 Study # 20

Tithing & Stewardship

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Lesson Commenced: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lesson Checked: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This lesson goes right to the heart of your relationship with God. Many Christians are "found out" here because their lives are motivated by SELF rather than the SPIRIT of God.

Salvation is a free gift from God! Eternal security is a sure promise of God! In other words, we DO NOTHING to get saved or remain saved. Praise God for this!

When we are born again, we are adopted into the family of God. We are his children, and He is our Heavenly Father. In any family the children have responsibilities, and in this study, you are going to learn about your own responsibilities as a member of God's family. Once you are in God’s family “the Body of Christ” you are there to stay. There is no such thing as getting out of God’s family. God is a much better Father than given credit for. To some of you, that was probably just what you needed to hear. To others, it might have been frightening a little. Either way, this lesson is going to show you some of the character of His Son Jesus Christ “your Saviour” that your Father expects you now to be concerned about. Hallelujah!

Principles of Stewardship

Before you go any further into this lesson, it is absolutely vital that you see and understand these principles:

1. Read ***Psalms 24:1*** “The earth is the \_ \_ \_ \_’ \_.”

***Haggai 2:8*** says “The \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ is mine, and the \_ \_ \_ \_.”

***Exodus 19:5*** says “...for all the \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ is \_ \_ \_ \_.”

Principle #1 Everything belongs to God

1. Read ***Genesis 39:1-6***

1. Who was the master in this story? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

2. Who was the servant in this story? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

3. According to verse 4, what was Joseph made? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

4. According to verse 4, what was put into Joseph's hand? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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Principle #2

Stewardship is the management of the affairs of another

1. Read ***Matthew 25:14,15***

To whom did the Lord entrust his wealth? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Principle #3 E \_ \_ \_ \_ Christian is a steward

***Romans 14:12***

1. Read ***1 Corinthians 4:2***

Principle # 4

It is required of stewards that they be found F \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

Stewardship is often misunderstood - many think it relates only to MONEY. Money is part of God's plan for stewardship, and it is important enough to be considered in some detail later, but it is only part of God's overall plan for you.

Before looking at some of the areas requiring our stewardship, write out the four principles you have just learned:

Principle #1 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Principle #2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Principle #3 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Principle #4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Some areas of Stewardship

Every good thing we have is called a \_ \_ \_ \_ which comes from God. ***James 1:17*** As stewards, you and I are responsible to God in the use of such things. Below are some of the more obvious areas over which we have been made stewards.

Stewardship of Time

1. According to ***Ephesians 5:16*** we are to \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ the **time**. This means to make every minute count for God. Our **time** should be as profitable and meaningful as possible.

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1. According to ***James 4:14*** our **time** on earth is compared to a v \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (in the light of eternity).

1. From reading ***Romans 13:11,12*** what kind of Christian do you think the Lord wants you to be? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. According to ***2 Timothy 2:4*** what is one of the greatest stumblingblocks for Christians in the management of God-given **time**? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. According to ***Hebrews 10:25*** what is one area in which we are to give back to God the **time** He gives to us? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
4. How much of your **time** do you spend for the Lord? Are you happy with it? Is the Lord happy with it? What could be better? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Consider the opportunities available in your church:

Sunday School

Sunday Morning Preaching

Training Hour

Sunday Evening Preaching

Wednesday Service & Prayer

Visitation

TOTAL ........

1 hour

1 hour

1 hour

1 hour

1 hour

1 hour

7 hours

7 hours per week is less than 5% of the total **time** God gives us. It is about 7% of our total hours awake, and if we have a 40-hour-a-week job, it is about 10% of our "available" **time**.

Spending **time** is not hard to figure out. People spend **time** with the things they **WANT** to. Drunks spend **time** with the bottle, dope heads spend **time** with the needle, whoremongers spend **time** with whores, the greedy spend **time** with coveting, the worldly spend **time** with the world, carpenters spend **time** with wood, farmers spend **time** with the earth and Christians spend **time** with...? What do you think Christians should spend **time** with? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. ***Luke 12:34***

Stewardship of Our Talents

Read ***Matthew 25:14-30*** This is a parable the Lord Jesus spoke to teach stewardship. In contrasting this parable with ***Luke 19:11-27*** we also see the Lord teaches stewardship. There are differences in these parables doctrinally we will not mention now. But, “spiritually” we can and should learn the Lords mind concerning ‘stewardship’ of the things He **has given us**. We will use ***Matthew*** in this portion to learn the lesson.

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1. What did the Lord give to His servants? T \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

In Bible days a talent was an expensive coin, but it also can refer spiritually to natural God-given abilities such as gifts.

1. Did every servant receive a talent? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Did every servant receive the same number of talents? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. What was the basis of the Lord's dispensing of responsibility to His servants? See ***verse 15*** “...each man according to his several \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.
4. According to ***verse 19***, what did the Lord do when He came back? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. What did the Lord say to those who had been good stewards? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Answer the following questions as either TRUE or FALSE

**T F**

* 1. I have been given at least one talent.
  2. l am to use my talent(s) for Christ.
  3. I will not have to give an account to the Lord

for my talents.

* 1. If I don't use it, I'll lose it.
  2. My major concern should be to see how many

talents I have been given.

1. Many Christians throw up their hands and say, *“I CAN'T do anything for the Lord!”* What does ***Philippians 4:13*** have to say about such an altitude? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Read ***1 Corinthians 12:12-27*** This passage likens the Church to a “body,” calling it the “**Body of Christ**.” Each individual member is like a part of the human body.
2. We cannot all be the same thing - ***verse 19***

1. God has put you into the body for a definite function, as it pleases Him - ***Verse 18***
2. Every member of the Body is N \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ - ***verse 22***

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Stewardship of Our Testimony

1. According to ***Philippians 2:15*** we are to “shine as \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ in the world.”

1. According to ***Matthew 5:14-16*** good stewardship involves \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. According to ***1 Peter 3:15*** we are to “…be \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ always to give an \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:”

Stewardship of Our Treasure

The same principles of stewardship which apply to our time, talents, and testimony are given for the management of our MONEY. ALL the money you have and receive IS GOD'S. If you really pay attention to your Bible when you are reading it concerning what you own, you will find that you do not **OWN** anything here. Anytime the Lord refers to your **STUFF**, it is called your **POSSESSION**. We have to agree with the Lord. No **U-hauls** behind **Hearses**. When the Scriptures speak of your “Inheritance,” it is over there, not here. ***Luke 12:34***

Look up ***Deuteronomy 8:18***

Even though we may earn our money through the labor we put forth, this verse tells us it is the \_ \_ \_ \_ thy \_ \_ \_ who gives us power (ability) to get it. The stewardship of God's money is usually referred to in the Bible as “TITHES and OFFERINGS.”

The following Scriptures will teach you what the Bible says concerning tithes and offerings:

1. Look up and compare ***Genesis 14:20*** with ***Hebrews 7:2*** What is a tithe? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. What would be a tithe from $200.00? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
2. Is the practice of tithing for New Testament Christians?
3. Some people (*usually those who do not want to tithe*) say tithing was an Old Testament practice for Jews only. It was given under the Law; and the Christian is not under the Law, but under Grace - ***Romans 6:14b***. However, look at the following Scriptures:

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A \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

J \_ \_ \_ \_

M \_ \_ \_ \_

M \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

J \_ \_ \_ \_

G \_ \_

P \_ \_ \_

Commenced it

Continued it

Confirmed it

Commanded it

Commended it

Commissioned it

Conformed it

***Genesis 14:18-20***

***Genesis 28:20-22***

***Leviticus 27:30***

***Malachi 3:10***

***Matthew 23:23***

***1 Corinthians 9:14***

***1 Corinthians 16:2***

An insincere person can make the Bible say whatever they want it to say. But a sincere and honest person who wants to do what God’s will is, and compares Scripture with Scripture cannot help but come up with what conclusion above. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. A study of these Scriptures shows that tithing is a SCRIPTURAL PRINCIPLE. Abraham and Jacob tithed 500 years **BEFORE** the Law was instituted. Moses, Malachi, and Jesus spoke of tithing **DURING** the period of the Law. The Apostle Paul explained tithing **AFTER** the Law. What could be clearer! Christians ought to tithe!
2. How should Christians practice tithing?
3. Look up: ***2 Corinthians 5:14*** Under the Law tithing was commanded. Under Grace, we do not tithe legalistically, but because we love the Lord.

“For the l \_ \_ \_ of C \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ c \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ us; because we thus judge, that

if one died for all, then were all dead:”

1. Do you think God would ask less love, less faith, and less cheerful giving from a New Testament Christian than from a Jew under the Law? Tithing, for the Christian, is not a matter of bondage. It is an honor! Your tithing relationship is between you and the Lord, not you and the assembly, or the assembly and the Lord.
2. Where should a Christian place his or her tithe?
3. According to ***Malachi 3:10*** tithes were to be brought into the \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_. For the Jews, this storehouse was the treasury of the Temple at Jerusalem.

1. According to ***Acts 4:35,37*** and ***Acts 5:2*** the Christians brought their tithes and offerings to the A \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ F \_ \_ \_.
2. According to ***1 Corinthians 16:2*** we are to lay up our giving in s \_ \_ \_ \_. (Keep or lay aside for future use.) Subsequent verses show this **store**house was the assembly at Corinth, to whom the Epistle was initially addressed, which was someone’s house.
3. Today the storehouse for your tithe is “your’ Bible Believing” assembly.

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1. Why are we to place our tithe into our Church?
2. ***Malachi 3:10 says*** “…that there may be \_ \_ \_ \_ in my \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.”

The tithes and offerings were used for the Temple and the Temple ministry (i.e., the priests, upkeep of the Temple etc.) ***Ephesians 4:12, 13***

1. Read ***1 Corinthians 9:13,14*** ***verse 13*** relates to the Old Testament practice, and ***verse*** ***14*** carries this principle over to New Testament churches.
2. ***2 Corinthians 9:6-8*** “But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as h \_ p \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ in h \_ \_ h \_ \_ \_ \_, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ having all s \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ in all

t \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, may abound to every good work:”

1. What does God call us if we refuse to tithe? ***Malachi 3:8*** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­­­
2. What is the promise God gives to those who faithfully tithe? ***Malachi 3:10*** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Whose is the tithe? ***Leviticus 27:30*** The L \_ \_ \_’ \_

Ten percent of your gross income IS NOT YOURS – it belongs to God.

1. How can I please my Lord when tithing?

1. ***Matthew 6:33*** - Give the Lord \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ place in everything.

1. ***Proverbs 3:9*** - Honor the Lord with my \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ fruits. (This means to lay aside the tithe first before all other bills and expenses are paid. If you leave the tithe until last, God usually misses out.)
2. ***1 Corinthians 16:2*** – Lay up the tithe on the \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ day.

What About an Offering?

Many people would feel they have done God a great favor just by tithing! But we do not GIVE the tithe, it's not ours to give. Only after we have faithfully tithed can we give an offering unto the Lord.

1. ***Malachi 3:8*** speaks of “tithes AND \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.”

1. Tithing requires an obedient heart, but giving requires a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ heart.

***Exodus 35:5***

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1. Study ***Ezra 1:4; 3:5; 7:16; 8:28*** The Bible refers to offerings as \_ \_ \_ \_

\_ \_ \_ \_ offerings.

1. According to ***2 Corinthians 8:5*** the people in the churches of Macedonia first \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ to the Lord.

1. According to ***2 Corinthians 9:7*** what kind of giver does God love? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. If we tithe and also give an offering, will the Lord allow us to suffer and go without the necessities of life? ***2 Corinthians 9:8*** ­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Having studied the Word of God concerning the subject of Tithes and Offerings, and realizing it is God's perfect will for me to obey Him by tithing systematically on my increase, I now resolve to make tithing a practice in my life as commanded. I also of my own free will intend on offering gifts unto the Lord as moved, to show my love and appreciation to Him for all that He has done for me. Amen.

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

MEMORIZATION:

Try to commit to memory ***Luke 6:38***

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