

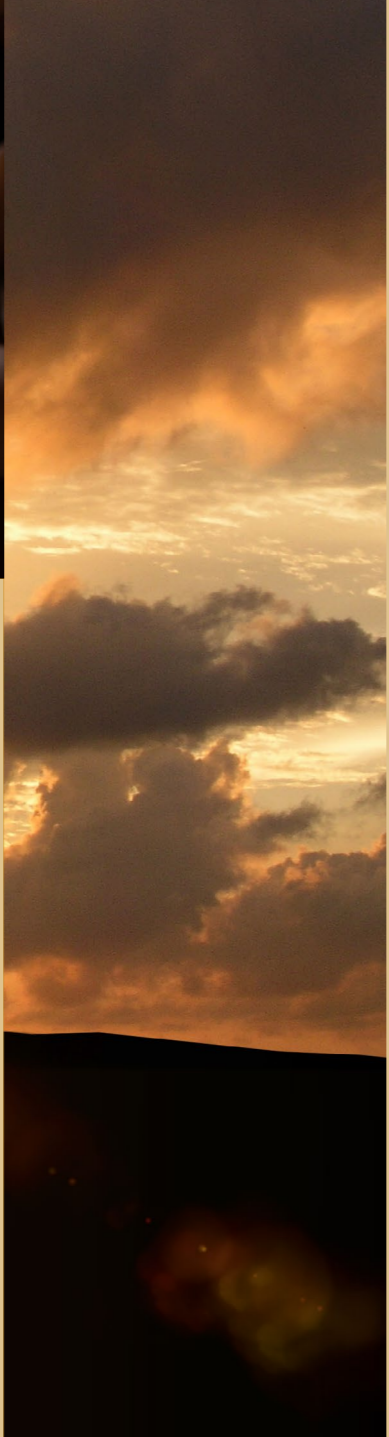


THE POWER TO ABIDE

“I am the vine, you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit” (Luke 15:5).

What an image—an image of a transformed and fruitful life! The fruit of obedience is the natural result of a connection with Christ. The key to victory in Christ is found in learning to abide—keeping our connection to the Source of life.

Pruning is merely God’s way of removing the parts of our lives that keep us from bearing fruit. A steward’s life begins at the cross and continues abiding in Christ. Through this intimate connection we have the power to live for Him.



CHRIST, THE ULTIMATE STEWARD

The life of a steward is the life of a disciple. Accepting the gift of salvation, we begin a life of identity and partnership with Jesus Christ. Only one who has shared in Christ’s death to sin can live His new life (Romans 6-8).

The Holy Spirit brings the indwelling Christ to our humanity—the power to live the Christian Lifestyle (Ephesians 3:16-19).

The gospel experience is the core of stewardship. Only one who experiences the joy of forgiveness and the assurance of salvation can trust God enough to let Him be Lord (1 John 1:9; 1 John 5:13).

Only one who follows Christ can be a good steward. Stewardship is discipleship.

It Really Is...

This series of brochures helps us understand our true relationship to God, each other and the church. When we understand that, we’ll have the power to

BE GOOD STEWARDS!

Use this series for personal instruction, group discussion, outreach, or stewardship education in your local church. Please contact us to place your order. Discover other useful resources via our website.

Bible verses are quoted from the New International Version.



GOD FIRST
ADVENTIST STEWARDSHIP MINISTRIES



IT REALLY IS A LIFESTYLE

THE POWER TO LIVE



I have been crucified
with Christ and I no longer
live, but Christ lives in me....
Galatians 2:20

THE POWER TO SUBMIT

We are God's workmanship, created
to do good works (**Ephesians 2:10**).

Clay in the potter's hands is a fitting image for our life
as a steward. As we surrender to God's control, He works
miracles. As we submit to His shaping, He transforms
us into His own image (**2 Corinthians 3:18**).

Submitting to God - yielding our will to Him
- is difficult for a Christian (**James 4:7**).

It means dying to self. Most of us would rather work hard
doing things than surrender to His control. Yet as we
submit, He creates us into a work of fine art, created to
do good works.



"...It is more blessed to give than to receive"
(**Acts 20:35**).

Giving is a reflection of our relationship with God.
Blessings come when we recognize that God
gives through us. As we manage His resources
we can share His blessings. Yet the greatest
blessing is to worship God by returning to Him
the best of what He has placed in our hands.

Accepting His ownership means we hold
everything in a divine trust. It is the Holy Spirit
who guides us in managing His resources.

THE POWER TO GIVE



THE POWER TO SERVE

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be
served, but to serve..." (**Mark 10:45**).

Christ came to serve. He demonstrated the
ultimate stewardship in His attitude of service.
Kneeling at the feet of His disciples, Jesus
modeled a life of service (**Philippians 2:5-8**).

Giving freely of ourselves does not come
naturally—it is the result of a life transformed by
the power of God. He replaces our natural desire
to focus on self with a heart willing to put others
first. As we experience His power in our lives, we
develop the desire to serve others.

