#### Believe

Week 9

Do you believe everything you are and everything you own belongs to God?

#### Exodus 19:5

### "All the earth is Mine."

#### Deuteronomy 10:14

"Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven and the highest heavens, the earth and all that is in it."

#### Job 41:11

### "Whatever is under the whole heaven is Mine."

#### **Psalm 24:1**

"The earth is the LORD's , and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."



#### Stewardship



Definition: "the conducting, supervising, or managing of something; especially: the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care"

#### From the Greek word "oikonomos"

"the manager of a household or of household affairs" (Thayer's Greek Lexicon)

It's someone entrusted with caring for a superior's goods.

#### In the Old Testament a steward was over an entire household. He was responsible for managing the householder's material goods.

#### Genesis 41: 39-40

Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. than you."

You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you."

# In the New Testament the word steward also refers to a guardian or curator

#### Matthew 20: 8

"When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the

#### Galatians 4: 2

The heir is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father.

# This is in addition to its Old Testament meaning as a manager or superintendent of a household

#### Luke 8: 3

Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.

#### 1 Corinthians 4: 1-2

This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove

### What are we called to be stewards of?

- Our talents
- Our time
- God's creation
- Our bodies
- Our money
- Our Children
- God's Word

### How can we be good stewards of our talents?

- Matthew 25: 14-30
- 1 Peter 4: 10

What have you done with the talents God has blessed you with?

### How can we be good stewards of our time?

- Ephesians 5: 15-17
- Colossians 4: 5-6

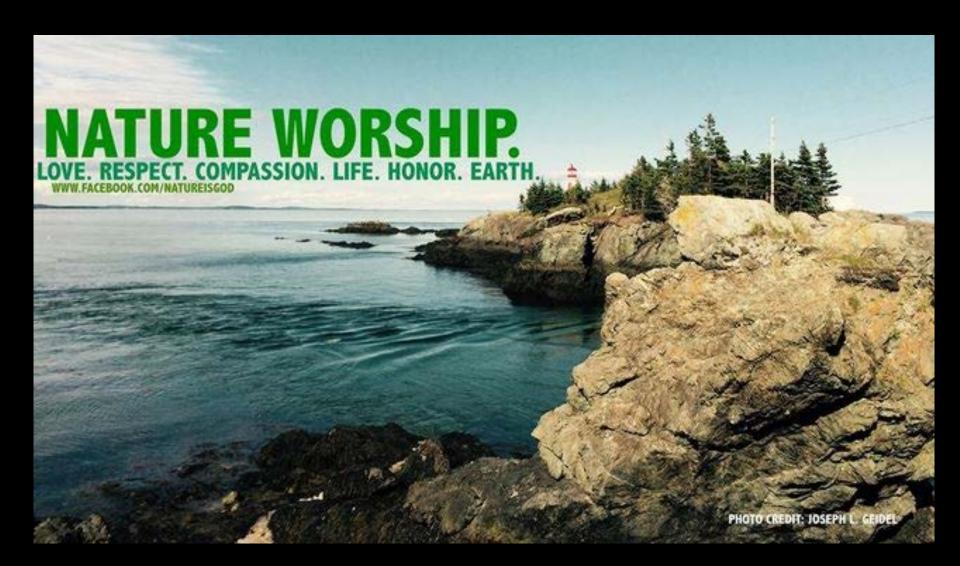
What have you done with the time God has blessed you with?

### How can we be good stewards of God's Creation?

- Genesis 2: 15
- Genesis 1: 28

Being a good steward is not worshiping God's Creation

• Romans 1: 25





### How can we be good stewards of our bodies?

1 Corinthians 6: 19-20 Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with

If you buy something, do you own it?

What was the price God paid for us?

## Did Christ just purchase Christians? How about atheists and muslims?

#### 2 Peter 2: 1

But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord...

### Are those who deny Christ Christians?

### Listen to the rest of the verse:

They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves.

### How can we be good stewards of our money?

- 2 Thessalonians 3: 10
- 1 Timothy 5: 8

God does provide for us but we need to work to provide for ourselves and our family.

We also need to be good stewards of our spending.

America's spending has been described like this:

"Americans are people spending money they don't have on things they don't need to impress people they do not like."

Credit cards have made it easy for us to spend what we do not have --and many pay a heavy price for going too far into debt We need to be careful how much we borrow

Proverbs 22: 7

Philippians 4: 10-13

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### We also need to be good stewards of our giving.

A very important part of Christian living and service to God is GIVING!

Scriptural giving allows for the work of the church to be carried out such as evangelism, edification and benevolence.

#### 1 Corinthians 16: 1-2

Hebrews 7: 1-4

2 Corinthians 8: 7

Giving financially should be our <u>first</u> concern with all we earn.

God deserves the first fruits of ones money earned – <u>not</u> what is left over when other obligations are met.

#### Matthew 6: 33

Does your spending demonstrate who you are seeking first?

We must adjust our living to our giving

### How can we be good stewards of our children?

- Psalm 127: 3
- Ephesians 6: 4
- Deuteronomy 11: 18-21

What if our children make poor decisions as adults?

### How can we be good stewards of God's Word?

- Jude 1: 3
- Titus 1: 9
- Philippians 1: 16
- 2 Timothy 2: 15
- Can you be a good steward of God's Word if you don't read it?

Do you believe everything you are and everything you own belongs to God?



How does knowing we are just managers of what we have been given change the way you live?