

GREAT POWER GREATER RESPONSIBILITY

PRECEPT

Luke 12:42-48

⁴² And the Lord replied, "A faithful, sensible servant is one to whom the master can give the responsibility of managing his other household servants and feeding them. ⁴³ If the master returns and finds that the servant has done a good job, there will be a reward. ⁴⁴ I tell you the truth, the master will put that servant in charge of all he owns. ⁴⁵ But what if the servant thinks, 'My master won't be back for a while,' and he begins beating the other servants, partying, and getting drunk? ⁴⁶ The master will return unannounced and unexpected, and he will cut the servant in pieces and banish him with the unfaithful. ⁴⁷ "And a servant who knows what the master wants, but isn't prepared and doesn't carry out those instructions, will be severely punished. ⁴⁸ But someone who does not know, and then does something wrong, will be punished only lightly. When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required.

PROMISE

There are many problems in life that we wish money could fix. Responsibilities come first, and the reward comes later. With great power comes great responsibility. If you want to be rich and help others, you must be able to handle the level of wealth and not abuse the power. How can you control things outside yourself if you can't manage your life? We sometimes ask God to give us something, but we don't often ask ourselves if we are truly ready to manage what we are asking for. God will entrust us more when we are faithful and wise stewards.

MANAGE YOUR RELATIONSHIPS. Husbands love your wives. Loving your spouse prevents divorce. You need to be on the same team and work together and to work together, you must serve one another. Ephesians 5:25 says, "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her." Wives love your kids. Proverbs 22:6 tells us, "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are told they will not depart from it." Loving your kids causes them to be a blessing to you financially. They will become responsible and can take care of you and themselves in the future. Think of it as investing for the future. Raising good kids makes them a blessing and not a burden to you and others. Children respect their parents. Honoring your parents by obeying them causes you to be responsible and capable. Ephesians 6:1-2 says, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother'— which is the first commandment with a promise." As kids, we are often self-conscious and unconfident about ourselves. Developing your abilities and becoming good at things causes you to develop confidence. Developing competencies and confidence are important tools for earning wealth.

MANAGE YOUR EMOTIONS. Proverbs 24:16 tells us, "For though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again, but the wicked stumble when calamity strikes." Stop wasting your time and resources to run away. Face your problems and move forward.

MANAGE YOUR FINANCES. Ecclesiastes 11:4, 6 says, "Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest...6 Plant your seed in the morning and keep busy all afternoon, for you don't know if profit will come from one activity or another—or maybe both." Learning contentment helps curb overspending. Wise people save and manage what they have. Living beyond your means leads to debt and bondage.

Work is good and is a blessing from God, but life is not all about work.

God wants to use you mightily; money is a tool that can be used for good but will amplify what you already have in your heart. If you are a good steward you will be more effective stewards of money. God will not just bless you and your family but the people around you.

PRACTICE

1. Responsibility. How do you manage your tasks and timelines with different levels of importance? Describe your process for making important decisions?

2. Good Steward. How will you manage the life God has given you? And how can we encourage and pray for you regarding this?

PRAYER

I. Family

- Praying for a loving, harmonious and Christ-centered families in our church.

II. Peace

- pray for God's peace to fill our hearts, our homes, our communities, and our world.

III. Courage

- Pray that God may grant us the courage to face our challenges before us.

IV. Hope

- Let us turn to God in times of uncertainties and may His peace reign in our hearts.

V. Unreached

- Pray that the light of Christ may shine brightly into the darkness of the lives of everyone.

VI. Love

- Pray that the body of Christ would faithfully show love to a hurting world in His name.

VII. Members

- Pray for the spiritual maturity and growth of each of our members.