

# JESUS' TEACHINGS RELATED TO STEWARDSHIP

Conversations about stewardship (being caretakers of the household of God) usually begin by acknowledging the reality that all things come from God and that out of gratitude and obedience we return a portion of those gifts to God. This is certainly true, and later this month we will consider how the “tithe” arises from this truth.

Today, however, our conversation begins with considering how our identity in Jesus Christ should guide our approach to stewardship. Consistently throughout the gospel accounts of his ministry on earth, Jesus instructs those who would follow him about his essential desire and requirement for disciples: he wants all of you, every bit of your life, to belong to him. He warns his followers repeatedly of the dangers of possessions. Although not evil in themselves, possessions are powerful distractions from living as disciples.

Consider Jesus' encounter with the rich young ruler in *Luke 18:18-25*. To this good, righteous man, Jesus says that there is one more thing he must do: “Sell all that you own and distribute the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.”

In the days ahead, please spend some time reading the Bible and prayerfully considering what the following passages suggest to you about living your life as a follower of Christ.

❖“Treasure in heaven” and the pitfalls of possessions form the subjects of these passages: *Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 12:33-34; Mark 10:21; Acts 2:45; Acts 4:32-35*. What do you think Jesus means by “treasure in heaven”? If possessions are not evil in themselves, then how are we to think of and deal with them?

❖Jesus teaches about fear and anxiety concerning how we will live in these passages: *Luke 12:2-9, 22-31; Matthew 10:29-36; Matthew 6:25-33*. Why do you think Jesus counsels us about the dangers of trusting in financial security? What is the alternative way of trusting that he emphasizes? (Consider here the parables of the prepared slaves and housebreaking in *Luke 12:35-38 and Matthew 25:1-3, Luke 12:39-40 and Matthew 24:43-44*, respectively.)

❖In the Temple, Jesus observes the widow's offering: *Luke 21:1-4; Mark 12:41-44*. What does Jesus suggest God expects of us?

WHAT DOES JESUS CHRIST EXPECT  
OF US AS STEWARDS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD?



CHRIST  
CHURCH  
CATHEDRAL

GROWING IN MISSION:  
STEWARDSHIP 2016

MOBILE,  
ALABAMA

# CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

*JESUS' TEACHINGS  
RELATED TO STEWARDSHIP*  
Presented by Dean Gibson

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30—  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12

*STEWARDSHIP LETTERS MAILED*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

*THE TITHE AS  
GOD'S MEASURE*  
Presented by Dean Gibson  
*STEWARDSHIP LEADERSHIP  
CONTACTS BEGIN*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

*PROPORTIONAL GIVING AS  
OUR FAITHFUL,  
GROWING RESPONSE*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

*INGATHERING &  
CELEBRATION*

## STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

*Almighty God, your loving hand has given us all that we possess; give us grace to become faithful stewards of your bounty and to honor you by returning to you what is needed for the growth of the mission entrusted to us as Christ Church Cathedral; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. *2 Corinthians 9:6-8, 11-12*



## VESTRY OF CHRIST CHURCH

V. Lyn Bennett  
Cartledge W. Blackwell III  
Sage M. Bolt  
John D. Davidson  
Mary Esther T. Elliott  
Lewis H. Golden  
Steven B. Hall  
George B. Inge  
Robert W. Israel  
Banks C. Ladd  
Charles S. McKay  
Alison S. Mitchell  
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