

“STEWARDING GOD’S WILL” (Part 1)

Sunday, January 22, 2017

Reminder: In this series, we are placing a special emphasis on *service* and *responsibility*—**our responsibility in serving God in the sphere of influence He has placed each one of us in.**

1 Corinthians 4:2 Moreover it is **required** in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

1 Thessalonians 5:24 Faithful *is* **He** that calleth you, **Who** also will do *it*.

Whatever God calls you to do, remember that He is faithful to give you the grace to do it. Seek to be a faithful steward of God.

MAKE A COMMITMENT: WILL YOU COMMIT TO DOING WHATEVER GOD WILL SAY TO YOU IN THIS MESSAGE?

† Stewarding Your Time

Keeping in mind that every moment is a gift from God:

- Wasting time – failing to use it or squandering it in idleness and on our own pleasures.
- Spending our time – using it for our own purposes.
- Investing our time – using it for God’s purposes and pleasures.

As Christians, our mindset should be the pursuit of Christ as we invest in eternity by **investing** in people. Our almighty God should be our focus. Bringing Him pleasure as we serve our families and friends; as we spend time in ministry for His glory.

I. Stewarding *Life’s Principles* (v. 15)

Our stewardship of *life’s principles* is living by God’s designed principles. It is allowing God to lead us, thus orchestrating the events of our lives.

When we “*walk in wisdom*” we live according to God’s standard of living.

II. Stewarding Your *Limited Privileges* (v. 16)

- A. Our time is *limited*
- B. Our time is a *privilege*
- C. Our time is a *temptation*

Psalm 90:12 So teach *us* to number [*to weigh out / consider*] our days, that we may apply *our* hearts unto wisdom.

III. Stewarding the *Lord's* _____ (v. 17)

“...but understanding what the will of the Lord is.” – Having “*understanding*” literally is to put together—it is to comprehend intellectually.

Q: Are you investing in eternity by investing your time in God’s Word and in prayer? Your ability to minister to others is dependent upon this wise investment.

Q: Are you investing in eternity by investing in people—loving your wife, spending time with your children, witnessing to your co-workers, encouraging your Godly friends and ministering to others?

† Stewarding God’s Will

Q: How do you steward God’s will?

Consider the marks of one who does the will of God.

I. They are marked by _____ (1 Timothy 2:3-4)

John 17:3 And this is life eternal, that they might know **Thee** the only true **God**, and **Jesus Christ, Whom Thou** hast sent.

2 Peter 3:9 The **Lord** is not slack concerning [*slow to fulfill*] **His** promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Cf. Galatians 1:4

Mark 3:35 For whosoever shall do the will of **God**, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother.

II. They are marked by being _____ (Ephesians 5:18)

Being *Spirit-filled* is dependent upon our yieldedness to God's will. Consider Philippians 2:13.

"*His good pleasure*" is seen in the "*fruit of the Spirit*" (Galatians 5:22-23).

Paul commands the believer to live continually under the influence of the Holy Spirit. This is done by letting the Word of God *saturate* them, pursuing pure lives of *sanctification* through confessing all known sin, dying to self (*sacrificing* self), surrendering to God's will in *submission*, and depending on His *strength* in all things.

III. They are marked by saturation (Colossians 3:16)

J.O. Sanders – "*Being Filled With the Spirit*" – A walk in the Spirit will of necessity be a walk in accordance with the Word the Spirit has inspired. The parallel between Eph 5:18-21 and Col 3:15-17 is significant. The same results are said to flow from being filled with the Spirit in the first case, and being filled with the Word in the second. To remain filled with the Spirit, and thus enjoy His continuing sanctifying work, will mean continuing to be filled with the Word. The relationship is obvious. Source: *Enjoying Intimacy With God*

**A. The needs for _____ saturation—meditation
(James 1:21-25)**

As you open the Word, cry out to the Lord, “*show me what You want me to know about You!*” James tells us, “*if you want to be a doer of the Word, and not just a hearer, you must diligently look into the perfect Law of liberty.*”

Psalm 1:2 But his delight *is* in the law of the **LORD**; and in **His** law doth he meditate day and night.

Psalm 119:15 I will meditate in **Thy** precepts, and have respect unto **Thy** ways.

**B. There needs to be _____ study—memorization
(2 Timothy 2:15).**

Psalm 119:11 **Thy** Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against **Thee**.

Consider what God has clearly revealed, to us, in His Word with regards His will for our lives and in turn consider the implications of doing His clearly revealed will.

Next week we will continue to look at further aspects of God’s revealed will in order to help us see how to “*delight in His Word.*”

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