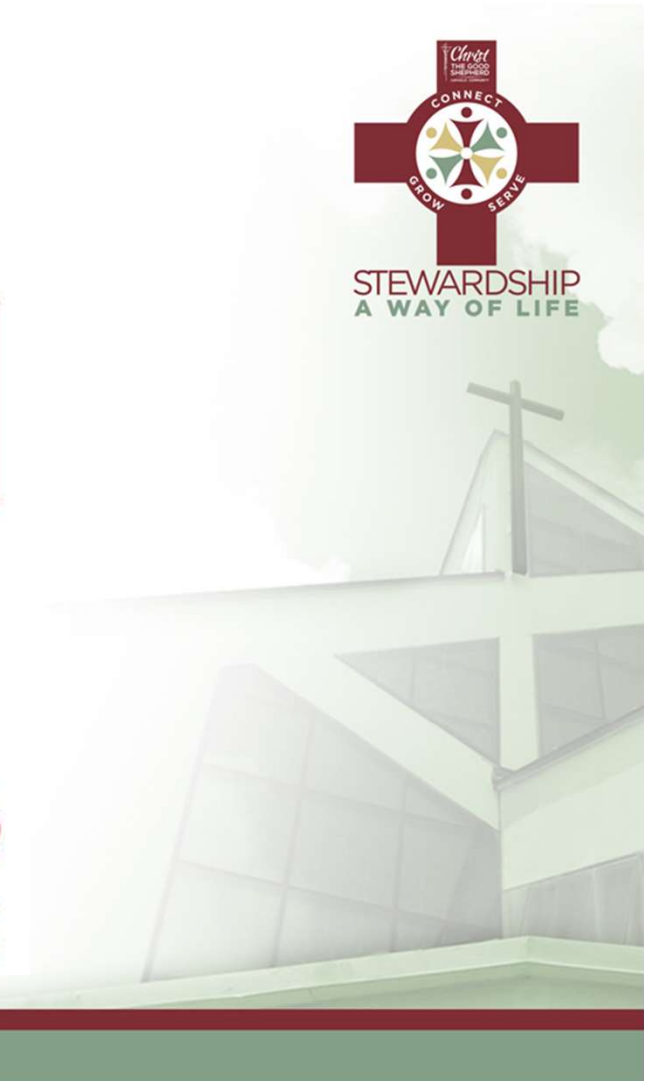


WELCOME

Stewardship: A Disciple's Response

Session 2





STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

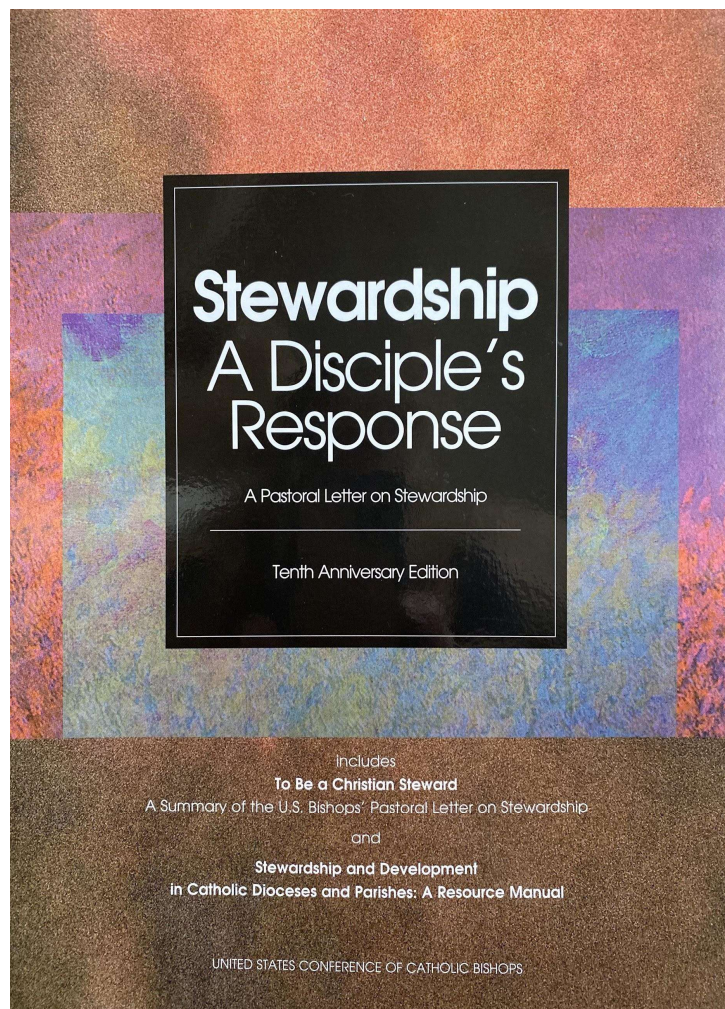
Loving God, I come to you in thanksgiving, knowing that all I am and all that I have is a gift from you. In faith and love, help me to do your will. I am listening, Lord God. Speak your words into the depth of my soul, that I may hear you clearly. I offer to you this day all the facets of my life, whether it be at home, at work, or at school—to be patient, to be merciful, to be generous, to be holy. Give me the wisdom and insight to understand your will for me and the fervor to fulfill my good intentions. I offer my gifts of time, talent and possessions to you as a true act of faith, to reflect my love for you and my neighbor. Help me to reach out to others as you my god have reached out to me.



CGS Mission and Vision

- Our mission as a Roman Catholic community is to proclaim the teachings of Jesus Christ as declared in the scriptures and shown in the sacred tradition of the church. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to know, love, and serve God and our neighbors.
- Vision: Build a community of love and hope by putting our faith into action.





Outline

Introduction/ Call

Jesus Way

Living as a Steward

Stewards of the Church

The Christian Steward



Review

- What human personal experience has reinforced your faith in the call you have received
- What is a disciple?
- What is stewardship?



3 Convictions of the Pastoral Letter

- Make a firm, conscious decision to change expressed through a complete way of life
- Begin in conversion, change of mind and heart- a commitment of one's very self to God
- Express their commitment through stewardship- living



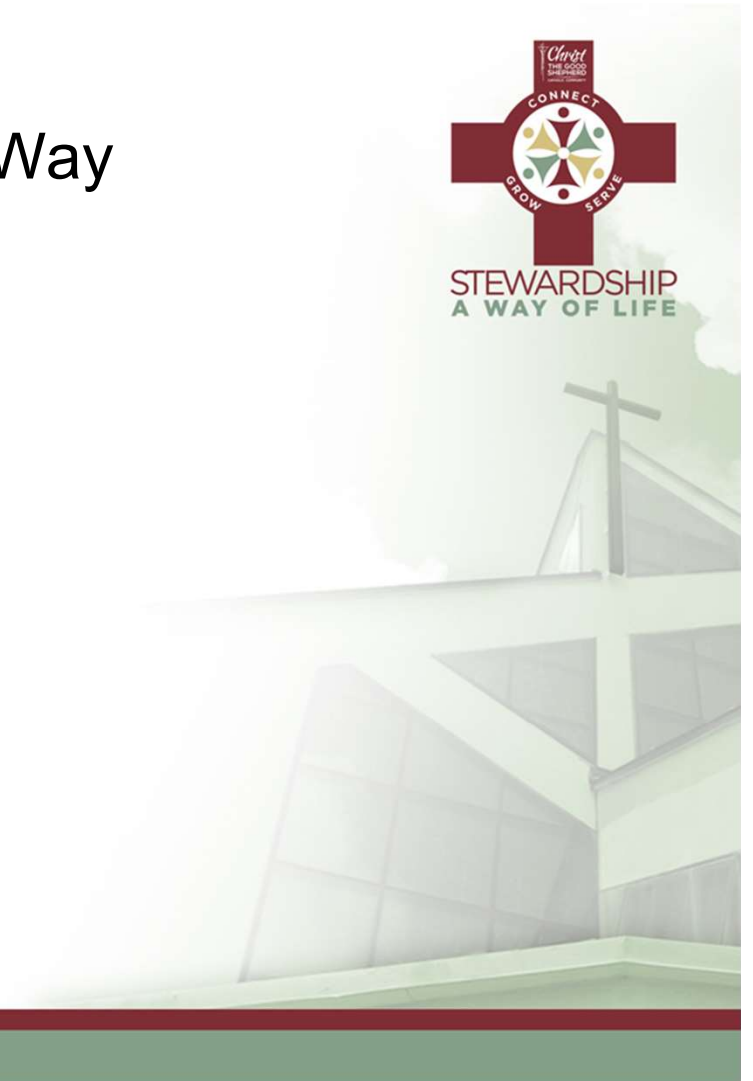
Discipleship

- The Vocation of a Disciple
- Call to Stewardship within the vocation of disciple
- The Cost of discipleship



Chapter II - Jesus' Way

- Jesus is the supreme teacher
- What are the expectations for the disciples?



Beatitudes - Matthew 5: 3-10

- Blessed are the [poor](#) in [spirit](#): for theirs is the [kingdom of heaven](#). ([Verse 3](#))
 - Blessed are the meek: for they shall possess the land. ([Verse 4](#))
 - Blessed are they who mourn: for they shall be comforted. ([Verse 5](#))
- Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after [justice](#): for they shall have their fill. ([Verse 6](#))
 - Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. ([Verse 7](#))
 - Blessed are the clean of heart: for they shall see [God](#). ([Verse 8](#))
- Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of [God](#). ([Verse 9](#))
- Blessed are they that suffer [persecution](#) for [justice](#)' sake, for theirs is the [kingdom of heaven](#). ([Verse 10](#))



Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5:3-7: 27



Sermon on the Mount

5:1-12 – Beatitudes
5:13-16 – Similes of Salt and Light
5:17-20 – Teaching about the Law
5:21-26 – Teaching about Anger
5:27-30 – Teaching about Adultery
5:31-32 – Teaching about Divorce
5:33-37 – Teaching about Oaths
5:38-42 – Teaching about Retaliation
5:43-48 – Love of Enemies
6:1-4 – Teaching about Almsgiving
6:5-8 – Teaching about Prayer
6:9-15 – Lord's Prayer

6:16-18 – Teaching about Fasting
6:19-21 – Treasures in Heaven
6:22-23 – The Light of the Body
6:24 – God and Money
6:25-34 – Dependence on God
7:1-5 – Judging Others
7:6 – Pearls and Swine
7:7-11 – The Answer to Prayers
7:12 – The Golden Rule
7:13-14 – The Narrow Gate
7:15 – 20 – False Prophets
7:21-23 – The True Disciple
7:24-28 – The Two Foundations



Jesus' Understanding of a Steward

A steward is one to whom the owner of a household turns over responsibility for caring for the property, managing affairs, making resources yield as much as possible, and sharing the resources with others. The position involves trust and accountability.



Matthew 25: 14-30

It will be as when a man who was going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one—to each according to his ability. Then he went away. Immediately the one who received five talents went and traded with them and made another five. Likewise, the one who received two made another two. But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money. After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.'



Matthew 25: 14-30 cont'd

[Then] the one who had received two talents also came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two talents. See, I have made two more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.' Then the one who had received the one talent came forward and said, 'Master, I knew you were a demanding person, harvesting where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter; so out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground. Here it is back.' His master said to him in reply, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter? Should you not then have put my money in the bank so that I could have got it back with interest on my return? Now then! Take the talent from him and give it to the one with ten. For to everyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And throw this useless servant into the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.'



Luke 12: 42-48

And the Lord replied, “Who, then, is the faithful and prudent steward whom the master will put in charge of his servants to distribute [the] food allowance at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master on arrival finds doing so. Truly, I say to you, he will put him in charge of all his property. But if that servant says to himself, ‘My master is delayed in coming,’^{*} and begins to beat the menservants and the maidservants, to eat and drink and get drunk, then that servant’s master will come on an unexpected day and at an unknown hour and will punish him severely and assign him a place with the unfaithful. That servant who knew his master’s will but did not make preparations nor act in accord with his will shall be beaten severely; and the servant who was ignorant of his master’s will but acted in a way deserving of a severe beating shall be beaten only lightly. Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more.



Understanding the Scripture

- The silver pieces represent the temporal and spiritual goods created by God.
 - spiritual: faith, hope, love
 - spiritual works of mercy: counsel the doubtful, instruct the ignorant, admonish the sinner, comfort the sorrowful, forgive injuries, bear wrongs patiently, pray for the living and the dead.
- temporal: talents of the body, brain, relationships, material goods, human achievements, human skill, etc.



Our Measurement

- “Each will be measured by the standard of his or her individual vocation. Each has received a different ‘sum’ – a unique mix of talents, opportunities, challenges, weaknesses and strengths, potential modes of service and response – on which the Master expects a return. He will judge individuals according to what they have done with what they were given



The Steward's Reward

- 1. Mark 10:28, Peter asks, “We have given up everything and followed you [Jesus].”
- 2. Jesus response (Mark 10:29-30), “There is no one who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not receive a hundred times more now in this present age: houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions and eternal life in the age to come.”



The Reward

- Giving up means receiving more
 - More responsibility as a steward
 - More persecution
 - Reward in another life



Vatican II - Lumen Gentium

- Human activity is valuable both for what it accomplishes here and now and also for its relationship to the hereafter
- The purpose of the human vocation to “earthly service” of one’s fellow human beings is precisely to “make ready the material of the celestial realm.”
- After people have done their best, God will perfect human goods and bring about the final fulfillment of human persons.



Reflection

- What are the ways by which Jesus set an example of being a perfect steward?
- The Word of God
 - John 15: 5
 - Luke 9: 46-48
 - John 14: 1-3



Luke 9: 46-48

An argument arose among the disciples about which of them was the greatest. Jesus realized the intention of their hearts and took a child and placed it by his side⁴⁸ and said to them, “Whoever receives this child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me. For the one who is least among all of you is the one who is the greatest.”



John 14: 1-3

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be.



John 15: 5

I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.



Homework



How does the Word of God and what I have learned so far challenge me?



Closing Prayer

Loving Father, we ask You to bless our efforts to build a community pleasing to You, as we worship with humble and contrite hearts. Help us as Our Journey Continues in Building a Faith-Filled Future for our community. We are called together by the power of the Holy Spirit, therefore, we rely on your constant guidance and help. Grant us wisdom to know your will, so we may respond with generous hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



