

“STEWARDING GOD’S MERCY” (Part 2)

Sunday, February 26, 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 God’s Mercy (Romans 12:1)**

Premise: The perspective we maintain as we go through this life is of utmost importance. *Attitude* leads to *action*. Right thinking leads to right living. In order to live right we must think right. In order to live Godly we must think Godly. Our success in our pursuit of holiness is dependent upon a mind renewed with God’s truth.

I. The _____ of Self in how I Think (Proverbs 23:7)

Our hearts must be bent towards God and in turn our mouths will follow.

Matthew 12:34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

It is imperative that the greatest influence upon our hearts are Godly influences. **The three greatest influences** of the Christian: the *Word* of God, the *Spirit* of God, and the *people* of God.

II. The _____ Service in How I Think (Romans 12:1)

Galatians 5:13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only *use* not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, **but by love serve one another.**

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the **Lord**, are changed [*metamorphosis*] into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the **Spirit** of the **Lord**.

Notice what we are changed into “*the same image*” is the “*same image*” that we are dwelling upon with a holy gaze.

This change has been described by the process whereby the *Spirit of God* takes the *Word of God* and changes us to become like the *Son of God*.

A. Remember your _____ —“*the mercies of God*” (v. 1)

“*Mercy*” – It is pity, a heart of compassion. It is deserved punishment withheld.

Paul paints quite an ugly picture of who we were outside of Christ (Ephesians 2:2-3).

Ephesians 2:4-5 BUT **God, Who** is rich in mercy, for **His** great love wherewith **He** loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with **Christ**, (by grace ye are saved;)

Problem: when we suffer from **debt amnesia** we fail to steward the “*mercies of God*” —we fail to remember our pardon; we fail to remember all that has been done for us.

When we fail to *remember our pardon*, we fail to bring God glory in the way that we live our lives.

B. Remember your _____ —“*a living sacrifice*” (v. 1)

“*present your bodies*” – The word “*present*” literally means to stand near or place beside, putting at one’s disposal.

Romans 6:13 Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto **God**, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto **God**.

The way that we serve God reflects our view of His mercy.

When we consider the worship that we are offering up to God, let us ask ourselves a few questions:

1. Is it _____?

Q: Is my sacrifice set apart from sin?

2. Is it _____?

Q: Does God agree with my worship?

3. Is it _____?

Q: Is my worship a logical response based upon the “*mercies of God*”—all that God has done for me?

Q: Does the type of worship that I offer to God a logical response to all that He has done for me?

Remember Who has saved you. *Remember Who* has called you to be like **Him**. *Remember* what **He** did for you. Remember God’s mercy.

Philippians 1:21 For to me to live *is Christ*, and to die *is gain*.

Paul’s goal for us in v. 1 is that we would be *motivated* by “*the mercies of God*” to “*present*” ourselves as a willing, “*living sacrifice*” in our worship and that our worship would be “*holy*,” “*acceptable*” and “*reasonable service*” to God—that our worship would be a “thought through” kind of worship where Christ is the focus and not the Christian. Paul’s goal for each of us is that we are **intentional** in the way in which we worship the Lord.

C. Resist the _____ —“*be not conformed*” (v. 2)

Failing to daily renew our minds is to choose to be conformed to this world.

Colossians 3:23 And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the **Lord**, and not unto men;

Cf. Galatians 1:4


For the Christian being “*conformed to this world*” carries the idea of acting in such a way as to fail to properly reveal their redeemed nature within. *This is a hypocritical lifestyle.*

1 Peter 1:14-15 As obedient children, not fashioning [*conforming*] yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: **15** But as **He** which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;

Colossians 3:10 And have put on the new *man*, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of **Him** that created him:

Until we begin the process of surrendering ourselves to the work of the Holy Spirit in renewing our mind we will fall short of understanding and living out God’s “*good, and acceptable, and perfect will.*”

What is my next step?

| | |
|--|---|
|  <p>PINE ISLAND BIBLECHURCH</p> | <p>9 Little Brooklyn Rd, Warwick, NY 10990 pastor@PIBCNY.com / www.PIBCNY.com / John Lashuay, Pastor</p> |
|--|---|