

# PERSONAL STEWARDSHIP

## I. ALL CHRISTAINS ARE SLAVES OF CHRIST AND STEWARDS OF GOD

A. *"Do business with this until I come back."* Luke 19:13, Colossians 3:23-24

B. As Christians, we have a spiritual gift which is needed in the church. The role God has for you relates to the spiritual gift He has given you. You don't want to be lazy, but you are to faithfully use your gift for the good of the church and the glory of God. 1 Peter 4:10

## II. THE WICKED AND LAZY SLAVE - Luke 19:20-25

A. This wicked slave didn't use his money for his master. He wasn't faithful because he didn't have a correct understanding of his master. He didn't see him as loving, kind and generous, but as harsh, mean and strict. Therefore, he was afraid of him, and didn't obey him. This represents the unbeliever, an unsaved person. Matthew 25:24-28

B. This slave is wicked. God is your master, and you are accountable to Him, and if you don't use what He gives you and serve Him, then you are wicked. Colossians 3:23-24

C. The slave is lazy. He is a sluggard. Proverbs 6:9, 10:26, 13:4, 20:4, 26:16. Help those people who are genuinely in need, but be very cautious in giving to those who are lazy.

D. God, at times, takes away a person's talents, his minas, his money. Luke 19:26. God is disciplining this person. Yet God also has mercy, and Jesus showed mercy; we too should be merciful. God will give you wisdom how and when to show mercy.

E. This is most encouraging and exciting that we can be stewards of the living God, that we can use the talents, time and treasure He gives us for His purposes and glory.

F. All people will give an account to God for how they used the gifts, the money, the abilities that He gave to them. Romans 14:5-12

## III. BEING GOOD STEWARDS OF THE TIME THAT GOD GAVE TO YOU

A. The time you have has been given to you by God. Learn to measure the length of your life in years, months or days. Psalm 139:16, Job 14:5, Psalm 90:12

B. The time God gives you relates to how He made you which relates to why He made you. How much time you have to live relates directly to who you are and what you are to do. God may cut the life of a person short. Herod, Ananias, Sapphira, 1 Cor. 11:28-30

C. The time you have is precious because you only have so much time. Typically, you only have 70-80 years. Your life then is very, very short. Job 14:5, James 4:14

D. The time you have to live is uncertain, from your perspective. None of you know if you will be alive tomorrow. Always say, "*Lord willing.*" Not knowing how long you will live should motivate you to live each day to the full. James 4:15, Luke 12:19-21, 1 Cor. 15:58

E. Number your days. This helps you to see that your time is a decreasing commodity. That is, your time on earth is getting less each day. Every day brings you one day closer to death, to leaving this earth and heading to heaven. Psalm 90:12

F. Your days have been designed by God. God makes days just for you - He gives days to you for a special reason. Psalm 118:24, Ephesians 5:17

G. Live one day at a time. Do not think about what happened yesterday, and don't worry about tomorrow. God created this world with 24 hour days for a reason. Do today what God has given you to do today. Matthew 6:33-34, Philippians 3:12-14

**BE CAREFUL HOW YOU WALK, NOT AS UNWISE MEN BUT AS WISE,  
MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR TIME, BECAUSE THE DAYS ARE EVIL.  
DO NOT BE FOOLISH, BUT UNDERSTAND THE WILL OF THE LORD.**

Ephesians 5:15-18

#### SOME QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND APPLICATION

1. What is the main thing that you believe God wants you to learn from this lesson?
2. What does it mean to you to be a steward of God?
3. Do you see how you are needed in the church? Do you see how you need others in the church?
4. Why was the third slave wicked and lazy? What was his problem? Do you see this in the world?
5. Take some time to think about giving an account to God of how you used your life.
6. Your time is precious, it is short, it is uncertain. What does this mean to you?
7. How are you doing at living one day at a time? In what ways can you improve?