

Accountability and Stewardship

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I. Introduction.

- A. Christians are experts at faking each other out for fear of rejection, fear of gossip, a desire to hide problems
- B. One of the great questions today has to do with why we believe what we believe (what is your authority?).
- C. Something bad has happened in the moral culture.
- D. Text: Luke 13:1-10.
- E. Repentance is a change of mind that issues in regret and a change in conduct. (Matthew 3:2-3)
- F. We have an accountability for our lives whether we are fruitful or not. Accountability is a fact of life.
- G. We are stewards in certain areas.

II. Stewardship of the gospel. (1 Corinthians 4:2; 2 Corinthians 5:19-20; Revelation 20)

- A. God's objective is the salvation of all. (2 Timothy 2:4; Luke 19:10)
- B. Our objective is Christ's objective. (John 20:21; 17:18)

III. Stewardship of gifts, abilities and talents God has given us. (1 Corinthians 4:7; 1:29)

- A. All that we have that is good is what God gave us.
- B. We will be accountable regarding our...
 - 1. Money. (Deuteronomy 8:18; Luke 12:15; Ecclesiastes 5:10-11)
 - 2. Leadership. (Psalm 75:6-7)

IV. Stewardship of our time. The Bible teaches us to number our days. (Ephesians 5:15-17)

V. Stewardship of our own pilgrimage of faith.

- A. Conversion is only the beginning.
- B. The objective is to grow individually. (2 Peter 1:2-3)
- C. Growing in godliness is becoming more like Jesus daily. (Romans 8:29; Ephesians 4:13)
- D. To grow...

1. Feed on God's Word. It will help us keep our perspective. (1 Peter 2:2; 2 Corinthians 4:18)
 2. Maintain fellowship with God and other believers. (Hosea 6:6; Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, 12)
 3. Be accountability.
- E. Think carefully about how you will invest your life. (Matthew 25)
1. If you are a self-starter, get on with it.
 2. If you are not, look for an organization or person that will help you.
 3. The worst we can do is do nothing.
- F. God has given us new machinery on the inside. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

VI. Conclusion.

- A. To be a good steward one must have a life worth sharing and be willing to share it.
- B. Choose for Jesus and not for yourself. (John 12:24)

Application questions:

1. What does it mean to be a steward of our own faith pilgrimage?

2. Which area of stewardship would you like to be more accountable in? How will you go about this?

3. How can you help others to be more accountable to what God has made them stewards of? Explain.
