

# **New Bethel CIC Church**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023  
BACK TO BASIC



HIS LORDSHIP, OUR STEWARDSHIP,  
MY DISCIPLESHIP

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# His Lordship

Lesson Aim:

**To know the 4 scriptures' principles that reveal the Lordship of God.**

**To identify the obstacles to living a Christ Like Life.**

**To know the Scripture's definition of Stewardship.**

Introduction

There is nothing more important to Christian growth than the proper understanding and practice of "Christian Stewardship." The teaching of the New Testament on this subject sums up all of Christian life and duty. Good habits of stewardship should be formed early in the life of a Christian.

The Enemy to the Christ-Like Life

When this is done they will serve as strong deterrents against the (wiles of the devil) selfishness, carelessness, and worldliness. 1 John 2:16; Eph.6:11

There are four basic principles of "Christian Stewardship" outlined in Scripture:

1. God Is the Creator, Owner, And Giver Of All Things. (1 Cor. 4:7, Gen 1:1, Psa 24:1, Rom 8:32)
2. All We Are And Have, We Received From God As A Trust (1 Cor. 4:7, 1 Cor. 4:2, James 1:17)
3. We Are To Acknowledge Our Stewardship By Devoting A Definite Portion To The Lord's Work (Lev 27:30, 32)
4. We Must All Give A Final Account Of Our Stewardship To God (Luke 16:2, Rom 14:12)

Christian stewardship is simply recognizing Jesus Christ as Lord

(1) Of Our Lives, (2) Of Our Talents, (3) Of Our Time, (4) Of Our Treasures (5) Of Our Discipleship

# Lesson 1 — HIS LORDSHIP OF OUR LIVES

All aspects of “Christian Stewardship” begin by recognizing the “Ownership/Lordship of God” over all we are and have.

The following Scriptures present “God’s Ownership” of mankind:

- Deuteronomy 32:6
- Ezekiel 18:4
- Romans 14:8
- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

In 1 Cor. 6:19-20 Paul sets forth the plain and proper perspective of “Our Stewardship” and of “Christ’s Lordship” of our lives:

1. “YE ARE NOT YOUR OWN” — Life itself is a gift from God! No man possesses himself. Moses pointed out that God has a two-fold claim to every human life: “Is not He (the Lord) thy Father that hath bought thee? Hath He not made thee, and established thee?” (Deut 32:6).
  - God’s First Claim On All Men Is Because Of Creation — “Hath He not made thee?” Concerning man He said, “I have created him for My glory, I have formed him, yea I have made him” (Isa 43:7). We all belong to God. (Acts 17:26-29)
  - God’s Second Claim On All Men Is Because He Has Sustained, Preserved, And Established Our Lives — “Hath He not ... established thee?” The fact that God has and does preserve and sustain our lives provides the second claim which He holds on all men.
2. “FOR YE ARE BOUGHT WITH A PRICE” — This statement shows that God has a third claim on the Christian. He has been “redeemed/bought” out of the slave market of sin, and therefore “belongs” to the One Who paid the price of his redemption. Peter said, “Ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation ... But with THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST, as of a lamb without blemish and spot” (1 Pet 1:18-19).

Paul spoke of “God, Whose I am, and Whom I serve” (Acts 27:23).

Many people feel that when they have “paid their tithes,” they have fulfilled their obligation to God. They have assumed this.

They certainly never got this idea out of the New Testament. Jesus indeed commended “tithing” (Matt 23:23), but there is not one direct statement in the New Testament that “Only one-tenth” of what we possess belongs to God.

The word of the Lord Jesus Christ to the Christian is this: “Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh (AMP: ‘forsake—renounce, surrender claim to, give up, say goodbye to, not all that he hath, he cannot be My disciple” (Luke 14:33). These are strong words!

Jesus didn’t say, “give” all, but “renounce” all.

Certainly, this means:

- We must relinquish any claim we have to what we possess. • We must look upon any possessions we have as no longer ours, but as God's.
- We must recognize God as the "Absolute Owner" of our lives and all we possess, and ourselves as "stewards" over His property.
- We must see that we have been charged with managing the affairs of our Master and that we have no right to do as we please with His property.
- We must ask God how He wants us to use The property that He has given us to be "

Write in your word your surroundings of ownership of ALL PROPERTY & POSSESSIONS TO THE LORDSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST:

(Use the back page)

3. "THEREFORE GLORIFY GOD IN YOUR BODY, AND IN YOUR SPIRIT, WHICH ARE GOD'S" — This inspired statement is the "essence" of "Christian Stewardship." Our lives are not ours to live or spend as we please. Since we "belong to God," we are to live our lives in a way that will please and glorify Him.

When Christ returns and time is no more, we will all stand before Him and "give account" of our stewardship. 2Cor. 5:10

The Christian who responds positively to the Bible's teaching of "his stewardship" and "Christ's Lordship" of his life, will seek continually to do several things, fifteen of which are listed below.

Look up each Scripture and write out in your own words what it means to you:

- To Live A Holy And Sacrificial Life (Rom. 12:1-2) —
- To Live A Life Crucified With Christ (Gal 2:20) —
- To Live A Separated Life (2 Cor. 6:17-18) —
- To Live A Life Of Self-denial (Phil 3:7) —
- To Live A Life Of Submission (James 4:7) —
- To Live A Yielded Life (Rom 6:13) —
- To Live An Unselfish Life (1 Cor 10:24) —
- To Live A Life Of Subjection (1 Cor 9:27) —
- To Live A Mortified Life (Col. 3:5) —
- To Live A Life Of Abstinence (1 Pet 2:11) —
- To Live A Life Fulfilling God's Will (1 Pet 4:2) —
- To Live A Life Of Obedience (John 14:15, 21, 23-24) —
- To Live A Life Of Witnessing (Acts 5:32) —
- To Live A Life Of Love (Eph 5:2) —

- To Live A Life Of Fellowship (1 John 1:7) —

## Lesson 2 — HIS LORDSHIP OF OUR TALENTS

To properly understand “our stewardship” and “His Lordship Of Our Talents,” we must, first of all, realize the “principles” upon which these truths are established:

1. THEY ARE PREDICATED ON THE FACT THAT GOD EXPECTS ALL CHRISTIANS TO PRODUCE GOOD WORKS. Jesus said, “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see YOUR GOOD WORKS, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matt 5:16). Paul wrote, “We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto GOOD WORKS, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them” (Eph 2:10).

- We Are To Abound To Every Good Work (2 Cor 9:8).
- We Are To Be Fruitful In Every Good Work (Col 1:10).
- We Are To Be Established In Every Good Work (2 Thess 2:17).
- We Are To Diligently Follow In Every Good Work (1 Tim 5:10).
- We Are To Manifest Our Good Works (1 Tim 5:25).
- We Are To Be Prepared For Good Works (2 Tim 2:21).
- We Are To Be Furnished Unto All Good Works (2 Tim 3:17).
- We Are To Be A Pattern Of Good Works (Titus 2:7).
- We Are To Be Zealous Of Good Works (Titus 2:14).
- We Are To Be Ready For Good Works (Titus 3:1).
- We Are To Be Careful To Maintain Good Works (Titus 3:8).
- We Are To Learn To Maintain Good Works (Titus 3:14).
- We Are To Provoke Others To Good Works (Heb 10:24).
- We Are To Show Our Good Works (1 Pet 2:12).

2. THEY ARE PREDICATED ON THE FACT THAT GOD EXPECTS ALL CHRISTIANS TO PRODUCE GOOD WORKS BECAUSE HE HAS GIVEN THEM THE CAPACITY TO DO SO. God has given “grace” — His Unmerited Favor — to every one of us: “Unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ” (Eph 4:7).

He has also given “spiritual gifts” to all Christians to equip them for special ministries in and through the “Body of Christ,” the church. (1 Cor 12:7, 11, 1 Pet 4:10, Eph 4:8)

God has committed “truths, promises, and powers” to His people. But also the capacity, desire, strength, and ability to use these “truths, promises, and powers” to accomplish His work for His glory.

3. IN THE PARABLE OF THE “TALENTS” JESUS SET FORTH SEVEN LAWS THAT PERTAIN TO THE STEWARDSHIP OF TALENTS. This parable of the “Talents” is recorded in Matt 25:14-30, and the “Seven Laws” are:

- The Goods Entrusted To The Servants Belong To The Lord — “Delivered unto them His goods” (Vs 14-15).
- The Amount Of The Goods Entrusted To Each Servant Was Determined Solely By His Ability, Nothing Else — “To every man according to his several abilities” (Vs 15). Everyone received at least “one talent,” but all did not receive alike. When Divine Providence has made a difference in men’s abilities as to mind, body, estate, relation, and interest, Divine Grace usually dispenses “spiritual gifts” accordingly. (1 Cor 12:11)
- Each Servant Was Given Full Responsibility In Handling The Goods Turned Over To Him — “He that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise, he that had received two, he also gained other two. But he that had received one went and dug in the earth, and hid his Lord’s money” (Vs 16-18). We are “spiritual tradesmen” in the business of trading things of less value for those of greater value.
- Each Servant Was Called On To Give A Strict Account As To How He Had Handled His Master’s Goods — “After a long time the Lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them ...” (Vs 19-25). Accounting time for every Christian is certain (2 Cor. 5:9-10). Only the time of the accounting is uncertain (Matt 25:13).
- Each Servant Was Required To Show A Distinct Gain — “Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou ... oughtest therefore to have put My money to the exchangers, and then at My coming I should have received Mine own with usury” (Vs 26-27). If we fail to act, our Lord will consider us “wicked and slothful.”
- The Same Reward And Commendation Was Given To The Servants Who Produced — “Well done, good and faithful servant; thou has been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord” (Vs 20-23).
- The Servant Who Refused To Use The One Talent Given Him Suffered Two Great Penalties — “Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. For unto everyone that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath: And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth” (Vs 24-30).

He lost his “talent” (1 Cor. 9:27), and was cast into “outer darkness” where there is “weeping and gnashing of teeth.” He fell into disfavor with his Master, wept in despair, and gnashed his teeth in bitterness and regrets. (1 Cor. 3:11-15).

# Lesson 3 — HIS LORDSHIP OF OUR TIME

We get the same 24hr each day, the difference between Bill Gates and everybody else is how he uses his.

The Bible's teaching concerning "Stewardship" points to "God's Ownership" of all things. This is true of "Time." The Word teaches: "My times are in Thy hand" (Psa 31:15). The Bible has taught us that "stewards" must be 'faithful' (1 Cor. 4:2), therefore, we must properly use our time to glorify God. The way our Lord Jesus Christ used His time serves as an example for all Christians:

- He Knew The True Value Of Time — "And He said unto them, How is it that ye sought Me? Wise ye not that I must be about My Father's business?" (Luke 2:49).
  - He Knew The Limit Of Time — "I must work the works of Him that sent Me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work" (John 9:4).
  - He Knew The Right Use Of Time — "Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work." (John 4:34).
  - He Knew The Brevity Of Time — "Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is a light with you, Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness comes upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth." (John 12:35).
  - He Knew The Reward Of Time — "I have glorified Thee on the earth. I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Thou Me with Thine own self with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was" (John 17:4).
- The Bible's teaching concerning "time" and the "use" we make of it is as follows:

- Time Is Appointed To Us By God (Job 7:1)
- Time Moves Swiftly (Job 7:6)
- Time Is Allotted To Us And Must Be Used Wisely (Psa 90:9-12)
- Time Is To Be Passed In The Fear Of God (I Pet 1:17)
- Time For Man Upon The Earth Is So Short, Then It Vanishes Away ((Psa 89:7, James 4:14-15)  
When, as a child, I laughed and wept, TIME CREPT.  
When as a youth I dreamed and talked, TIME WALKED. When I became a full-grown man, TIME RAN.  
And later, as I older grew, TIME FLEW.  
Soon I shall find while traveling on, TIME GONE!

1. CHRISTIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR PROPER STEWARDSHIP OF TIME MUST "KNOW" THE TIME. According to Paul's words in Romans 13:11-14, if Christians really "know the time," they realize:

- It Is Time To "WAKE UP" — "To wake out of sleep" (V 11)
- It Is Time To "CAST OFF" — "Cast off the works of darkness" (V 12a)

- It Is Time To “PUT ON” — “Put on the armor of light” (V 12b)
- It Is Time To “WALK” — “Walk honestly, as in the day; not in ...” (V 13)
- It Is Time To “MAKE NOT” — “Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof” (V 14)

2. CHRISTIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR PROPER STEWARDSHIP OF TIME MUST “REALIZE” THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE TIME. Because “time is short,” Paul said in 1 Cor 7:29-31 that Christians must realize:

- Time Is Not To Be Taken Up With Domestic Care (V 29)
- Time Is Not To Be Taken Up With Sorrows (V 30a)
- Time Is Not To Be Taken Up With Joys (V 30b)
- Time Is Not To Be Taken Up With Possessions (V 30c)
- Time Is Not To Be Taken Up With Things Of This World (V 31). We are to “use the world” to accomplish God’s will, but “not abuse it (AMP: ‘over-use the enjoyments of this life’)” because “the fashion (AMP: ‘outward form of this world—the present world order’) passeth away.”

3. CHRISTIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR PROPER STEWARDSHIP OF TIME MUST “REDEEM” THE TIME. Paul tells us how to do this in Eph 5:15-16 (AMP):

- By “Walking Carefully” (V 15a)
- By “Living Purposefully” (V 15b)
- By “Living Worthily” (V 15c)
- By “Living Accurately” (V 15d)
- By “Buying Up Each Opportunity, because the days are evil” (V 16)

TIME CREDITED TO YOUR ACCOUNT ... If you had a bank that credited your account each morning with \$86,400, carried over no balance from day to day, allowed you to keep no cash in your account ... and every evening canceled whatever part of the amount you had failed to use during the day,

WHAT WOULD YOU DO? DRAW OUT EVERY CENT, OF COURSE! Well, you do have such a bank, and its name is “T I M E.”

Every morning it credits you with 86,400 seconds.

Every night it rules off as lost, whatever of this you have failed to invest in good purpose. It allows no overdrafts.

IF YOU FAIL TO USE THE DAY’S DEPOSITS, YOU LOSE THEM FOREVER!



# Lesson 4 — HIS LORDSHIP OF OUR TREASURES

Our ability to handle spiritual matters is directly related to our ability to handle financial matters!

Jesus said, “If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon (money/ possessions), who will commit to your trust the true riches?” (Luke 16:11)

To take the “Stew” out of “Stewardship,” here are some honest questions and clear answers from the Word of God that will help us understand our responsibility to God in money matters:

1. “What Is Meant By A Steward?” A “steward” is a person entrusted with the management of property or affairs of another. (Luke 16:1)

2. “What Is Meant By Biblical Stewardship?” It means the acknowledgment of God’s ownership; the acceptance of our trusteeship, and the management of one’s whole life in responsibility to God. (I Cor 4:1-2, I Tim 6:20a)

3. “What Is The Difference Between Stewardship And Tithing?” “Stewardship” includes the WHOLE of our personalities, powers, and possessions. “Tithing” means the PAYMENT OF A TENTH OF OUR INCOME in acknowledgment of our “stewardship.” “Stewardship” includes, but goes far beyond “tithing.” (1 Cor 60)

4. “What Are The Primary Principles Of Stewardship?” There are at least four such principles that apply:

- God Is the Creator, Owner, And Giver Of All Things. (Gen 1:1, James 1:17)
- All We Are And Have We Received From God As A Trust. (1 Cor 4:7).
- We Must Acknowledge Our Stewardship By Devoting A Portion To The Lord’s Work. (Lev 27:30, 32)
- We Must Render A Final Account Unto God (Rom 14:12)

5. “Did Jesus Say Anything About Stewardship Or Tithing?” Yes! One verse in every seven in the four Gospels, and 16 of the 34 parables deal with these subjects. The evidence is overwhelming that Jesus not only taught and practiced the giving of the “tithe,” but went far beyond it. (Matt 23:23)

6. “What Is Meant By The Tithe?” It is the designation of a “tenth” of our income for Christian causes. This is to be regarded as a “basic minimum” and not as a goal. (Lev 27:30, 32, Mal 3:8-10)

7. “What Are The Basic Motives For Tithing?” There are at least 5 basic motives:

- Christian Obedience To God’s Command — (Mal 3:8-10)
- Christian Honesty — (Mal 3:8-9)
- Christian Love — (John 14:15, 23)

- Christian Gratitude — (James 1:17, Col 1:3, 12, 2:7, 3:17, 4:2, Psa 107)
- Christian Faith That God Will Supply Our Needs — (2 Cor 9:6-10, Mal 3:10, Prov 3:9-10, Luke 6:38)

8. “Should A Christian Contribute More Than A Tithe?” The Biblical principle is “Tithes and offerings” (Mal 3:8)

9. “How Are We To Figure The Tithe?” The “tithe” is “one-tenth” of your income. If there is a legitimate business expense involved in earning your income, then subtract it and “tithe” on the rest.

10. “Should Christians Who Are In Debt Tithe?” Yes! By all means! Most of us are in debt financially and all of us are incalculably indebted to God. We owe God before we owe anyone else. Besides, we can “give” our way to “prosperity” (2 Cor 9:6-10, Mal 3:10, Luke 6:38)

11. “What If One Has A Limited Income, Or Is A Child With Only A Little Spending Money?” We are to give proportionately, “as God has prospered” us (1 Cor 16:2)

12. “Should All The Tithe Be Paid Into The Local Church?” The Bible teaches “storehouse tithing” (Mal 3:10)

13. “May Offerings For Special Needs Be Out Of The Tithe?” They should be over and above the “tithe.” It is not an “offering” until it is above the “tithe” (Mal 3:8)

14. “In A Legal Sense, Who Owns The Church?” The local church is a “corporation” in which each member is an “equal partner” with every other member.

15. “What Is My Financial Responsibility To My Home Church?” The responsibility of a “partner” to “play fair” with the other members of that partnership.

16. “Why Don’t We Demand Of Each Member Partner That He Contributes His Equal Share?” Because the partnership of the church is bound together by “love.” We are far more than just partners, we are “brothers and sisters” in the family of God.

17. “When We Have No Income And Cannot Contribute Our Share Of Support, What Happens?” The other “brothers and sisters” keep the family together. Each of us has other things to contribute to the family besides money.

18. “What Is The Financial Policy Of This Church?” We follow the Bible Plan of “Tithes and Offerings.” This means our giving should be:

- Periodic — “The first day of the week” (1 Cor 16:2)
- Personal — “Let every one of you”
- Provisional — “Lay by him in store”
- Proportionate — “As God hath prospered him”
- Preventive — “That there be no collections when I come”
- Purposeful — “As he purposeth in his heart” (2 Cor 9:7)

- Pleasant — “Not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver” (2 Cor 9:7)
- Private — “When thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right-hand doeth: That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret Himself shall reward thee openly” (Matt 6:3-4)

19. “What Should I Do As A Christian About The Tithe?” Several things:

- Begin immediately to “tithe.” Ask for a packet of offering envelopes and use one of the envelopes each Sunday.
- Witness to others the joys of being a “tither.”
- See to it that “tithing” is promoted in your church.
- Put your church and her mission in your “Last Will,” so that your money may continue to send the Gospel out even after your death.
- In all you do, honor Christ Who said, “Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also” (Matt 6:21).

20. “What Is ‘Seed Faith’ Giving? How Is It Different From Tithing?” It recognizes that what you give is the “seed” you sow, whether money, love, friendliness, service, etc. It is giving before you receive, not after. In “tithing” you give after you receive. “Seed Faith Giving” starts with the truth that in everything God does, He starts with a “seed” that is planted. Only that which is planted (given) can God “multiply” back to us (2 Cor 9:10). It is based upon 3 strong principles:

- God Is Our Source Of Supply (Phil 4:19)
- We Plant To Reap A Harvest. This is not to be selfish or greedy — “giving to get”, but it simply recognizes the “Law of The Harvest” that you “reap WHAT you sow,” and usually “MORE than you sow” (Luke 6:38).
- We Should Expect To Reap The Harvest (2 Cor 9:6-7, 10)

21. “Will These Questions And Answers Make Some People Angry?” Only if they are not living in obedience to the Word of God in their “stewardship” responsibilities!

Write in your words your Stewardship commitment to your local Church Community and how will your commitment continue after you depart from this life. Have you included your Church in your will? Who have you shared your last wishes with?

## Lesson 5 — HIS LORDSHIP OF MY DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship is Counting the Cost of Following Jesus.

Jesus' Northern ministry › Jesus is rejected by several different groups › Jesus talks about the cost of discipleship Matt 8:18–22 Luke 9:57–62

Luke 9:57–62 (NIV84): The Cost of Following Jesus

57 As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

58 Jesus replied, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”

59 He said to another man, “Follow me.”  
But the man replied, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”

60 Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”

61 Still another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.”

62 Jesus replied, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”

Based on the scriptures above what is the cost of following Jesus? (write in your own words)

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:18–20 (NIV84): 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit,

20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Write in your own words where in the World is God using you to fulfill His Work in the World.

Write in your words “How are you using your advantage to the advantage of the disadvantage?”

What are the hard choices that you are making to follow Jesus? (What has Discipleship Cost You?)