



Moving ministries forward, *together.*

Stewardship One-Liners and Quotes

From Ronald Petry, author of *Partners in Creation*:

- Stewardship is the practice of faith.
- Biblical stewardship is a life-style with the Cross at its center.
- Stewardship is no optional alternative for the congregation: it is the very stuff of its life together.

From the Moravian Church, Southern Province's Stewardship Commission:

- Stewardship is our grateful response to God's grace and gifts through all we think, say, and do to care for ourselves, others, and creation.

From Charles Lane and Grace Pomroy, authors of *Embracing Stewardship*:

- It is always the right question to ask, "To the best of my ability, what do I think God wants me to do with this?"
- Stewardship is the way we love with all that God has entrusted to our care. It is the way we show love with our whole selves. It is the primary way we live out the Great Commandment.
- How is it that faith in Jesus should lead us to rearrange our relationship with money?"

From Rolf Jacobson, author of *Rethinking Stewardship*:

Because we belong to God, everything about us belongs to God: our selves, our families, our time, our relationships, even our possessions. In light of that, how do those people who belong to God regard our belongings?

We are surrounded by God's benefits. The best use of these benefits is an unceasing expression of gratitude. **-John Calvin**

To be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything He has given us – and He has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of His Love, every moment of existence is a grace, for it brings with it immense graces from Him.

-Thomas Merton

Patrick Henry wrote into his will that if he had left nothing in terms of worldly riches but had given his heirs a faith in Jesus Christ, then they were of all people most wealthy. Conversely he added that if he had left them all the wealth in the world but had not left them a faith in Jesus Christ, they would be of all people most destitute.



Moving ministries forward, *together.*

One of the dangers of having a lot of money is that you may be quite satisfied with the kinds of happiness money can give and so fail to realize your need for God. If everything seems to come simply by signing checks, you may forget that you are at every moment totally dependent on God. **-C.S. Lewis**

Jesus establishes clearly that the greedy accumulation of things is an attempt by persons to evade dependency on God. The one who greedily hoards possessions in order to establish security for the future lacks the faith that Jesus expects of those who follow Him. Our security, according to Jesus, is in our relationship to God in whose hands lies our future. **-Tony Campolo**

A person may decide either to accept or reject Christ, but once he or she accepts Christ, it is not for that person to decide whether or not to be a steward, for one becomes a steward when one becomes a Christian. **-Luther Powell**

When people spend money on things they do not really need, they begin to want more things they do not need. Instead of satisfying their desires, they only increase them. Giving should begin with the tithe. All your money belongs to God. Use 100% of your income as God directs. **-John Wesley**

God's work done in God's way will never lack for funds. Generosity is contagious. God never promised to meet our budget, only our needs. **-J. Hudson Taylor**

Unknown sources:

- Stewardship is everything we do after we say we believe. (attributed to Lutheran pastor/educator Clarence Stoughton)
- Stewardship is an identity, not a task.
- God creates. God entrusts. We respond.
- It all belongs to God. What would God have me do with it?
- The emphasis upon finding life is in giving life away, not keeping it.
- Stewardship is liberation, not bondage. Through stewardship we become who God created us to be.
- God's passion for giving culminated in the gift of His son, Jesus Christ. (John 3:16) As God's creation, we too must have a passion to give!
- The compassionate life is a grateful life, and actions born out of gratefulness are not compulsive but free, not somber, but joyful, not fanatical but liberating. When gratitude is the source of our actions, our giving becomes receiving and those to whom we minister become our ministers.