

March Teaching Series

STEWARDSHIP: AN IMPORTANT KEY TO SUCCESS

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Part 2

II. STEWARDSHIP REQUIRES FAITHFULNESS v. 2

“Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful”

It takes time to reap the fruits of stewardship. That is why faithfulness should be consistently applied. When you sow a seed of guava today, it takes time for it to become a tree and bear fruit. Many times we are impatient.

Notice the words “required” and “faithful”. Faithfulness is not requested. It is required in stewardship. There’s no doubt that we want to be blessed, to succeed. We claim it. We pray for it. But we need to be reminded that we can just claim breakthroughs in your relationships, business and any undertakings if we neglect faithfulness. Why do we need to be faithful?

1. God expects us to be faithful.

To be faithful means to be loyal, trustworthy, dependable, and reliable. As those who received God’s grace, we ought to be faithful. Faithfulness is a hallmark of the genuine people of God. *“...and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.”(Rev 17:14)*

You need to consciously develop this virtue of faithfulness. Don’t be impatient. Don’t quit easily. Be faithful.

Ask the following questions:

- Am I faithful to God?
- Am I faithful to what God entrusted to me?
- In what areas do I need to grow and improve the most in my life?
- How can I grow in faithfulness and stewardship?

All victorious Bible Characters are faithful. For as long as they remain faithful they become victorious and blessed in all that they do.

- Moses- *“Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house.”*
(Numbers 12:7)
- Daniel- *“So the governors and satraps sought to find some charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he was faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him.”* *(Daniel 6:4 NKJV)*
- Paul- *“And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,”* *(1 Tim 1:12 NKJV)*

2. God rewards faithfulness (Matt 25: 14-30)

“His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ V21, 23

The problem is not a lack of gift or talent and opportunities, but a lack of, or even the absence of faithfulness to what we already have. Example, the parable of the talents. The Master gave all the servants talents, each according to his ability. They have different results. The first two were productive and made proper use of the talents they received. The last one did not use

God rewards faithfulness not unfaithfulness. What lessons can we learn from the parable of the Lord Jesus?

- Each one received entrustments according to his ability v15
- God wants us to make proper use of whatever is entrusted to us v19
- God rewards us according to our faithfulness v 21
- Not to use is to lose v28-29
- God will judge us for unfaithfulness v.26,27,30 Listen to what the Lord said to the unfaithful servant

But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed.’²⁷ ‘So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest’. (V.26-27)

‘And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ (v. 30)

May we not take this lightly.

3. God Himself is faithful (2Tim 2:13)

“If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.”

When we are faithful to something small, God multiplies it.

How can we say we are faithful:

When we honor our vows to God

III. STEWARDSHIP’S ULTIMATE ACCOUNTABILITY IS UNTO GOD v3-5

³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴For I know nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord. ⁵Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one’s praise will come from God.”

How to develop stewardship

Practice it

Persist on it

Progress to it