

# 7 Habits of Highly Effective Stewards

## Habit 1: Be Thankful

"In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus (I Thessalonians 5:18). A steward's heart is a thankful heart – but how can we be thankful in everything? It begins with an attitude of gratitude – thanking God for the big and small blessings in our life, and resting on His promises during the difficult times.

## Habit 2: Trust God to Provide

"Instruct those who are rich in this present world not . . . to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy" (I Timothy 6:17). Our trust can easily move from God to our bank accounts and abilities. But the only path to peace is to put our trust in God, yielding to His plan and timing for our lives.

## Habit 3: Be Content

"Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have..." (Hebrews 13:5). Most people think if they had just a little more money, they'd be happier. But contentment isn't "getting what you want - it's wanting what you have." Contentment comes when we tune out our culture's relentless pursuit for more, and fix our eyes on God who promised to supply all of our needs.

## Habit 4: Be a Faithful Example

"These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up" (Deuteronomy 6: 6-7). Our children may fail to listen, but they seldom fail to imitate us.

## Habit 5: Live Within Your Means

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength" (Philippians 4:12-13). We can live on less than we make in the power of God's Holy Spirit. Even if we have plenty of money to live on, our lifestyles and spending choices need to line up with God's Word, His will for our lives, and the opportunities He puts in front of us.

## Habit 6: Give Time and Talent

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms" (1 Peter 4:10). Highly effective stewards see their time and talents as precious gifts from God, and use those gifts to bless others and advance the kingdom of God in their homes, communities, and around the world.

## Habit 7: Give Treasure

"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops" (Proverbs 3:9). When we give, we are demonstrating the depth of our loyalty to Christ and understanding of His grace in our lives. We serve a giving God, and when He lives in our hearts, our love for Him grows, overflowing in generous, sacrificial, and joyful giving to the things He cares about.

As part of being a good steward...

- I am interested in creating or updating my Will or Estate Plan.
- I would like more information about the advantages of making gifts with appreciated assets.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



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