

What about Stewardship?

Oh! Oh! Money again. No. No. Being a good steward is not about financial hand-outs. A Steward is a servant called to manage things; someone put in charge of His master's concerns. We Christians owe our principal stewardship to our master, the Lord God. The word, "Lord," means, "high master".

We humans are collectively the steward-caretakers, for God, of all He created. Individually we are all stewards according to our gifts and callings. An airline stewardess serves the needs of the passengers. So does a ship's steward or passenger train steward. We speak of farmers being good stewards of the land for future generations. Stewards in the Bible stories are the head servants of a household who are entrusted with their master's property. Household stewards were also trusted, on their honor, to provide for their own needs and pleasures from their master's property. This is the way it is with our Lord and us.

The world and everything in it belongs to the Lord Creator. Everything we have is entrusted to us by God. We are stewards of His Kingdom. We are managers of the time, things, supplies and financial opportunities that He has provided for our stewardship. God has assigned to each of us, certain talents, giftedness and abilities in order to better use our time on earth. He trusts us with freewill to use all these things well.

A good steward is a good servant-manager. Stewardship is a matter of obedient servanthood. Only God is above servanthood, yet He chooses to serve us all. Our only fulfillment in this life is in the fullness of our servant-stewardship. Our only true happiness is in our submissive service to God and His people. That's what He designed us to do.

- Happy are the stewards in family life who serve their parents, spouse and children.
- Happy are the stewards on the job who serve their boss well.
- Happy are those in civil life who serve their country and society.
- Happy are those in economic life who manage their dollars in God's holy plan.
- Happy are those who use their wealth to serve the poor.
- Happy are those who, in their spiritual life, serve God's Holy Church.
- Happy are those who in parish life serve their ordained pastor and his vision.
- Happy are those stewards who commit the time left in their life to the service of God's everlasting Kingdom.

Let's all say together; Amen; Amen; and Amen.