### **Journaling Prompt**

"Today, I will reflect on how I can be prepared to share my testimony with gentleness and respect. . . ."

### **Prayer**

"Heavenly Father, help me deepen my understanding of You and live authentically, so my life and story naturally reflect Your grace and glory to all."



## Living an Authentic Stewardship in the Midst of the Community

### Scripture Reading

*“You have not wronged us or oppressed us. You have not taken anything from the hand of anyone.”* —1 Samuel 12:4 (NET)

### Devotional

The Bible doesn’t explicitly define authenticity with a single word, but it consistently calls us to live honest, sincere, and truthful lives before God and others. Authenticity means living in accordance with God’s values and principles, showing a genuine character that is the same in public and in private.

The prophet Samuel provides a powerful biblical example. Near the end of his ministry, Samuel stood before all of Israel and asked them to examine his life. He invited them to testify if he had wronged or oppressed anyone, or taken anything unjustly. Their response was clear: “You have not wronged us or oppressed us. You have not taken anything from anyone’s hand.” Samuel’s authenticity was not rooted in flawless leadership but in faithful stewardship of his calling.

Modern leadership studies affirm what Scripture has long shown. Kouzes and Posner, after extensive global surveys, found that authenticity consistently ranked as the most desirable quality in a leader. People long to follow someone they can trust—someone whose words and actions align. For us as believers, authenticity

is more than credibility; it is stewardship of the life God has entrusted to us.

Living authentically is not about being perfect. It's about being consistent in integrity, transparent in weakness, and faithful in obedience. True stewardship requires that we resist the temptation to perform for people while neglecting what God sees. When we live openly before Him, our lives become a testimony of His grace.

### **Personal Application**

Take time today to reflect:

- Am I the same person in private as I am in public?
- Do those closest to me see consistency in my stewardship of time, relationships, and calling?
- In what area of my life is God asking me to walk in greater authenticity?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Today, I will commit to living authentically by . . . .”

### **Prayer**

“Lord, help me to live with authenticity in all areas of my life. May my character reflect Your truth, my stewardship display Your faithfulness, and my leadership point others to You. Strengthen me by Your Spirit to walk in honesty, humility, and integrity every day.”



## A Faithful Mirror: Integrity as Spiritual Stewardship

### Scripture Reading

*“In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.” —Titus 2:7–8 (NIV)*

### Devotional

As believers, we are not just called to believe rightly but to live rightly, reflecting the character of Christ in all we do. Paul’s words to Titus call for visible, consistent integrity, especially in leadership, but applicable to every believer. “In everything set them an example” underscores that our daily choices serve as a form of spiritual stewardship. We are entrusted with God’s reputation in the eyes of others.

Paul urges Titus to show “integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech.” These are disciplines of the soul, cultivated through a life surrendered to Christ. Integrity, in this context, is not perfection but alignment—making sure our words, actions, and motives are in step with God’s truth. When we live this way, our lives become a faithful mirror—reflecting Christ clearly, even in a world clouded with compromise.

Spiritual stewardship means understanding that our integrity impacts more than just us. It shapes how others perceive the gospel of Jesus Christ with which we are entrusted. Integrity is not optional for disciples; it is the testimony of Christ displayed through us.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Am I living in such a way that others see Christ reflected in me?
- Do my words, decisions, and habits reveal alignment with God's truth?
- Where might God be calling me to strengthen my integrity today?

### **Journaling Prompt**

"Lord, today I desire to reflect You more faithfully in . . ."

### **Prayer**

"Father, make my life a faithful mirror of Your truth and grace. May my words and actions be aligned with You, so that others see Christ in me. Guard my heart from compromise, and let integrity be the testimony of my stewardship."



## Sacrificial Stewardship Living

### Scripture Reading

*"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." —Romans 12:1 (KJV)*

### Devotional

Sacrificial stewardship pushes us past convenience and into Christlikeness. In our Pentecostal heritage, we have always preached holiness, but we have also lived it—through sacrifice, through service, and through surrender. Real stewardship always costs something, but it also always bears fruit.

Jesus did not give leftovers—He gave His all. The early church did not just tithe their money; they laid down their possessions, their reputations, and even their very lives. Why? Because when you have had a real encounter with Jesus and have been filled with the Spirit, your priorities change. The kingdom becomes more valuable than comfort, and obedience outweighs convenience.

This kind of stewardship may not make headlines, but it makes history in the kingdom of God. Whether it is our time, our energy, or our resources, God is honored when we give Him our best, not what is left. And the more we sacrifice for Him, the more we reflect Him.

We do not give sacrificially because we must—we do it because we love Him. And love always gives.

### **Personal Application**

Consider these questions:

- What has God asked me to lay down that I have been holding onto?
- How does my view of sacrifice align with the example of Christ?
- What would it mean for me to steward my life as a “living sacrifice” this week?

### **Journaling Prompt**

What is the Holy Spirit stirring in me to surrender that I have been reluctant to release?

### **Prayer**

“Father, show me what it truly means to live a sacrificial life. Give me the courage to let go of what is easy so I can follow You more fully. Amen.”



## A Widow's Offering: All In

### Scripture Reading

*"Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."* —Mark 12:43–44 (NIV)

### Devotional

In a world that measures value by size, status, and surplus, Jesus flips the script. Sitting opposite the temple treasury, He observes many rich people dropping in large amounts. But it was the quiet, unnoticed offering of a poor widow that captured His heart.

She gave two small copper coins—insignificant by financial standards, but monumental in spiritual weight. Jesus saw not just what she gave, but what she kept. And in her case, she held nothing back. She was all in.

This widow challenges our understanding of sacrifice. Her offering wasn't about the amount; it was about the surrender. She did not give out of convenience, but out of conviction and deep trust. Her gift was an act of worship, a declaration that God was her provider.

How often do we give God the leftovers—of our time, energy, attention, or resources—after we have taken care of everything else? The widow reminds us that the most powerful offerings are not the biggest, but the most wholehearted.

Being “all in” for God may not always be visible to others. It may not make noise or draw applause. But Jesus sees. He honors the quiet, sacrificial “yes”—the daily choices to trust Him with our all, especially when we feel we have little to offer.

### **Personal Application**

Generosity isn’t about abundance—it’s about trust. Even when resources feel tight, ask God how you can give.

Reflect:

- Am I giving God my best or only what is left?
- What step of faith is He asking me to take today?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Lord, show me the area of my life where I am holding back. Today I choose to surrender this to You. . . .”

### **Prayer**

“Lord, help me to give fully, faithfully, and without hesitation. Teach me to trust You with everything I have, knowing You are my source. Show me where I am holding back and help me go ‘all in’ with You. Amen.”



## The “Could Give” and “Would Give” Levels of Faith

### Scripture Reading

*“Let each one give [thoughtfully and with purpose] just as he has decided in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver [and delights in the one whose heart is in his gift].” —2 Corinthians 9:7 (AMP)*

### Devotional

Whether you *could* give or *would* give is truly a matter of the heart. The value of our giving is not what God sees first; He looks at the heart. Scripture often uses the heart to represent the seat of emotions, intellect, and will—the very center of our being. Proverbs 4:23 reminds us, “Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life” (paraphrased).

When Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, he commended them for their faith-filled generosity. Even the poorest among them gave abundantly out of love and trust in God. Logic and worldly reasoning would say that those with little cannot afford to give, but Scripture gives us a different picture. The widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17) gave her last handful of flour and a little oil, trusting God completely. Her obedience and willingness to give opened the door for God’s miraculous provision.

Paul further teaches that giving should never be legalistic or coerced. Instead, it must be voluntary, cheerful, and motivated by

love. This is the kind of giving God delights in—a reflection of a heart aligned with His generosity.

As disciples, we are called into fruitful obedience, not empty ritual. When our giving flows from a sincere heart, God promises to respond with abundant blessings: “I will open the windows of heaven for you and pour out a blessing so great you won’t have room enough to take it in!” (Malachi 3:10 TLB).

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Am I giving freely and cheerfully, or out of compulsion and routine?
- Do I sometimes give for recognition rather than as an act of love for God?
- How can I grow in faith so my giving reflects gratitude and trust, not obligation?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Lord, increase my faith and help me to become consistent in obedience. Teach me to give freely, cheerfully, and generously—especially to the least among us—and to advance Your kingdom here on earth.”

### **Prayer**

“Father, teach me to do Your will as I strive daily to reflect Your character in every way. May my giving bring glory and honor to Your name, and may my heart always be cheerful and sincere before You. Amen.”



## When Our Service to the Lord Comes at a High Cost

### Scripture Reading

*“At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship and said: ‘Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised.’” — Job 1:20–21 (NIV)*

### Devotional

Serving God is not always convenient, easy, or comfortable. The call of discipleship often comes at a high cost. Scripture provides many examples of faithful men and women who were tested and refined through trials, showing us that stewardship of faith sometimes requires surrendering what is most precious.

Abraham was tested in perhaps the most difficult way imaginable. God asked him to offer Isaac—his only son, the child of promise. Abraham obeyed, demonstrating that true service to God comes from a heart fully surrendered, even when it costs dearly. His willingness revealed that stewardship is not about possessions or blessings, but about trust in the Giver.

Job also stands as a testimony of costly faith. He lost his wealth, his health, and his children, yet he fell to the ground in worship, declaring, “Blessed be the name of the Lord.” Job’s life teaches us that serving God is not contingent upon comfort or prosperity.

Authentic stewardship endures loss, hardship, and pain while clinging to the faithfulness of God.

The stories of Abraham and Job remind us that the value of our service is not measured by convenience but by sacrifice. True stewardship may ask us to lay down our security, reputation, or even dreams, in order to remain faithful. But in these costly places, God is glorified most. He shows Himself faithful to sustain us, bless us, and redeem our obedience for His eternal purposes.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Am I willing to serve God when obedience requires sacrifice?
- What area of my life is He calling me to surrender more fully to Him?
- How can I remain faithful when trials test my devotion?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Lord, today I recognize that serving You may cost me greatly. I surrender this area of my life to You. . . .”

### **Prayer**

“Father, strengthen me to serve You faithfully even when the cost is great. Teach me to trust Your promises like Abraham and to worship through trials like Job. May my life bear witness that You are worthy, even when obedience requires sacrifice.”



## A Lifestyle of Surrender, Not a Moment of Glory

### Scripture Reading

*“Then [Jesus] said to them all: ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.’” —Luke 9:23 (NIV)*

### Devotional

We often associate surrender with a single dramatic moment—an altar call, a breakthrough, a public declaration. But biblical surrender is not just an event; it is a lifestyle.

Jesus did not call His disciples to follow Him once. He called them to follow Him daily. This kind of surrender is less about a climactic decision and more about quiet consistency. It is in the everyday choices: choosing prayer over pride, obedience over convenience, sacrifice over comfort. These small, unseen yeses shape a life of true stewardship.

A moment of glory may inspire others, but it is the lifestyle of surrender that sustains ministry. The surrendered steward does not wait for spotlight moments to act faithfully. Instead, they honor God in the mundane, in the waiting, in the serving that no one sees.

The cross Jesus calls us to bear is not a symbol of recognition—it is a symbol of death to self. And from that place of humility, resurrection life flows. If we live only for public affirmation, we

will miss the richness of walking daily with the One who sees in secret and rewards in eternity.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Am I seeking spiritual moments of recognition or a deeper walk of daily obedience?
- What area of my life have I held back from daily surrender?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Today, I will surrender this part of my life to Christ. . . .”

### **Prayer**

“Lord, teach me to walk in daily surrender—not for a moment of glory, but for a lifetime of faithfulness. Let every step I take be an act of trust in You.”



## Stewardship of Time: Serving When It's Inconvenient

### Scripture Reading

*"So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days."* —Ephesians 5:15–16 (NLT)

### Devotional

Our lives are frequently overflowing with responsibilities—work, family, children's schedules, church involvement, deadlines, and countless commitments. Finding a "convenient" moment to serve can feel nearly impossible, and our reasons often sound valid. Yet, do our packed calendars truly leave no space to heed the Lord's call to serve?

It is easy to serve when ministry fits neatly into our agenda. But the real test comes when opportunities to serve interrupt our plans. In those inconvenient moments—when we are exhausted, overwhelmed, or preoccupied—we often justify turning inward rather than pouring outward.

Jesus, however, consistently demonstrated the opposite. He embraced interruptions, healed the hurting, paused for the overlooked, and showed compassion even when weary. His life reminds us that ministry rarely comes at a convenient time, but it always comes at a purposeful time.

The heart of service is not convenience—it is obedience. True stewardship of time requires sacrifice. If we only serve when it is easy, we miss the very moments where Christ can be most clearly reflected in us. While serving God may stretch us, it always carries eternal reward.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Am I willing to reorder my priorities to make room for service, even when it disrupts my comfort?
- How can I steward my time this week so that ministry opportunities become appointments with God rather than interruptions?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Lord, today I will choose to embrace the inconvenient opportunities You place before me. Help me to see them not as interruptions, but as invitations to serve like You did. . . .”

### **Prayer**

“Heavenly Father, I confess that I often prioritize my own comfort and convenience over serving You and others. Forgive me for resisting the interruptions that You may be using for ministry. Teach me to value obedience over convenience, and give me the strength to steward my time in ways that honor You.”



## Joyful Kingdom Giving, Not Castle Building

### Scripture Reading

*“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be provided for you.” —Matthew 6:33 (CSB)*

### Devotional

In a world that tells us to build bigger, better, and more secure lives for ourselves, Jesus calls us to a different pursuit. The temptation to build our own “castles”—to focus on comfort, status, or material gain—can quietly take root in our hearts. Yet kingdom living points us away from self-centered accumulation and toward Christ-centered generosity.

Joyful giving flows from a heart that understands we are stewards, not owners. What we have is entrusted to us, not for our glory, but for God’s purposes. When we give sacrificially—whether through our finances, our time, or our energy—we declare that the kingdom of God is more valuable than our castles of convenience.

Serving sacrificially does not mean neglecting our needs, but it does mean trusting God enough to put His kingdom first. The early church modeled this spirit well: “They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need” (Acts 2:45 NIV). Their joy was not found in hoarding but in sharing, and the ripple effect of their generosity strengthened the witness of the gospel.

Sacrificial giving also frees us from the burden of self-preservation. Castles require constant maintenance, but kingdom giving multiplies eternally. When we invest in God's work, we participate in a story much larger than our own. This perspective reminds us that our lives are temporary, but what we pour into the kingdom leaves an eternal legacy. True joy is not found in what we keep, but in what we release for His glory.

### **Personal Application**

Consider these questions:

- What “castles” have you been tempted to build for your own comfort or recognition?
- How has sacrificial giving—whether of time, money, or service—brought unexpected joy into your life?
- What step could you take this week to prioritize kingdom building over castle building?

### **Journaling Prompt**

Write about one area where God is calling you to let go of self-centered building and embrace kingdom-centered giving. Be honest about both the fears and the joys that come with that surrender.

### **Prayer**

“Lord, help me to see beyond my own castles and embrace the joy of kingdom giving. Teach me to serve sacrificially, trusting that You will provide for my needs as I put Your kingdom first. May my life reflect open hands and a generous heart. Amen.”



## A Life that Illustrates Stewardship

### Scripture Reading

*“Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.” —Proverbs 18:21 (KJV)*

### Devotional

Stewardship does not stop with our bank accounts or calendars—it also shows up in how we talk. Our Wesleyan-Pentecostal heritage has always honored the power of Spirit-filled speech, and that includes what we say Monday through Saturday, not just in Sunday altar calls. The words we speak carry power—power to tear down or power to build up.

Speaking life is one of the most overlooked forms of stewardship. It is easy to go negative, to criticize, or to speak doubt and fear. But we are called to something higher. As Spirit-filled believers, our words should breathe encouragement, hope, truth, and grace into the people around us. That’s how we steward our influence and our relationships.

The early church declared the gospel with boldness, but they also encouraged one another daily. If we believe our words matter, then every conversation should be treated as sacred ground. When we speak life, we are not just being kind—we are partnering with heaven.

Let us make our mouths a tool of revival, not ruin. Let us steward our speech in a way that reflects the holiness of our hearts and the fire of the Holy Spirit within us.

### **Personal Application**

Reflect on these questions:

- Are my words aligned with the Spirit or my emotions?
- How can I use my voice this week to reflect Christ and build someone up?
- What habits in my speech do I need to surrender to the Lord?

### **Journaling Prompt**

What kind of fruit are my words producing in others—and what adjustments do I need to make in the way I speak?

### **Prayer**

“Holy Spirit, guard my tongue and guide my words. Help me speak life that reflects the heart of Jesus and honors Your work in me. Amen.”



## Words that Build, Not Burn

### Scripture Reading

*“The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.”* —Proverbs 18:21 (NIV)

### Devotional

When we think of stewardship, our minds often go to money, time, or resources. But one of the most overlooked areas of stewardship is our words. God has entrusted us with the ability to speak, and with that comes the responsibility to use our words wisely. Every conversation we have is an opportunity to either build someone up or burn them down.

Speaking life is an act of stewardship because our words are not ultimately our own—they belong to God. We are His ambassadors, and our speech should reflect His character. The Apostle Paul reminds us in Ephesians 4:29: “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.” Faithful stewardship of speech means rejecting gossip, slander, or careless words, and instead choosing encouragement, truth, and grace.

The early believers in Acts encouraged one another daily, prayed together, and shared testimonies that strengthened the church. Their words were Spirit-filled and kingdom-focused, multiplying faith in those who heard. Our words today carry the same power—they can plant seeds of healing, courage, and comfort, or they can ignite division and despair.

As faithful stewards, we must surrender even our tongues to the Lord. Words that build are rooted in love, seasoned with grace, and guided by the Spirit. Words that burn are fueled by pride, impatience, or anger. Stewarding our speech means asking God daily to make our mouths channels of blessing and truth.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself the following:

- Are my daily words building people up, or do they sometimes tear them down?
- How can I invite the Holy Spirit to help me steward my speech more faithfully?
- Who in my life most needs encouragement from my words this week?

### **Journaling Prompt**

Write about a recent conversation where your words either built up or tore down. How could you approach it differently next time to better reflect Christ?

### **Prayer**

“Lord, help me to steward my words with care. May my speech bring life, hope, and encouragement to those around me. Guard my tongue from harm and fill my mouth with words that glorify You. Amen.”



## Stewarding Our Testimony: A Voice of Hope

### Scripture Reading

*“To you, O God, belong the greatness and the might, the glory, the victory, the majesty, the splendor; Yes! Everything in heaven, everything on earth; the kingdom all yours! You’ve raised yourself high over all. Riches and glory come from you, you’re ruler over all; You hold strength and power in the palm of your hand to build up and strengthen all.”* —1 Chronicles 29:11-12 (MSG)

### Devotional

Nahum Tate and Nicholas Brady once wrote, *“Through all the changing scenes of life, in trouble and in joy, the praises of my God shall still my heart and tongue employ.”* Their words echo the truth that no matter the season, our testimony of God’s faithfulness remains an anchor for us and a witness to others.

In a world marked by instability—economic uncertainty, political unrest, and personal trials—we find hope in the unchanging nature of God. James reminds us that in Him “there is no variation or shadow of turning” (James 1:17). Because God is constant, His people can live with steady confidence and declare His faithfulness in every circumstance.

David’s charge to the people in 1 Chronicles 29 illustrates this principle. Faced with the monumental task of preparing for the temple, David reminded Israel that everything already belonged to God. Their giving was not about their ability but about their

faith in God's ownership. Inspired by David's humility and leadership, the people gave generously, and the resources were more than sufficient. Their testimony of trust and unity became a witness for generations to follow.

Our stewardship of testimony functions in the same way. When we openly declare God's faithfulness—how He protects, provides, and sustains—we give hope to those who are weary. Our stories of grace and provision encourage others to trust Him. Stewardship, then, is not only about what we give or do, but also about what we say—our words of faith, spoken in truth, that shine light in a dark world.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Am I modeling biblical stewardship in a way that inspires hope in others?
- Do I intentionally share my testimony of God's faithfulness, or do I keep it to myself?
- How might my words encourage someone who is struggling today?

### **Journaling Prompt**

"I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever; With my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations" (Psalm 89:1 NKJV). "Lord, help me to proclaim Your steadfast love daily, regardless of what I might be experiencing."

### **Prayer**

"Father, thank You for the privilege of stewarding my testimony. Help me to speak words that inspire faith and hope in others. May my life and story reflect Your truthfulness and love, so that others are strengthened to trust in You."



## Speaking with the Authority of Anointing

### Scripture Reading

*“For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.”*  
—1 Corinthians 4:20 (NIV)

### Devotional

There is a difference between speaking words and releasing truth. The authority of anointing does not come from charisma, volume, or eloquence—it comes from the presence of God flowing through a life surrendered to Him.

When Jesus spoke, people marveled—not just because of what He said, but because of the *authority* with which He said it. That authority wasn’t borrowed from position; it was born from intimacy. He spent time with the Father in secret, and it showed in how He ministered in public.

Stewarding the voice God has given you means more than choosing the right words. It means living a life that reflects the weight of His Word. Words spoken from a consecrated life carry spiritual weight. Anointing gives your voice resonance beyond emotion—it pierces the heart and stirs the soul because it originates from God, not self.

God does not call us to be impressive. He calls us to be obedient. And when we are faithful to walk with Him, He places His

anointing on our speech—not to elevate us, but to edify others and advance His kingdom.

**Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Am I speaking from personal opinion or from a place of prayerful dependence on God?
- Do my private choices support the weight of my public words?

**Journaling Prompt:**

“Lord, increase Your authority in my life by deepening Your work in me. . . .”

**Prayer:**

“Father, let my words be more than talk. Anoint them with truth, love, and power. Teach me to speak from the overflow of Your Spirit, and not from my own strength.”



## God Is the Owner of Everything

### Scripture Reading

*"All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had." —Acts 4:32 (NIV)*

### Devotional

One of the core truths of Christian stewardship is this: God owns everything. The book of Acts describes the early church as a community transformed by this reality. Believers held their possessions loosely, recognizing that what they had was not theirs to keep but God's to use. They shared freely, and no one was in need.

Salvation itself illustrates this principle. We did nothing to earn it; it was given freely by the God who sustains us. If He has given us eternal life, how much more should we trust Him with the temporary things of this world? To embrace God's ownership is to live with open hands—acknowledging that every resource, talent, and opportunity is entrusted to us for His glory, not our control.

Many confuse possession with ownership. We may hold, use, or manage something, but that does not make it ours. Ownership rests with God alone. As Paul reminds us, "What do you have that you did not receive?" (1 Corinthians 4:7). Everything we possess—our abilities, time, wealth, and influence—originates from Him.

The early disciples modeled this well. Their unity flowed from their recognition that all they had belonged to God. When we adopt this mindset, it revolutionizes our priorities. We stop striving for control and instead become faithful stewards, using what we have to bless others and advance the kingdom.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Do I live as though my resources and gifts belong to me, or do I acknowledge God's ownership?
- How might recognizing God's ownership change the way I view money, time, and relationships?
- What step can I take this week to surrender something I have been holding too tightly?

### **Journaling Prompt**

"Lord, today I acknowledge that all I have is Yours. Show me how to steward [name specific resource, talent, or relationship] in a way that honors You and blesses others. . . ."

### **Prayer**

"Father, I confess that I often live as though I am the owner of my possessions and gifts. Forgive me for clinging to what is Yours. Teach me to live with open hands, faithfully stewarding what You have entrusted to me. May my life reflect the truth that You are the owner of all."



## Speak Life: Bless and Do Not Curse

### Scripture Reading

*“Don’t use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.”*

—Ephesians 4:29 (NLT)

### Devotional

The tongue, though a small part of the body, carries tremendous power. Despite making up only a fraction of our physical size, it has the ability to shape destinies, heal wounds, or inflict lasting pain. With it we can speak life, encouragement, and blessing—or we can spread gossip, criticism, and destruction.

The old saying *“Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me”* is far from true. Words cut deep, linger long, and often leave scars unseen. Scripture warns us that the tongue holds “the power of life and death” (Proverbs 18:21). As stewards of our speech, we are called not to wound but to heal, not to curse but to bless.

Jesus taught that our words reveal the condition of our hearts: “Out of the abundance of the heart [the] mouth speaks” (Luke 6:45 ESV). This means that careless, harsh, or destructive words are not simply slips of the tongue—they reflect what lies within. To speak life, then, is not just about self-control; it is about allowing the Spirit of God to transform our hearts so that life-giving words flow naturally from within.

When we bless instead of curse, we become agents of hope in a hurting world. Our speech becomes a ministry of encouragement, pointing others to the love and grace of Christ.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Do my words reflect the love of Christ to those around me?
- Am I quick to bless, or do I too easily slip into complaint and criticism?
- How can I intentionally use my words today to encourage and uplift someone who is struggling?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Lord, today I commit to using my words to speak life. Show me someone who needs encouragement, and give me the words to bless them.”

### **Prayer:**

“Heavenly Father, forgive me for the times my words have caused harm instead of hope. Transform my heart so that my speech reflects Your love. Let my tongue be quick to give grace, encouragement, and healing. May my words today and every day bring life—to others and to myself.”



## The Gospel in Our Mouth: Faith Comes by Hearing

### Scripture Reading

*“Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.”*

—Romans 10:17 (NIV)

### Devotional

God could have chosen many ways to reveal Himself—visions, dreams, angelic visitations—but in His wisdom, He chose the spoken word. Specifically, He chose the proclamation of the gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ.

Romans 10:17 reminds us that saving faith is sparked when the message about Christ is heard. But Paul asks the penetrating question: How can people hear unless someone speaks? The gospel advances not through silence, but through faithful witnesses who carry the Word into the world.

As believers, we are not only recipients of this good news—we are stewards of it. Stewardship here means responsibility. The gospel is entrusted to us not to hoard, but to share. Every act of kindness, every testimony of God’s goodness, every prayer whispered over someone in need is a seed of faith planted.

Stewardship is often associated with money or time, but Scripture calls us to steward the greatest treasure of all—the message of Jesus Christ. You may never stand in a pulpit, but your voice

matters. Your testimony matters. Your words, when spoken in love and truth, carry eternal significance. Through them, God can awaken faith in another person's heart.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Am I intentional about sharing the gospel in my everyday conversations?
- Do I see my words as tools for kingdom impact, or do I underestimate their power?
- Who in my life needs to hear a word of hope from me today?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Lord, show me the people in my path today who need to hear about Your love. Help me to speak boldly and lovingly, planting seeds of faith through my words.”

### **Prayer:**

“Father, thank You for entrusting me with the gospel. Give me boldness to speak it, wisdom to share it clearly, and compassion to share it with love. Use my voice to awaken faith in those who have not yet heard the good news of Jesus Christ.”



## Stewardship-Mentoring Discipleship

### Scripture Reading

*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." —1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)*

### Devotional

Stewardship is more than managing money; it is the way we live out our discipleship before God. To steward something is to care for what does not ultimately belong to us but has been entrusted to us by the Lord. Our time, talents, treasures, and testimony are all gifts meant to bring glory to God and advance His kingdom.

Mentoring in stewardship is about more than teaching financial wisdom or responsibility; it is about modeling a Christ-centered life. When we guide others in faithful stewardship, we are discipling them into a lifestyle of obedience and generosity. This mentoring process requires authenticity, humility, and a willingness to walk alongside others as they learn to trust God with every part of their lives.

Discipleship itself is rooted in relationship—first with Jesus, then with those He has placed in our path. Just as Paul told Timothy to "entrust [the gospel] to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others" (2 Timothy 2:2), we are called to pass on not only truth but also habits of faithful living. Stewardship mentoring is one way we ensure the next generation of disciples understands that their lives are not their own but are to be poured out for God's purposes.

Stewardship touches every arena of life—our schedules, our relationships, our decisions, and even our outlook on the future. A true disciple learns that stewardship is not a task we check off but a lifestyle we embrace daily. When we practice mentoring in this area, we help others see that faith is lived out in practical ways, turning ordinary choices into opportunities to glorify God.

As we begin this journey, let us remember that mentoring in stewardship is not about perfection but progression. It is about encouraging others to grow step by step, surrendering more of themselves to Christ, and learning to live with open hands and open hearts.

### **Personal Application**

Consider these questions:

- In what areas of your life (time, talents, treasure, or testimony) do you find it hardest to live as a faithful steward?
- Who has modeled stewardship well for you, and what impact did their example make?
- How might God be calling you to mentor someone else in stewardship discipleship?

### **Journaling Prompt**

Write about one specific area of your life you need to surrender more fully to God's stewardship. Consider how mentoring or being mentored in this area might help you grow in faithfulness.

### **Prayer**

“Lord, thank You for entrusting me with Your gifts. Teach me to be faithful in every area of my life and give me the courage to walk alongside others as we grow in stewardship together. May my life point others to Your abundant grace. Amen.”



## Walk with Me: The Power of Presence

### Scripture Reading

*“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.”* —Ecclesiastes 4:9–10 (NIV)

### Devotional

One of the greatest gifts we can offer another person is not advice, resources, or solutions, but our presence. In a world marked by loneliness, busyness, and distraction, the ministry of presence carries deep spiritual weight. Simply being with someone—listening, praying, walking alongside them—can reflect the very heart of Jesus.

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus invited His disciples to walk with Him. Before they were sent to preach, heal, and lead, He first called them to *be with Him* (Mark 3:14). Presence came before performance. Relationship came before responsibility. This pattern reminds us that discipleship is not only taught through words but caught through presence. We shape others most deeply not by what we say from a distance, but by how we walk with them day by day.

Stewardship applies here as well. Just as we steward our money and talents, we are called to steward our presence. Our time and attention are finite, yet when surrendered to God, they become instruments of encouragement, healing, and hope. To sit with someone in grief, to celebrate their joys, or to simply share a meal is a sacrificial gift that carries eternal value.

The power of presence is also mutual. Ecclesiastes reminds us that two walking together can lift one another when they fall. Walking with others keeps us grounded in humility and accountability. It reminds us that we are not meant to live isolated lives but to bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2).

When we choose to say, "Walk with me," we invite others into the grace of companionship. And when we accept the same invitation, we reflect Christ, who promised, "Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). His presence with us becomes the model and motivation for our presence with others.

### **Personal Application**

Reflect on these questions:

- Who in your life needs you to be more intentionally present with them right now?
- How does the presence of others strengthen your walk with Christ?
- What practical step can you take this week to steward your presence well?

### **Journaling Prompt**

Reflect on a time when someone's presence deeply impacted your life. What did it teach you about God's presence with you?

### **Prayer**

"Lord, thank You for walking with me daily. Help me to steward my presence as a gift to others, offering encouragement, comfort, and companionship. May my presence reflect Your love and remind others that they are never alone. Amen."



## The Jesus Method: Teaching Through Example, Then Delegating

### Scripture Reading

*“Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach and to have authority to drive out demons.”*

—Mark 3:13–15 (NIV)

### Devotional

Jesus came to earth with a mission to save the lost (Matthew 1:21) and to raise up leaders who would continue His work after His ascension (John 17:6; Acts 1:8–9). From the beginning, He knew that multiplying disciples required more than sermons to the multitudes—it required intentional investment in a few.

The twelve were not chosen because they were extraordinary men, but because Jesus saw in them the potential to grow under His teaching and example. For three years they walked with Him, learning not only from His words but also from His life. They saw how He prayed, how He served, how He loved the marginalized, and how He carried Himself in obedience to the Father. His method was not just to instruct but to model.

After showing them how to live and serve, He delegated responsibility. He sent them out to preach, heal, and drive out demons. They were not sent empty-handed; they carried the authority and power He imparted to them. This is the divine

pattern: example first, delegation second. Jesus demonstrated that true discipleship requires both impartation and participation.

For us, this method remains the model of stewardship in mentoring and leadership. We are called not simply to teach principles but to live them out before others, so that when responsibility is handed over, those we train have seen faith in action. Stewardship of leadership is not about holding onto power but about reproducing faithful followers who can lead others to Christ.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Am I willing to intentionally invest in others, not just by telling them what to do but by showing them how to live for Christ?
- Who in my life is God calling me to disciple through both example and encouragement?
- Do I hold onto responsibilities tightly, or am I willing to delegate and empower others for kingdom work?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Lord, help me to follow Your model of discipleship. Show me someone I can intentionally walk with, living as an example and then entrusting them with responsibility.”

### **Prayer**

“Jesus, thank You for showing me what it means to lead through example and for entrusting Your disciples with Your mission. Teach me to invest in others the way You invested in the twelve. Help me to live faithfully before them, and then to delegate with trust, so that Your kingdom continues to multiply through generations of disciples.”



## From Timid to Trusted: Cultivating Confidence in Others

### Scripture Reading

*“If you want to know what God wants you to do, ask him, and he will gladly tell you, for he is always ready to give a bountiful supply of wisdom to all who ask him; he will not resent it.” — James 1:5–8 (TLB)*

### Devotional

The book of James was written to believers enduring hardship, persecution, and marginalization. In the midst of their trials, James points them to the source of wisdom—God Himself—who promises to give generously to those who ask. This wisdom enables us to live godly and victorious lives, even in the face of adversity.

Helping others move from timidity to trust begins with truth. Confidence cannot be built on human opinion but must be rooted in the unchanging Word of God. Hosea warns us, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” (Hosea 4:6 KJV). When we lead others to grow in their understanding of Scripture, we equip them to stand strong in faith.

Knowledge leads to competence, and competence builds confidence. As we put God’s Word into practice, fear diminishes and trust in Him increases. Over time, what begins as timidity can grow into a steadfast confidence grounded in the promises of God.

Mentorship plays a vital role in this process. By walking alongside others—teaching, modeling, and encouraging—we create space for growth. But ultimately, each believer must cultivate their own walk with God, grounded in prayer and Scripture. Confidence in the Lord is not borrowed; it must be owned personally.

The call of stewardship is to use our influence, relationships, and wisdom to help others trust God more deeply. In doing so, we multiply faith, not only in ourselves but in those who will go on to disciple others.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Am I actively mentoring or encouraging someone to grow in their faith?
- Do I help others find confidence in God’s Word rather than in human strength?
- How can I more consistently model trust in God for those who look to me for guidance?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Lord, give me wisdom and compassion to help others move from fear to faith. Show me how to cultivate confidence in those around me through truth, prayer, and example.”

### **Prayer**

“Father, thank You for the wisdom You give so generously. Help me to steward my relationships well, mentoring others with authenticity and love. May my life encourage others to grow from timidity to confidence, bringing glory and honor to Your name.”



## A Shepherd's Heart: Pastoring like a Parent

### Scripture Reading

*"Instead, we were like young children among you. Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well."*—1 Thessalonians 2:7–8 (NIV)

### Devotional

Paul's description of ministry in 1 Thessalonians is deeply personal. He does not speak as a distant leader but as one who loved deeply and lived closely with those he disciplined. His example compares ministry to that of a mother tenderly caring for her children—a powerful image of pastoral and mentoring love.

I recall, as a child growing up, how my mother—with several other siblings to care for—had to make significant sacrifices to ensure we were provided for. Life was hard, resources were limited, yet we never felt like we lacked anything because of her unconditional love and nurturing presence. That is the essence of a shepherd's heart: love that covers lack, and care that costs something.

Spiritual mentors and leaders are called to the same. True discipleship is not accomplished through teaching alone but through shared life. To disciple well is to show up, to listen deeply, to walk patiently through victories and valleys, and to

invest our lives into others. A shepherd's heart sees people not as projects to complete but as sons and daughters to nurture.

This kind of stewardship requires sacrifice, vulnerability, and consistency. Just as Paul gave not only the gospel but also his life, so too are we called to steward our relationships with selfless love.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Am I investing in people relationally, or am I discipling from a distance?
- Who has God placed in my life to nurture with a shepherd's heart?
- How can I more intentionally reflect Christ's patient, sacrificial love this week?

### **Journaling Prompt**

"Lord, show me one person I can walk with more intentionally this week—not just teaching them truth, but sharing my life as a reflection of Your love."

### **Prayer**

"Lord, help me to disciple with the heart of a parent—patient, selfless, and full of love. May my life reflect the care You show to me daily, and may those I shepherd see in me the compassion of Christ. Amen."



## Reproducing Reproducers: The Discipleship Cycle

### Scripture Reading

*“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.”* —2 Timothy 2:2 (NIV)

### Devotional

Discipleship is not just about teaching someone how to follow Jesus. It’s about equipping them to *teach others to do the same*. True spiritual stewardship is measured not by how many we reach, but by how many those we reach are able to reach others in turn.

Paul’s instruction to Timothy outlines a generational vision with four levels of impact: Paul to Timothy, Timothy to faithful people, and those people to others still. This is the *discipleship cycle*—transformation that multiplies through relationship, intentionality, and trust.

Too often we stop short at influence or leadership. But spiritual reproduction requires *investment*, not just instruction. It takes time, presence, patience, and prayer. Discipleship isn’t about creating followers of us—it’s about forming followers of Christ who go on to make more disciples.

If we steward this call well, our ministry won’t end with us—it will echo forward through lives we have poured into. Discipleship,

then, becomes the bridge between today's obedience and tomorrow's legacy.

This is where Day 28 begins: asking how we can live and lead in a way that leaves something eternal behind.

### **Personal Application**

Ask yourself:

- Who am I actively pouring into with the goal that they might one day pour into others?
- Have I made space in my life for relational discipleship that multiplies?

### **Journaling Prompt**

“Lord, help me steward the relationships You have placed around me. Show me who I am called to invest in for the sake of Your kingdom. . . .”

### **Prayer**

“Jesus, You reproduced Yourself in others by walking closely with them. Teach me to do the same. Help me disciple others in a way that they, too, can go and make disciples.”



## Legacy Living: Investing Beyond Your Lifetime

### Scripture Reading

*“Tell your children about it, Let your children tell their children, And their children another generation.” —Joel 1:3 (NKJV)*

### Devotional

Every day, you are painting a portrait of your life. Each decision, contribution, and priority adds a brushstroke to this masterpiece. What you leave behind—your legacy—will remain long after you are gone, offering others a chance to reflect on who you were and what truly mattered to you.

When we remember those who have passed, our first thoughts may turn to their inheritance. Yet the deeper question is not what they left behind materially, but what they imparted spiritually and relationally. A true legacy is not measured by possessions or achievements, but by the lives profoundly impacted long after any inheritance has faded.

Consider the story of Elijah and Elisha. For years, Elijah mentored Elisha, shaping him through both teaching and example. When Elijah departed, he left Elisha only his mantle. But that mantle symbolized more than clothing—it represented Elijah’s ministry, faith, and calling. When Elisha picked it up, he was not simply inheriting something; he was stepping into the legacy of his mentor. Empowered by this legacy, Elisha performed twice as many miracles as Elijah.

Elijah's greatest success was not the miracles he performed, but the life he invested in Elisha. His impact extended beyond his own lifetime. Likewise, while leaving an inheritance can be good, leaving a legacy is far greater.

### **Personal Application**

Consider these questions:

- Am I living today in a way that will bless and inspire future generations?
- Am I pouring into the lives of others with intentionality, as Elijah did with Elisha?
- Lord, help me to follow Elijah's example by actively mentoring and empowering those around me, understanding that my greatest legacy is not possessions but the impact I have on lives for Your kingdom.

### **Journaling Prompt**

Reflect on this: What spiritual values, lessons, or examples are you intentionally passing on to those who come after you? How do you want to be remembered—for what you owned, or for how you lived?

### **Prayer**

“Jesus, please empower me to live with intention for the legacy I will leave behind. May my focus be less on what I accumulate and more on how I can positively impact lives for Your kingdom long after my earthly journey is complete. Amen.”

# NEXT STEPS

As you have now concluded the *28-Day Focus on Stewardship*, it is essential to consider what comes next. No matter how inspiring the writings may be, their impact will fade if they are not applied to the daily realities of life.

So, here are some practical applications:

- **Live Authentically** – Be honest about your journey. People grow when they see both your strengths and your struggles.
- **Mentor Someone** – Choose to invest time in someone younger or newer in the faith. Listen. Encourage. Walk with them.
- **Serve Sacrificially** – Stewardship sometimes means cooking a meal, watching someone's children, volunteering when it is inconvenient, or simply showing up when no one else does.
- **Speak Life** – Use your words to build others up. Your story may be the spark that ignites someone else's faith.

Below are some next steps. They are not about doing more—they are about doing what matters most with what you already have. Stewardship is not a burden; it is a blessing and a privilege in God's kingdom.

## Living Out Faithful Stewardship

### 1. Take Inventory

“So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.”

—Romans 14:12 (NIV)

Reflect on what God has entrusted to you and how you are using it.

### 2. Start Small, Stay Consistent

“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much. . . .” —Luke 16:10

Faithfulness in small things lays the foundation for greater stewardship.

### 3. Create a Generosity Plan

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion.” —2 Corinthians 9:7

Generosity grows when it is intentional and joyfully pursued.

### 4. Serve with Your Strengths

“We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.” —Romans 12:6

Your spiritual gifts are unique tools for building up the body of Christ.

### 5. Invite Accountability

*“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.”* — Proverbs 27:17

Stewardship flourishes in the context of community and honest relationships.

### 6. Build a Kingdom Budget

*“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”* —Matthew 6:33

Orient your finances around kingdom priorities, not just personal needs.

### 7. Pray Over Your Resources

*“Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.”* —Proverbs 16:3

Invite God to guide your decisions so that every resource is used wisely.

## A 28-DAY FOCUS ON BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP

These scriptural supports root each step in God's Word, reminding us that stewardship is not just a good idea—it is a God-given responsibility and an act of worship.

In conclusion, the following is taken directly from Chapter One of *Craig Hill's* book, *Living on the Third River*.

Craig Hill writes,

While teaching in Africa, the Lord gave me a picture depicting the management of financial resource. I saw a huge snowfield in the mountains with a virtually infinite supply of water. There were three rivers emanating from this snowfield. On the first river, lives a man whose experience of life is such that he never quite had enough water. Life experience has confirmed that to him. So, what does he do with the water coming down the river? He builds a dam in the river and collects all the water that he possibly can. No water is ever able to flow downstream for others to use. This man's view of water only includes that which is available to him in his lake. Therefore, he must conserve water, and he must be very careful because there is never enough coming down for him.

If the flow of water is ever increased in his river, he will simply store it and increase the size of his lake. His perception is that the bigger lake he has, the more secure he is for the future.

A second river also flows down from the snowfield. The man who lives along this river has life experience that tells him there is usually plenty of water to meet his needs, so there is no need to build a dam in the river. However, there is never quite enough water to meet all of his desires for water usage.

Thus, he uses all the water he can and lets a very small amount flow downstream for others to use. However, most of the water coming down the river is consumed by his ever-expanding needs/desires, so not much is left to flow downstream. This man's view of water is that there is more water available upstream, but its volume and rate of flow is quite limited. Therefore, he uses all he can as it flows down through his property.

If the flow of water is increased in this river, this family will inevitably find new uses for water. This man will build a swimming pool for his children. If water flow still increases, he will build a water park and install a series of beautiful fountains on his property. No matter how much water comes down the river, there is never quite enough for him to really do everything he would like to do with water.

Finally, there is a third river and a man who lives along this river. His experience of life is that there is so much water up there in that snowfield that no one could ever use all the water coming down the river. Because of his understanding, this man begins digging canals to outlying areas to help water the fields of others who do not live near a river. He empties as much water as he can out through the canals he has dug, and there still seems to be more water flowing down the river that he can possibly use, so most of it still flows downstream for others to use.

Each year, this man digs a few new canals out to his neighbors, who need water. In the next year, he has a plan for another three canals. Then the following year, he is hoping to dig five new canals that can go out even further from this river. It seems like no matter how many canals he digs, there is just more water that keeps coming down the river. In fact, this man is thinking all the time about how he can hire some more men with more bulldozers to help dig canals faster to get water out to all the other farms that are far from the river. This man's experience of life is that he just cannot use up all that water coming down the river.

If the flow of water is increased in this river, the man living along this river will simply dig more canals to get more and more water out to help others.

On which river do you live?

It is our prayer that you will live authentically, mentor someone in stewardship, serve sacrificially, and speak life as you live on the third river.

### **The Finance & Stewardship Committee**

# STEWARDSHIP IS MORE THAN A PRINCIPLE; IT'S A WAY OF LIFE.

This 28-day devotional invites you to discover what it means to live as a faithful steward of all God has entrusted to you: your time, your talents, your finances, and your relationships. Through Scripture, reflection, and practical steps, you will be challenged to shift your perspective from ownership to trust, from scarcity to abundance, and from self-focus to kingdom purpose.

With each day's reading, you'll be encouraged to live authentically, mentor others, serve sacrificially, and speak life. You will explore what it looks like to hold resources loosely and responsibility tightly—living not as reservoir that hoards but as a river that flows.

The call is simple yet transformative: to see every gift as God's and to use it faithfully for His glory. The question is not whether you are a steward, but whether you will be a faithful one.

Come, step in the flow of the third river—and experience the joy of generosity that multiplies for beyond you.



**STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES**  
CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY