

Stewards Not Owners

Part 1 – Biblical Financial Stewardship

- I. **God owns everything.**
 - A. God owns everything because He created everything (Genesis 1:1, 29-30; 2:8-17; 9:3; Psalm 24:1; 50:9-12).
 - B. We don't "own" anything because we don't take it with us (Job 1:21; 1 Timothy 6:7; Ecclesiastes 5:15)

- II. **We are stewards, not owners.**
 - A. Stewards manage the property of others and are given greater privilege if they are faithful (Genesis 39:4-6; 41:37-39; 1 Corinthians 4:2).
 - B. When we are trustworthy stewards of our finances, God can trust us spiritually as well (Luke 16:10-12).
 - How much we have does not indicate our spirituality; how we manage what we have does.
 - Every financial decision is a spiritual decision.

- III. **Stewards think different than owners.**
 - A. Stewards realize work is a gift – God enables us to earn the money we have (Deuteronomy 8:17-18; 1 Chronicles 29:12).
 - B. Stewards are grateful and content – We are stewards when we are grateful about what we have and content about what we don't have (Philippians 4:12,18).
 - C. Stewards give willingly – God asks for a "tithe" so we can express that He owns it all and that we trust Him to provide our needs (Malachi 3:10).
 - D. Stewards can enjoy blessings – God enables us to have many good things to enjoy. (1 Timothy 6:17).