

Bless This Mess Part One

Being A Good Steward

Introduction

Read: Luke 19:12-26

1. The passage we just read shows us how important stewardship is to God. When God entrusts us with resources, He wants us to be good stewards of them!
2. We can mess up the time, talents, skills and gifts that God has given to us, or we can invest them in reaching our generation!
3. Being a good steward begins in our everyday lifestyles and choices we make.
4. Being the best steward you can be takes discipline, focus and action. Let's delve into some steps we can immediately take to embark on becoming a better steward of our lives!

I. Be Focused On The Tasks Given To Us

- A. The servants knew exactly what their king wanted them to accomplish while he was away – invest the resources he had given them (v13).**
- B. Ask God what tasks need to be accomplished in this season of our lives.**
E.g. Set aside 15 minutes this coming week to ask and hear from God what He wants us to focus doing; spend one meal to fast and pray for God's will for any new seasons in our lives, etc.
- C. Learn time management methods from others who maximise their time well (Read John 9:4).**
- D. Identify and remove time-wasters from our daily schedules.**
Set alarms, reminders or whatever it takes to rid ourselves of unnecessary activities.

Discuss!

Connect group leader to facilitate sharing with the Connect Group members.

What are some things that have been major time-wasters?

E.g. Mindlessly scrolling through social media, binge-watching YouTube or dramas, gossiping etc.

II. Plan To Grow In Stewarding

- A. Two of the servants invested the money well, pleasing the king, but the third servant didn't have a plan to grow what he was given (v17-20).**

B. Don't do the same things and expect new results.

E.g. If God is calling us to a new level of commitment, we can't stay with our old schedules, but would have to make time for God!

C. Don't take shortcuts.

Put in effort to plan how to use our resources given to us!

Good planning and hard work lead to prosperity, but hasty shortcuts lead to poverty.

- Proverbs 21:5

D. Commit these plans in prayer to God (Read Proverbs 16:9).

III. Stick To The Plans We Make

A. The king's servants had to do something with the resources that were given to them, but they also had to be patient for the growth to happen.

B. Even when we don't see results, continue sticking to our plans.

E.g. When a new study plan doesn't seem to work immediately, evaluate it and keep working on it, etc.

C. Choose to continue praising God and declaring the breakthrough.

D. Stop talking, start moving.

Don't complain but just keep working! Results are sure to come with hard work!

Conclusion

1. We need to recognise what needs to be accomplished for the season we are in.
2. Breakthrough comes with good planning to grow what God has given us to steward.
3. Trust that God is for us, but also take action to see God mold us into who He wants us to be.

Prayer Points:

- a) Pray to help us focus on the tasks God has given us.
- b) Pray for willingness to let go of bad stewardship habits.
- c) Commit to sticking to the plans for ourselves and our Connect Group launches this year.

**Give opportunities for visitors to receive Christ and members to re-dedicate their lives to Jesus.*