

1.

Read Deuteronomy 10:14 and Psalm 24:1.

- a. **What do these passages teach about the ownership of your possessions?**
- b. **Write a practical idea that will help you more consistently recognize God's ownership of your possessions.**

Student Answer

a) **The universe, and everything in it (including our possessions) is the Lord's**

b) **If the Lord is maker and owner of all we have, then we can know that we are just stewards of what he has graciously given us. Therefore our hearts desire should be set on pleasing Him with those possessions. For example, we must be careful to take care of the material possessions we have (such as tools, furniture, appliances, etc.)so that we are not wasteful with what the Lord has given us.**

2.

Read 1 Chronicles 29:11-12 and Psalm 135:6.

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

Student Answer

He reigns and rules over all His creation. He has the authority and the power to do whatever He wills with it according to His character.

3.

a. Do you normally recognize the Lord's authority and ability to intervene in our lives?

b. If not, how can you become consistent in recognizing His authority?

Student Answer

a) Yes, in recent years we have become increasingly more aware of how He can move and intervene on our behalf. We can trust that He work all things out for our good(and to make us look more like Christ) even when we don't always see His hand working. It can still be hard to pause and recognize these truths in the moment.

4.

Read Psalm 73:2-20.

a. Does it bother you when you see the wicked prosper?

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

Student Answer

a) Yes, I often wonder why God would let them increase in riches and just enjoy ease of life without having to (or desiring to) work hard. -Kyle
Not very often. I have seen the value of not having much. Personally, I struggle more with being afraid to have too much and getting caught up in the sin of greed. I would rather have less and know I am being intention and faithful with what we have. So, when I see the wicked prosper I mostly think

about how their hearts are likely being drawn that much farther from understanding their need for the Lord. -Darrah

B) I understand that God is delivering them into their own prideful lusts so that it is bringing themselves to the point of destruction. -Kyle

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?

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

Student Answer

It is usually the harder times in life that make us better and stronger Christians. We ought to know that the difficult things will also pass for the betterment of our future.

Leading up to a minor surgery for Philip ended up being a lot more stressful and worrisome than it needed to be. It boiled down to a chance to put our trust and faith in God through the process.

6.

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12.

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

Student Answer

To be an example to the world around us of what it looks like to put in the work the Lord commands us to so that He might supply our needs

7.

Read Psalm 34:9-10; Matthew 6:31-33; and Philippians 4:19.

- a. What has the Lord promised concerning meeting your needs?**
- b. How does this apply to you today?**

Student Answer

A) He will always meet them and we should not be worried about them being met

B) He will provide us a house to live in even if it is not exactly what we think it will be. Our responsibility is to trust in Him and run to Him for everything

8.

Read 1 Corinthians 4:2.

- a. What is the definition of a steward?**
- b. What does this verse say is our requirement as stewards?**

Student Answer

A) someone who is put in charge to look after the possessions or work of another

B) One that is found faithful

9.

Read Luke 16:10-12

- a. Describe three principles found in this passage.
- b. How can you apply these principles in your life?

Student Answer

A) 1- If you can't be trusted with little, you can't be trusted with much?

2- If you can't be trusted with earthly, unrighteous riches, why should God trust you with true/spiritual riches to expand the kingdom of God?

3- If you're not faithful to work for somebody else, why would we be given our own work?

B) Be faithful and trustworthy with whatever God has given us- whether much or little. Don't stop working hard for the Kingdom. He has given us everything we need to be faithful.

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?
- b. Are you consistently honest?

Student Answer

A) As believers, we are to put off dishonesty and value truth greatly as new creations in Christ.

B) Most of the time, yes. There is always the temptation to exaggerated, tell a white lie to spare someone's feelings, or avoid confessing something. But we are both growing in our awareness of these temptations and are working to turn away from them.