

Faith Christian Fellowship
Sunday, September 15, 2013
Faithful Stewards 1

TEXT: 1Co 4:1-6

We are God's kids and enjoy many privileges based entirely on that fact. We will, however, one day be evaluated based on how faithful we have been as stewards of what He has given each of us. It is required!

- ❖ You are a steward of things that belong to God.
 - What is a steward
 - Steward = gr. *oikonómos*; An administrator, a house manager, overseer, steward.
 - Dictionary: someone who protects or is responsible for money, property, etc.; a person whose job is to manage the land and property of another person
 - Notice the purpose is to bring profit and blessing to the owner and his household. Lk 12:41-48
 - What has God given you to administrate on His behalf? Time, Body, Money, Gifts, A message
 - How will you be evaluated?
 - Faithful –
 - Dependable even when no one is watching.
 - Thinking of what is best for the owner, not self-interest.
 - Not by comparison to others, but by comparison to what He gave you. Do what you know to do – what is written and what He has spoken to you.
- ❖ Steward your time
 - We all have one raw material that is unchanging. Our life span on earth is measured in finite segments of time. How we use it determines our fruitfulness. Ephesians 5:15-17
 - Ephesians 5:16 BBE Making good use of the time, because the days are evil.
 - Colossians 4:5 NLT Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity.
 - **You are using time right now.** The question is are you using it well or poorly. Time is unsave-able! You spend it without doing anything. How will you spend yours?

- The cost of every minute is the same. What you do with it determines its value.
- **Remember: Your time is much more precious than money. You can always use time to get money.**
 - Ps 90:12 Teach us to number our days and recognize how few they are; help us to spend them as we should. TLB
 - Ecclesiastes 12:1 Don't let the excitement of youth cause you to forget your Creator. Honor Him in your youth before you grow old and say, "Life is not pleasant anymore." (Ecc 12:1 NLT)
 - Careful planning puts you ahead in the long run; hurry and scurry puts you further behind. (Pro 21:5 MSG)
- ❖ Steward your body
 - You live in a rented temple. 1 Corinthians 6:19,20
 - Your body was purchased with the blood just as surely as your spirit.
 - He bought it to be a residence for Himself
 - Note verse 12. It won't send you to hell, but it sure ain't good for you
 - Notice 1 Cor 3:16-17. Don't abuse the temple
 - Philippians 2:25-30 God's laws prescribe rest (Sabbath) and nourishment. Failure to obey will cause [physical issues].
 - Jesus ate and rested. Mark 6:31 / John 4:6
 - It is a good thing to have times of joy and be lighthearted. Pr 17:22 / Prov 12:25 / Prov 15:13 / Prov 18:14 / Eccl 9:7-9
 - **Healthy living is good.** 1 Tim 4:8. 1Ti 4:8 GW Training the body helps a little, but godly living helps in every way. Godly living has the promise of life now and in the world to come.
 - We don't preach diet, but we do have some common sense.
 - Sometimes it is wisdom to go to a doctor to do everything possible from the natural to combat disease. Doctors are on our side, they don't like sickness. They are just often not aware of the spiritual aspects of the temple. **Doctors are highly trained maintenance men, temple custodial staff.**

Until you value yourself, you won't value your time. Until you value your time, you will not do anything with it.

M. Scott Peck