

CRF Module 2, Assignment 2

1. Read Deuteronomy 10:14 and Psalm 24:1

- a. What do these passages teach about the ownership of your possessions?

God owns everything above and below. And all that we have is either a gift or property of Gods to be stewards by us.

The earth and everything in it, an all who live in it, belong to God. Which is why Satan and false Shepards are thieves trying to steal why God created as good.

- b. Write a practical idea that will help you more consistently recognize God's ownership of your possessions.

Like a child to a Father. The father works, buys, and pays for everything the child is provided, for which the child can express gratitude and appreciation by how she takes care of what she has been given or received. The fact is that the child did not have to do the "hard" work or heavy lifting to receive the gift/provisions. But to be entrusted with the next thing, it will depend on how well the child expressed her appreciation by how she managed or appreciated what she had previously been given.

2. Read 1 Chronicles 29:11 and Psalm 135:6

- a. What do these verses say about God's authority and sovereignty?

His is the greatest power, glory, splendor, majesty. He is the head overall wealth and honor comes from Him. He is the ruler of all things (not Satan) in His hands is strength and power to exalt and give strength to all (including me) We (I) give thanks and praise

God does what pleases Him both in heaven and on earth. He is not out to please me, but to bless me which enriches me and adds no sorrow.

3. Do you normally recognize the Lor's authority and ability to intervene in our lives?
 - a. Perhaps, but not always believe He will – or at least not in the way I often think he will or how I might want him too. But if he did, I would have cheated myself – He's ways are so much better. They go deeper into the issue to produce lasting change.
 - b. If not, how can you become consistent in recognizing His authority?

I know he has the authority and ability – I have a habit of holding out that he will. My lack of Hope is somewhere between He could, and He would if he were sought. Yet, I seek Him but maybe not with my whole heart which may explain why I do not recognize His authority demonstrating in my life. Or my resistance to abusive authority has given me a negative connotation of authority which I have projected on to God.

I could become more consistent in recognizing His authority, in all the ways I use to take what I received for granted. Like, begin to pray over my paycheck as I do over each meal. Giving thanks and praise for Him being my provider and using my current employer as a resource of His divine authority. After praying and giving thanks like fish and loaves, I listen for instruction on how to divide the provisions and begin to serve the Lord by putting those \$ in each category. Like the disciples being instructed to have the 5000 sit in groups of 50 which made it easier to serve them.

4. Read Psalm 73:2
 - a. Does it bother you when you see the wicked prosper?

Initially, yes. Then on 2nd thought, I realize that their material prosperity is all the prosperity they will ever know or experience. Yet, they do not know that they have gained the whole world but have lost their soul for eternity. Or if they lose it, because it is their god, they will suffer and may never recover. They will die of either a broken heart or of hopelessness.

- b. How do you reconcile this reality with the knowledge that God is in control (sovereign)?

Because if the wicked or prospering, it is because God is allowing it. And either he will use it to draw them to Himself, or he will release them to their inequities. It will most likely show up in a crisis regarding their material prosperity, that will either draw towards God or deeper into their own despair. Because God has said in His word, I set before you blessings and curses, Life or Death (Sin), choose Life (Jesus)

5. Read Genesis 45:4-8 and Romans 8:28

- a. Why is it important to realize that God is in control and uses even difficult circumstances for good in the life of a godly person?

Because without realizing that God is sovereign and that whatever difficulty circumstance, I am experience, be it by my own foolishness or God's testing, it will enable God to prune what is dead, too sick to recover or good but not great. Which allows all my energy, talent, resources that God has given me to be used more specifically towards the mission and purpose He desires within me. Like a prize-winning Rose or Pumpkin. Prune for the best!

- b. Describe a difficult circumstance you have experienced and how the Lord ultimately used it for good in your life?

The past 8 years since my rebellion led to my marrying into a domestic violent situation with a professed believer who had not done his own healing work. The past 18 months since the Lord released me from that marriage via a divorce on my husbands' behalf. I came out of the marriage with \$55K cash from the sale of our house. A few clothes and a 17 yr old jeep liberty with 220+ miles but no mortgage and no debt.

However, over those 18 months, at age 58, having also lost my teaching job of 8 years, I had no idea how I was going to make a living or support myself long term on my own.

Although I set aside a modest amount to furnish my new apt, fund my rent for a year, I proceeded to invest in one online training after another, out of fear and depression (without knowing it) trying to find a way to make passive income fast, so that I could alleviate the fear and then focus on what I thought God would have me do. Little did I know that Pride was causing God to stiff arm all my efforts, and in the process, I literally went broke. By August 2023, I was borrowing and applying for benevolence to make rent and buy gas with only food banks available to get food.

By the beginning of 2024, my misery had begun to outweigh both my pride and my fear of change, and I finally surrendered, then repented, having never known that God in all His Grace would ensure that I never turned back to self-reliance again. (not to be like Lots wife). I have come to understand and believe when God says His grace is sufficient, I now realize that in Christ, my "new" creation gave me a sinless nature that no longer competes with my old nature. Christ is Grace, and it is His power, purpose, and privilege to use His power on my behalf to ensure the desires of His heart, that I remain repented...turned towards Him.

6. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

a. What does this passage tell us about why we should work?

So, that I can be prepared not only for every good work, but also that I do not become dependent on anyone on earth, other than God. I have not minded my business very well, which is to say, I have not managed God's provisions or investments very well.

Although I can still feel a sting of shame from time to time, I do not dwell there anymore. I often must preach to my own soul that I am a new creation. I am a new Tree, planted in new soil and amount many streams of water, that my leaves will never again wither (but will bring healing to nations) and my fruit will be as food to feed those in need.

Work allows me to demonstrate my repentance and see God's grace demonstrate His commitment and faithfulness to me by confirming that I have been made new when I recognize new fruit that is unlike the old fruit. It is good both for my mental health, my spiritual development to work with excellence with a new understanding that I am being given a 2nd chance but this time as a New Creation by faith, to steward a little correctly and profitably, so that God can determine my trustworthiness for the next level of provision.

God has used all these circumstances to keep me close to him, a bit like breaking the leg of a wondering baby sheep (but for its on good) to be able to carry it around his neck and return to the heard. God did not want me to have to go through this ever again. The time is urgent, and He is supernaturally preparing me through both this coaching process and discipline, so that I become mature and bare much fruit before He returns.

7. Read Psalms 34:9-10 Matthew 6:31-33 and Philippians 4:19

a. What has the Lord promised concerning meeting your needs.

He promised to meet all my needs. He also says to not worry about the basic stuff, but seek first His Kingdom and rightness, because in that process, the basic things will also be provided. But if I worry constantly about the mundane, I will completely miss the point and purpose for why I am even here or delighting in Him and fulfilling the desires He gave to my heart.

I felt hesitant this past month when I had to borrow \$800 from Craig just to make rent. At first, I was upset and a bit despondent that God didn't make a

way for me to meet rent without having to borrow. Yet, then the HS describe that it's not really a loan between me and my brothers, but that it is simply God prerogative to withdraw \$\$ from one of 'His" accounts and transfer it by making a deposit in your account. I have no way of knowing whether God will play it out as a means of my own consequences, or if He will supernaturally move on one or both hearts to forgive the debt, since it all belongs to Him to begin with and according to Psalms 135.6 God does what pleases him, knowing He knows what will bless me the most and cause me to bare more fruit of His kind.

- b. How does this apply to you today? Yesterday, Sunday June 2, 2024. I woke up having just gotten paid from my job, yet also had to borrow \$800 just to make rent, thereby leaving nothing for food. Plus, my work schedule prevented me from going to the foodbank last Thursday. So, I had very few provisions (so I thought) in my kitchen to make breakfast, let alone lunch or dinner. I have \$17 dollars for 2-weeks until I get paid again. I did not cheat nor lie on my unemployment filing (even though I would have given me a couple \$100 to bridge the gap. But after having done this study, I realized more and more that by faith, I had to believe that God's grace was sufficient, even though it looks like I have insufficient funds. Nevertheless, as I got up, went to the kitchen, opened the refrigerator, I noticed a carton of egg whites, some pico de gallo and some left over bacon bits. I had enough to make an complete and enough sweet potatoes to make a pancake batter for 1 serving, along with a fresh grapefruit I had not yet eaten. Altogether, like the feeding of the 5000, I gave thanks and asked God to bless it and as I began to use my gifts, talents, and abilities to create a culinary nutritious breakfast fortified with nutrients and lots of protein that lasted me to midafternoon. It was the first time I saw by faith, the multiplying of provisions that seemed small, yet provided everything needed with some left over for later.

8. Read 1 Corinthians 4:2

- a. What is the definition of a steward? Someone who has been given a trust or provisions and has proven faithful and multiplied those provisions into more through proper management, planning and discipline (see Joseph how he managed in 7 years of plenty for the 7 years of famine coming)

- b. What does this verse say is our requirement as stewards?

The Nature of True Apostleship

this, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed.

....."Do not go beyond what is written." Then you will not be puffed up in being a follower of one of us over against the other.

- To be faithful

- Use wisdom (Fear the Lord)
- Prayerful for instructions
- Obedient

The kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power. What do you prefer? Shall I come to you with a rod of discipline, or shall I come in love with a gentle spirit?

9. Read Luke 16:10-12

a. Describe three principles found in this passage

Principle of honest

Principle of trust

Principle of honor (and or prosperity)

b. How can you apply these principles in your life?

Since my repentance at the beginning of this process for my sin of pride, I am now aware of the temptations I once engaged into the point of sin, such as taking advantage of my employer's property, supplies, print services for things outside my teaching assignment.

I justified my dishonesty through my resentment of the low wage and lack of support they provided for the extra work and time I invested.

Today, I trust God to keep me pure and repented by faith in His grace. To embrace my new job at Tastebuds Kitchen as a "fresh start" with the knowledge and acceptance of having been "reborn" of Spirit, transforming my old nature into a new nature, a new tree with new roots that bears new and different fruit.

- Be impeccable with my words
- Tell stories that are true without exaggerations or additions that are not true.
- Work with excellence, not cutting corners for convenience or ease
- Be early as on time and leaving the matter better than I found it, wherever possible
- Do not ride the clock for no reason
- Bring my own food and do not eat stock, but only extra prepared as demo, as permitted by management.
- Process all grievances or conflicts with God first (Matt 6:33) trusting His guidance on how to resolve it, be it only with Him or between the other and myself with dignity, grace, and humility rather than pride or arrogance.

10. Read Leviticus 19:11-13 Deuteronomy 25:13-16 and Ephesians 4:25
- a. What do these verses communicate to you about God's demand for honesty? He is not joking. There is no such thing as greasy grace. His Grace is sufficient to keep me honest once I wholeheartedly surrendered and quickly claimed deeded everything in my possession over to Him.
 - b. Are you consistently honest? Not in the past, but since I surrendered all my attachments and idolatries to the best of current revelation, I have been sustained by God's Grace to operate from my new nature, new creation that is now sinless rather than sinful and work in unity with the Holy Spirit and my Fathers Will, ways and desires. There is no more division or straddling the fence as if there we two options, such as my will and God's Will, but through repentance (180 turn) the self-will was dissolved into God's will at the moment of my rebirth, salvation, sanctification and justification and now only contending for the renewing of my mind to this Truth, much like a single cup of ocean water is poured back into the ocean itself, never to be segregated or separated again.