

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Christians Stewardship

Christians living their spiritual lives in a material world must be sensitive to the responsibilities of stewardship. A child of God is constantly faced with such challenges as distorted values which can cause one to become obsessed with the pursuit, acquisition, and retention of material things and the false philosophy that material things provide the most important security.

Jesus Christ must have known that His disciples would face the perplexing problem of a valid relationship to material things because He warned against avarice and anxiety (Matthew 6:19-33). In a simple but profound story He informed His followers that ***“a man’s life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth”*** (Luke 12:15). In fact, our Lord did much teaching about the relationship of Christians to material things. He is the one who said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

The solution to the problem of the Christian and material things is found in the philosophy of stewardship. The Lord talked about a steward in one of His parables (Luke 16). Paul used the term “steward” in discussing the necessity of ministers being faithful. In this connection Paul made the following observation about stewards generally, ***“Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful”*** (I Corinthians 4:2).

Our English word “steward” is derived from two old English words: ‘sty’ was a place where cattle or swine were kept; the “ward” was the keeper. The word later, as in present usage, identified one who has something in trust.

The Christian philosophy of stewardship is based on the premise that the Christian belongs to the Lord. The body and spirit of the Christian belongs to the Lord (I Corinthians 6:19-10). Christians are, according to Paul, a people for the Lord’s own possession (Titus 2:14).

Based on the premise that the Christian belongs to the Lord is the next component of the Christian philosophy of stewardship, namely, everything the Christian has belongs to the Lord and the Christian holds the Lord’s property in a sacred trust.

This concept of stewardship will have a profound influence on the way the Christian both gives and uses that which in reality belongs to the Lord. Time, talents, influence and material things controlled by the Christian are things which belong to the Lord and which must be and will be conscientiously dispensed by the faithful Christian.

An inspired apostle, writing the commandments of the Lord (I Corinthians 14:37) instructed disciples to lay by in store on the first day of the week (I Corinthians 16:20). Men need to give on the first day of the week, not so much because God needs the money they can give as they need this kind of reminder that they are stewards of material things. God designed giving not to make money but to make men!

Yet the Christian’s responsibility is not satisfied by discharging this obligation to give on the first day of the week. How does he use the remaining portion of material things which God has entrusted to him?

Sincere stewards know that the responsibility for wisely using material things is not terminated by death. The Christian may through carelessness, indifference, or perhaps through ignorance, leave things he has held in trust for others to dispense as they see fit. Sadly, those who use or dispense the material possessions of a departed Christian may have no understanding of the concept of Christian stewardship. Consequently, things of a material nature which the Christian had held in trust may be used in a selfish or ungodly manner.

Saints of God are stewards of God. They want to use what God has entrusted to them in a way that will please their Lord and which brings honor to Him. Furthermore, they will, prior to death, make necessary arrangements so that their material possessions will be used in a way that is consistent with Christian ideals and purposes.

How are you using that which the Lord has entrusted to you? How will it be used after you have gone to meet the Lord? These questions take one to the vital center of Christian stewardship. Do you want things entrusted to you used in an ungodly way while you live? Then why would you permit it to happen after you have died?

One may make the necessary plans so that after death the material possessions held in trust will be entrusted to those who will be equally conscientious in their proper use as the one who previously held them in trust. Many through wills and other programs plan for the proper use of their resources after they have gone to eternity.

It would be tragic to be a faithful steward in life but an unfaithful one in death. This tragedy would be surpassed only by the person who is unfaithful in life and in death to the philosophy of Christian stewardship.

Prayer Requests

Doris Weakland (Allen's mother) who suffered a massive stroke on January 16th is in a rehab hospital in MI. Please keep her in your prayers that she will be to see some improvements.

Christy Weakland has requested prayers for her grandmother, **Opal Hager**, who was taken to the hospital last week. Opal has Sepsis in her body. Please keep Opal in your prayers that she receives the proper treatment for the Sepsis.

Rudy Ochoa will have a surgical procedure done tomorrow, January 29th, in Lubbock. Keep him in your prayers.

Concerns Updates

Glenna Callendar had a doctor's appointment Tuesday, January 23rd as a follow up. She has seen some improvement in her breathing but it could be better. Glenna is feeling much better now.

Arthur Campos (Sylvia's husband) who fell a couple of weeks ago in Austin and broke five ribs ended up back at the hospital last Wednesday due to a punctured lung apparently caused by a broken rib. Three cups of blood was drawn from his lung. Arthur is breathing much better now. He got home Saturday, January 20th; his recovery time will be 4–6 weeks. Keep him in your prayers.

Prayer List

Mary Anchondo; Tom Bauer; Elsie Bradford; Bill & Mary Brown; Bill Butler; Harold Carrigan; David Castor; Sue Dahlen; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Glenda Driver; Dana Erwin; John Ford; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Maria Guzman; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambright; Glenda Hillis; Janis Laminack; Betty Leeth; Kristen Limb; Eliseo Lopez; Glenna McCarty; Russ Montgomery; Tanya Nichols; Curtis Parum; Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Russel Rosser; Elvia Ruckman; Montrella Ruffner; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; Velma Tolbert; Lauria Troutz; Marilyn Upshaw; Jurlean Warren; Jimmy Weaver; Lisa Wells; Wanda Wheeler; Ann Wilson; Glenda Winkley; Charles Wood; John Wood; Jack Wright.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Robertta Hamil; Janis Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Maxine Newton; Janelle Shirley; and Lester Whisenant.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Paul was taken from Jerusalem in the custody of Roman soldiers to the country of Caesarea, where he was presented to the governor. Who was governor of Caesarea?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

The Apostle Paul was shipwrecked on the island of Melita.

Events

Watch **"In Search of the Lord's Way"** every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the **"Speaking the Truth in Love"** program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

The Sheffield Church of Christ is hosting a **"Gospel Meeting"** with Weylan Deaver starts today and goes through Wednesday. We have posted their flyer on our bulletin board showing the times of the services.

Office News

The “New Mexico Children’s Home” will be in Odessa for a food drive pickup on February 27th, 2018. They are requesting **(Juices (all kinds))**. Monetary donations are also accepted.

The “Thank You” notes from the “NMCCCH are on the table in the foyer. If you sent a gift to a child, your note is on the table.

“You Will Be Missed”

In I Samuel 20:18, Jonathan told David, ‘Tomorrow is the New Moon; and you will be missed, because your seat will be empty.’”

Because of David’s valor, first proved to Saul in David’s defeat of the giant Goliath, and later in his success in battle exploits against Israel’s enemies, David had been privileged by the king to sit at his table. Thus, he was expected and if he was not present, he would be “missed.”

Every Christian should remember and be thankful that through Christ’s grace our Savior has invited us to participate in His kingdom, and to sit at His Table (Col 1:13; I Cor. 10:21). So, if we willfully forsake the assembling of the saints, we will be missed both by the Lord and by His people. To be guilty of such is to fail to see the privilege that Christ has given us and is to show contempt for the church for which Christ died! That is a high crime (Heb. 10:25).

Sunset church of Christ

Shreveport, LA

	A.M.	P.M.
January 28th, 2018		
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Rudy Ochoa	Cody Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Larry May	Josh Wells
Second Prayer	Bill Tolbert	John Wood
Closing Prayer	Mike Roemisch	Charles Wood
Lord's Supper		
West...	Dex Dennard Jacob Carson Tommy Garcia	Craig Wesson Communion (In Library)
East...	Josh Wells Bill Ryan Don Easlon	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson 561-5302 *Deacon*: John Wood 413-7444 *Pulpit*: Richard Siler 556-2150 *Table*: Craig Wesson 934-4633; *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties*: Chris Butler 362-7486; *Collections*: Chris Butler 362-7486

Sunday AM

“One Needful Question”
(John 5:1-15)

Sunday PM

“Spiritual Appetite”
(Proverbs 27:7)