



What is Stewardship? A Practical Meditation

Stewardship is **Everything I do after I say, “I believe.”**

God calls us to share in God’s mission of caring for the world, using all the gifts God has given us. We are stewards, caretakers of God’s gifts. Everything we have was a gift from God, and God asks us to use it all for God’s purposes. Generosity flows naturally out of our gratitude for the gift of love, family, and life itself.

In the church, we are stewards of the good news of God’s love for us in Jesus Christ. We are called to share that good news with new generations. But we live in a world where sharing that news is becoming ever more challenging. In order to share the good news, we need financial and other resources.

Our worries about stewardship tend to focus on money. But stewardship is all about mission. Convince people that the church is doing God’s mission and that it will truly transform our lives and our communities. Each of us is an integral part of that mission – heart, mind and body – and the money will follow.

Stewardship isn’t just:

- Fundraising.
- Paying the light bills or maintaining a building.
- Paying a decent staff.
- Meeting the budget.
- Keeping the church alive.
- Paying our fair share of the dues.
- Passing on a legacy to our children.

Stewardship is:

- Sharing in God’s mission with a glad, generous and grateful heart.
- Transforming lives in our community.
- Prayerfully responding to God’s call.
- A deeply spiritual matter.
- Something that blesses the giver more than the receiver.

Stewardship is discipleship; it is a complete reorientation of our lives toward God, who calls us through Jesus Christ. Stewardship is **Everything I do after I say, “I believe.”**