



Barnabas[®] Foundation

**Biblical Principles
of Stewardship**



Biblical Principles of Stewardship

Stewardship encompasses time, talent and treasure.

Stewardship is a lifestyle that recognizes and reflects God's ownership of all things.



Biblical Principles of Stewardship

1. Acknowledge God's ownership of everything



Biblical Principles of Stewardship

Acknowledge God's ownership of everything

- **Psalm 24: 1** *“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.”*
- **Haggai 2:8** *“The silver is mine and gold is mine, declares the Lord Almighty.”*
- **Deuteronomy 8:17-18** *“You may say to yourselves, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today.”*



Biblical Principles of Stewardship

- 1. Acknowledge God's ownership of everything**
- 2. Manage what is entrusted to us effectively**



Biblical Principles of Stewardship

Manage what is entrusted to us effectively

- **1 Corinthians 4:2** *“Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.”*
- **Mathew 6:19-21** *“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”*
- **Mathew 25:14-30** - Parable of the talents.



Biblical Principles of Stewardship

- 1. Acknowledge God's ownership of everything**
- 2. Manage what is entrusted to us effectively**
- 3. Give generously to God and others**



Biblical Principles of Stewardship

Give generously to God and others

- **Malachi 3:10** *“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this”, says the Lord Almighty, “and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it.”*
- **II Corinthians 9:4** *“Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”*



Biblical Principles of Stewardship

Give generously to God and others (continued)

- **Luke 12:33** *“Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.”*
- **Luke 12:16-21** – Parable of the Rich Fool
“But God said to him ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’ This is how it will be with everyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.”



Biblical Principles of Stewardship

- 1. Acknowledge God's ownership of everything**
- 2. Manage what is entrusted to us effectively**
- 3. Give generously to God and others**
- 4. Do not put your trust in wealth**



Biblical Principles of Stewardship

- **Do not put your trust in wealth**
 - **I Timothy 6:10** *“For the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”*
 - **I Timothy 6:17** *“Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.”*



Biblical Principles of Stewardship

- Do not put your trust in wealth (continued)
 - **Ecclesiastes 5:10,13-14** *“Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless. I have seen a grievous evil under the sun: wealth hoarded to the harm of its owner, or wealth lost through some misfortune, so that when he has a son there is nothing left for him.”*



What kind of an example are we?

- **Actions speak louder than words**
- **Is advancing God's Kingdom a priority?**
- **Do you give cheerfully or grudgingly?**
- **What does your checkbook reveal as priorities in your life?**
- **How about how you spend your time?**
- **How about your estate plan?**



Estate Planning Quicksand

- **Great deal of uncertainty.**
- **Exemption amounts and tax rates change nearly every year.**
- **Will they repeal the estate tax or won't they?**
- **How are we to plan?**



Planning in Uncertain Times

- Focus on the big picture



Family



Charity



Taxes

- Ask the tough questions
 - What are our priorities?
 - What would honor God?
 - How much is enough for our children?
 - Are we investing for eternity?



Gift Planning Refresher

Estate Tax Exclusion

YEAR	DEATH EXEMPTION	RATE	SURCHARGE	GIFT EXEMPTION
2002	\$1,000,000	50%	5%	\$1,000,000
2003	\$1,000,000	49%	0	\$1,000,000
2004	\$1,500,000	48%	0	\$1,000,000
2005	\$1,500,000	47%	0	\$1,000,000
2006	\$2,000,000	46%	0	\$1,000,000
2007	\$2,000,000	45%	0	\$1,000,000
2008	\$2,000,000	45%	0	\$1,000,000
2009	\$3,500,000	45%	0	\$1,000,000
2010	Estate Tax and Generation Skipping Tax Repealed			\$1,000,000



The Opportunity

- **Significant opportunity to advance God's kingdom**
- **God has entrusted wealth to many Christian people. How will we use it?**



Barnabas Foundation

Stewardship is a way of life.

Living generously is an expression of God's love.

