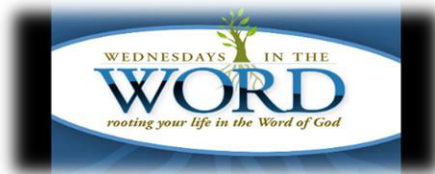




New Covenant Faith Bible Study



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LEADERSHIP

QUOTE: As a leader you are either a bright head light or a tail light.

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**The Parable of the Unjust Steward
Luke 16:1-13**

As leaders we must be reminded that we steward over the ministry that we have been entrusted with. A steward is a manager of another's assets which he or she does not own. God has entrusted you to supervise the ministry in His kingdom.

Luke 12:48b – For _____ to whom _____ is _____,
from him _____ _____ be _____.

I Corinthians 4:2 – Now it is _____ of _____ that they
be _____ _____ as a leader much has been given to
you.

There was a certain rich man who had a steward. What is it that the Lord Jesus has entrusted into your hands here at this church?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

It was reported to the rich man that he was wasting his goods. The steward was given personal responsibility to manage his boss' resources. But this steward did not take personal responsibility to manage it. As a leader you are called to personal responsibility of the time, talents, treasures, influence, and persons and responsibilities.

Questions

1. Why do you think that the steward wasted his Master's goods?
2. Do you believe that the steward was serious about what he had been given to manage?
3. Think of some ways we can waste our Lord's goods?

Every steward must be accountable. We want those who follow us to be accountable, but we do not want to be accountable.

Accountability is one of the foundational values in the life of a steward.

1. You must be accountable to God.
2. You must be accountable to your Pastor.
3. You must be accountable to those whom you serve.

The Master called the steward into accountability. He confronted the steward about the accusation that he was wasting his Master's goods.

The confrontation was personal and direct.” What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your stewardship. The Master wanted nothing less than an adequate accounting of what he had been doing as a steward and leader.

The Master decision was to take from the steward his stewardship. Romans 14:12 “So then each of us _____ of _____ to God.”

You must make yourself accountable as a steward, because if not, the Master does not have to use you. There are many others that He can use, because He will never be without a witness. It occurred to the steward, that he was going to be fired, so he rose up and become responsible and took responsibility for his poor performance.

QUOTE: Everything rises or falls with _____. The institution is reflection of the _____.

The steward began to look within himself and ask a hard question, “What shall I do?” The answers to his question lay within himself. He had to be willing to be creative, imaginative and willing to do the work which was required. If he lost his stewardship, he would lose his means of making a living. He concluded he was not willing to dig, and he was ashamed to beg. His resolution was again to take responsibility for work. True leaders rise to the occasion at hand. He knew he had to do something that would allow him to keep his dignity and provisions for him and his family.

So, he came up with a brilliant idea, his Master’s records were filled with bills unpaid. There was a stack of unpaid bills on his desk. So, the steward took the initiative to call the Master’s debtors and negotiate a lower payment. At least a lower payment was better than no payment at all. This negotiation with the debtors brought in additional revenue. Leadership will come up with creativity and initiatives. In verses 5-7, the steward made arrangements for payment. Explain what the steward did?

The Master after receiving this revenue was impressed with the unjust steward because the steward exercised wisdom (shrewdness and skill). The unjust steward because he exhibited initiative perhaps saved the Master's business and his personal job as well. The Master makes a very interesting remark about the Believer and the Unbeliever "For the sons of this world are more wise (shrewd) in their generation than the sons of light." Many times, the world shows more business acumen, insight and intelligence than the believers in Christ. We must utilize our skills for the kingdom. We must express a spirit of excellence in the kingdom and we must give our best for the kingdom. ***The sons and daughters of light must up their game.***

Conclusion

Jesus concludes his parable by challenging the believers to be good stewards, faithful stewards, and wise stewards where your leadership is concerned.

Lessons

- Learn to partner and collaborate with others (v.9)
- Learn to be faithful in the least (v. 10)
- Expect rewards and promotions when you are faithful
- Learn that God will commit to you true riches when you are faithful with money
- Learn that God will give you your own, if you take care of another's man stuff
- Learn that no servant can serve two masters
- If you want what is in your mentor's heart, you will get what's in their hand.