

“Being a Faithful Steward of our Time and Talents” 2/10/08
Sermon Series- “Biblical Foundations of Stewardship”

Steward- someone who manages the resources of another to accomplish the goals of the owner. (Genesis 39:2-4) **REVIEW- Steward, Contentment, Giving, Rewards**
Contentment- the state of being satisfied with one’s current situation.

MATTHEW 25:14-30

POINT 1- A faithful steward will manage well his master’s RESOURCES

- A. To do well we must understand that they are His GOODS
(verse 14)
- B. To do well we realize that we are recipients according to our ABILITY
(verse 15) **STORY OF ANTONIO STRADIVARIUS**
- C. To do well and get the greatest reward we must take the INITIATIVE
(verse 16)
- D. To do well we must work realizing that an accounting is CERTAIN
(verse 19; Romans 14:10; 2 Cor 5:10)
- E. To do well we serve realizing that we will be HONORED
(verses 21 & 23; commended, promoted, invited to celebrate)
- F. To do well we must realize that Jesus accepts no EXCUSES
(verses 24-26)
- G. To do well we must know that there are CONSEQUENCES

Going *God expects you to take your stewardship responsibilities seriously!*

Deeper *Do you really live with this THINKING?*

“So then each of us shall give account of himself to God.” Romans 14:12

POINT 2- A faithful steward will manage well his master’s TIME

EPHESIANS 5:16

- A. To do well we realize we are commanded to make the MOST OF IT
(Psalm 90:12)
- B. To do well we realize that Satan will influence us to serve OURSELVES
(2 Corinthians 5:15; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 1:21; 1 Peter 4:2)

Going *God expects you to submit every day to doing His will!*

Deeper *What do you do with your leisure time?*

POINT 3- A faithful steward will manage well his master’s GIFTS

1 PETER 4:10-11

- A. To do well we must *immediately* put to use our spiritual ENDOWMENTS
(Rom 12:3-13; 1 Cor 12; Eph 4:11-16; Ex 35:31-35; 1 Peter 4:10-11)

Going *God expects you to bless Him and His church with the use of your gifts!*

Deeper *Will you immediately sign up to serve?*

“And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.” 1 John 2:28

Story of a young man named Antonio.

Because Antonio's voice was high and squeaky, he did not make the tryouts for the Cremona Boy's Choir. When he took violin lessons, the neighbors persuaded his parents to make him stop. Yet Antonio still wanted to make music.

His friends gave him a hard time because his only talent was whittling. When Antonio was older he served as an apprentice to a violinmaker. His knack for whittling grew into a skill of carving and his hobby became his craft. He worked patiently and faithfully. By the time he died, he left over 1,500 violins, each one bearing a label that read, "Antonio Stradivarius." They are the most sought-after violins in the world and sell for more than \$3 million each. Antonio couldn't sing or play or preach or teach but his responsibility was to use his ability, and his violins are still making beautiful music today.

Some reasons we don't use our gifts: 1) busyness; 2) confidence; 3) lazy; 4) apathetic; 5) no love of Jesus (John 14:15); 6) Bitterness; 7) Priorities 8) desire for anonymity (reason some people go to big churches).