

# BIBLE BASICS // Session 5: Generosity

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## CRITICAL QUESTION

\_\_\_\_\_ do we give?

## FORMAL DOCTRINE

**In the hands of God's children, money is food for the hungry, clothing for the naked and shelter for the stranger. With money we can care for the widow and the fatherless, defend the oppressed, meet the need of those who are sick or in pain.**

- 1. Gain all you can by honest industry.**
- 2. Save all you can. Do not throw the precious talent into the sea: Leave that folly to heathen philosophers. Do not throw it away in idle expenses, which is just the same as throwing it into the sea. Expend no part of it merely to gratify the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eye, or the pride of life.**
- 3. Give all you can. In order to see the ground and reason of this, consider, when the Possessor of heaven and earth brought you into being, and placed you in this world, he placed you here not as a proprietor, but a steward...**

John Wesley

## BIG IDEA

**Biblical stewardship produces \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
and \_\_\_\_\_.**

## KEY VERSE

Psalm 24:1-2 (NIV): The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; 2 for he founded it on the seas and established it on the waters.

## WHAT DO WE BELIEVE ABOUT STEWARDSHIP?

**1. God is the \_\_\_\_\_ of all good things.**

James 1:17, Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

**2. We are \_\_\_\_\_, not owners.**

Genesis 1:28, God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

**3. Stewardship is an act of \_\_\_\_\_.**

Malachi 3:16, Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it.

**4. Stewardship is a sign of \_\_\_\_\_.**

**5. Stewardship is God's plan to \_\_\_\_\_ the church.**

a. Tithe

b. Alms

c. Offerings

**6. \_\_\_\_\_ is the biblical start, and \_\_\_\_\_ is the spiritual goal.**

2 Corinthians 9:7, Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why are Christians so hesitant to teach or talk about money?
2. What are ways that God has used stewardship to shape you?
3. What have been your spiritual rewards for being generous or compassionate?
4. Share something you heard in this session that challenged or encouraged you.