

Session 2: “Ask, Thank Tell”

Lane’s suggested Stewardship Team Mission

“The goal of our stewardship ministry is to help God’s people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and finances God has entrusted to them.” (page 11)

Chapter 3. Money and Possession in the New Testament

“Jesus talks more about money and possessions than about any other topic, except the Kingdom of God itself.” (page 33) *What verses or stories come to your mind?*

“The little sentence ‘You cannot serve God and wealth’ sums up the threat of having money and possessions. In order to grasp the meaning of this little six-word sentence, we need to dispel the false myth that we are not rich.” (page 34) *What about our lives makes us think that we are not rich?*

“If you have to choose between serving God or wealth, choosing wealth is the wrong choice.” (page 39) *Why is placing your trust in wealth a tricky proposition?*

“I have found that the most effective way to break the power of money is to give it away – to give it away generously, to give it away in a manner that the world would describe as reckless.” (page 42) *Describe a time when you gave away money in a generous way, and how it made you feel.*

Chapter 4. Portrait of a Biblical Giver

What six characteristics does the Bible tell us are the values of a good steward?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

“Stewardship leaders have the privilege of asking, ‘How can we help people become this kind of giver, so that their hearts might be drawn closer to Jesus?’ ” (page 56) *How can we help people adopt the values of a good steward?*

Chapter 5. Practicing Biblical Stewardship

“There are many cultural taboos that work against open, plain talk about money in congregations.” (page 58) *What are some of these?*

“There is a second ‘money taboo’ that is unique to congregations. This taboo claims that the congregation’s financial life is not only separate from the spiritual life, it is inferior to the spiritual life.” (page 59) *How strong is this taboo at our congregation?*

“The ‘conspiracy of silence’ is an often unspoken agreement that everyone will be more comfortable if money isn’t talked about in the congregation, especially by the pastor.” (page 63) *How should the pastor be involved in the stewardship ministry of the congregation?”*

“As long as money is not a topic of conversation, money will continue to be a problem in people’s relationship with Jesus, rather than a catalyst for strengthening that relationship.” (page 66) *How can the Stewardship Team make money an appropriate topic of conversation for the congregation and its members?*