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.

"I am the vine, you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit" (Luke 15:16).

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.

Bible verses are quoted from the New International Version.
“...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.

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

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.

“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.