

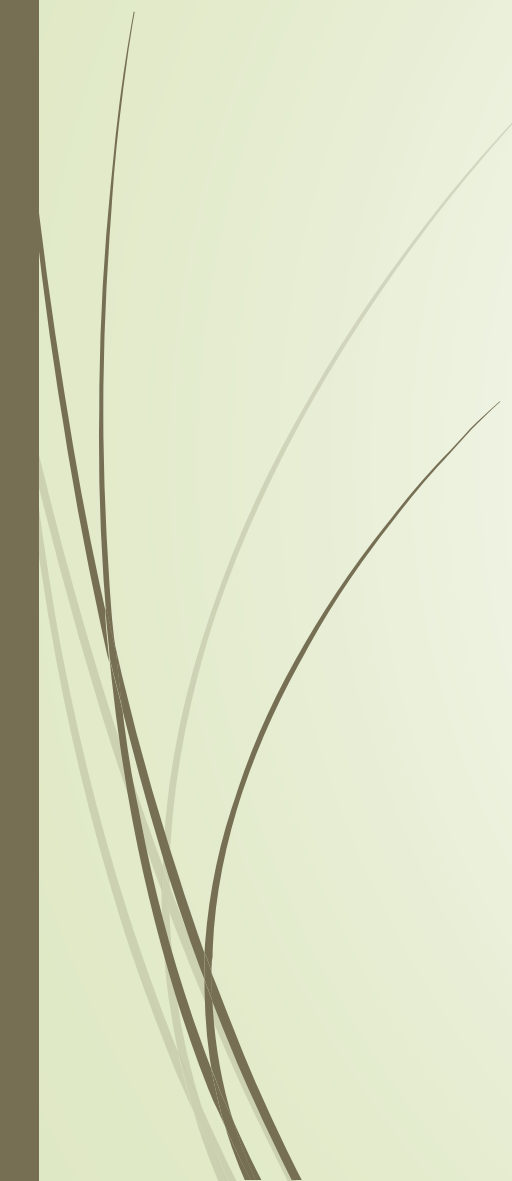


Managers in God's Household

The Second Side of Stewardship



On the Menu

- Basic Concepts
 - Basic Exegesis
 - Basic Implications
 - Discussion!
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Basic Concepts





Three Questions for Stewards



To whom am I responsible?



For what am I responsible?



For whom am I responsible?



To Whom

- God
 - He owns all
 - He only is the giver...
 - It is the Lord Christ whom we serve.



For What


- Roles
- Opportunities
- Abilities
- Possessions



For Whom

- ▶ Fellow believers
- ▶ Those around us
- ▶ Those under our charge
- ▶ Those God intends us to bless

Basic Exegesis



Oikonomos (οἰκονόμος)

- Steward, Household-manager, Servant-manager
- Slave in charge of a household (oikos, οἶκος)
 - Think extended social and economic unit
 - Think (a) church as God's household



Structure of Stewardship

- ▶ Luke 12:42-45 “Who then is the faithful wise **manager** whom the master will put in charge over his servants to give *them their* food allowance at the right time? ⁴³ Blessed *is* that slave whom his master will find so doing *when he* comes back. ⁴⁴ Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions. ⁴⁵ But if that slave should say *to himself*, ‘My master is taking a long time to return,’ and he begins to beat the male slaves and the female slaves and to eat and drink and get drunk, ...



Stewardship of Time and Money

- ▶ See David Adams' discussion of the Parable of the Unjust Steward and of historic Christian use of that parable.
 - ▶ <https://strengthtostrength.org/king-and-country-the-kings-stories/>



Stewardship of Abilities

- ▶ 1 Peter 4:9-11 Be hospitable to one another without complaining.
¹⁰ Just as each one has received a gift, *use it for serving one another, as good **stewards** of the varied grace of God.* ¹¹ If anyone speaks, *let it be as the oracles of God; if anyone serves, let it be as by the strength that God provides, so that in all things God will be glorified through Jesus Christ,*



Stewardship of Knowledge

- ▶ 1 Corinthians 3:21-4:22 So then, let no one boast in people. For all *things* are yours, ²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things present or things to come, all *things* are yours, ²³ and you *are* Christ's, and Christ *is* God's. Thus let a person consider us as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. ² In this case, moreover, it is sought in stewards that one be found faithful.




Stewardship as a leadership role


- ▶ Titus 1:5-8 I left you behind in Crete, in order that what remains may be set in order and you may appoint elders in every town, ... it is necessary *for* the overseer to be blameless as God's steward, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not violent, not greedy for dishonest gain, ⁸ but hospitable,




Basic Implications



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- Stewardship is not about saving so much as using.

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- We are stewards of just about any role, opportunity, or ability we might have.

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- ➔ What we have been given is to bless the community we find ourselves in. These communities come in various sizes, sometimes up to the whole human race.



Your Turn!