



# ENTRUSTED

DESTROYERS OF  
STEWARDSHIP

# Destroyers of Stewardship

Luke 14:1 – 24



A steward is someone that owns nothing, but manages everything.



# 1 Cor. 6:19-20

Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.





Self-centeredness destroys stewardship.



# Self-centeredness destroys stewardship.

1. Self-righteousness
2. Self-importance
3. Self-promotion
4. Self-indulgence



# Self-righteousness



# Luke 14:1-6

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched. There in front of him was a man suffering from abnormal swelling of his body. Jesus asked the Pharisees and experts in the law, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath or not?" But they remained silent. So taking hold of the man, he healed him and sent him on his way.

Then he asked them, "If one of you has a child or an ox that falls into a well on the Sabbath day, will you not immediately pull it out?" And they had nothing to say.



# Jesus, the religious leaders and the Sabbath

Luke 6:9 – “I ask you which is lawful on the Sabbath; to do good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy it?”

Luke 13:14 -16 – “Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, “There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days not on the Sabbath.” The Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Doesn’t each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, who Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?”



# Self-righteousness

Jesus has already taught the religious leaders of Israel about the appropriateness of healing on the Sabbath but the leaders have learned nothing. They are not willing to admit that Jesus' righteousness exceeds their own.



We must cultivate a mind and heart that is willing to yield when confronted with the truth.



Self-righteousness destroys stewardship because it pits the steward against the owner.





# Self-centeredness destroys stewardship

1. Self-righteousness
2. Self-importance



# Luke 14:7-11

When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this person your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."



*True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less.*

*- Rick Warren*



When we talk to a prideful person, we get the feeling that they are important. When we talk to a humble person, we get the feeling that we are important.



God is not against power and prestige, he is  
against power and prestige *used for selfish  
purposes.*



Self-importance destroys stewardship because it leads us to pursue our own agenda at the expense of God's.



# Self-centeredness destroys stewardship

1. Self-righteousness
2. Self-importance
3. Self-promotion



# Luke 14:12-14

Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."





Jesus expects his stewards to break down economic and social barriers.



Don't promote yourself, serve others.



Self-promotion destroys stewardship because it honors self and not God.



# Self-centeredness destroys good stewardship

1. Self-righteousness
2. Self-importance
3. Self-promotion
4. Self-indulgence



# Luke 14:15-19

When one of those at the table with him heard this, he said to Jesus, "Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast in the kingdom of God."

Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.'

"But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.' Another said, "I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.'



# Luke 14:20-24

"Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.'

"The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.'

"'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.'

"Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and compel them to come in, so that my house will be full. I tell you, not one of those who were invited will get a taste of my banquet.'"



The invitees have prioritized what they have acquired for themselves over God's blessing.



## City of Man

**“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear....For the pagan world runs after such things, and your Father knows that you need them.” (Luke 12:22 and 30)**

or

## Kingdom of God

**“For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 14:17)**





# City of Man

**"Everything they do is done for people to see...they love the places of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; they love to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to be called "Rabbi" by others."  
(Matthew 23:5-7)**

or

# Kingdom of God

**"You know, brothers and sisters, that our visit to you was not without results. We had previously suffered and been treated outrageously in Philippi, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you the gospel in the face of strong opposition...we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God who tests our hearts." (1 Thessalonians. 2:1-4)**



Self-indulgence destroys stewardship because it communicates that satisfying self is a higher priority than pleasing God.



# Self-centeredness destroys stewardship

1. Self-righteousness
2. Self-importance
3. Self-promotion
4. Self-indulgence



The self-sacrificial life is the heart of stewardship



# Philippians 2:5-9

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death – even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name.

