



Moving ministries forward, *together.*



Stewardship Shorts:

Reflections on Faith and Finances

by Charles R. Lane

Thursday, October 29, 2020

11:30 am

Overview

(aka what I loved about the book):

- How it connects faith with how we live with money
- Targeted for everyone
- Designed for group use
- Scripture used to support ideas
- Discussion questions for each section

Deeper Dive

(aka points that really resonated with me):

1. It All Belongs to God:

- “Gift” vs. “trust” language: God has entrusted us with His creation, not given it to us
- We are caring for what is God’s, not using what’s ours
- How do we use what God has entrusted to us to care for those with too little?

Deeper Dive

2. “Owner” vs. “steward”:

- “Sty-warden” cared for the pigs; h/she didn’t own them
- Can’t be both owner and steward
- Stewards care for things for the benefit of the owner (God) and the people who depend on the owner for their well-being

God as the owner; you as the steward....how does this perspective change how you live with possessions?

Deeper Dive

3. “Jesus Wants Your Heart”:

- New Testament passages about the threat of money and possessions and how they can turn us away from Jesus
- Trust wealth or trust God?
- Serve wealth or serve God?

Does your church trust in God’s abundance as you plan and conduct ministry? How? How not?

Deeper Dive

4. Portrait of a Biblical Giver:

- Six values:
 - intentional
 - regular
 - generous
 - first (fruits)
 - proportional
 - cheerful

Deeper Dive

4. Portrait of a Biblical Giver continued:

- As we grow in giving to Christ's church, we grow in relationship with Christ.
- Acting into a new way of thinking
- “How can I live with money so that these values thrive in my life and lead my heart to Jesus?”

Now What?

(aka there are only 24 hours in a day):

- Let Laura know if you are interested in receiving a copy(ies) of *Reflections on Faith and Finances*
- Schedule a time to meet with Laura to go more in-depth about your congregation's stewardship (What do people believe about stewardship? How is the congregation's stewardship lived out? What are the obstacles? How can we overcome them?)
- Visit mmfa.info and look for our resources page



“Let us love,
not in word or speech,
but in truth and action.”

1 John 3:18



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