

The paper is about defining what biblical stewardship is and how it goes in hand in hand with discipleship in order to fully understand the true definition of the biblical stewardship. With the firm foundation as the basis of the stewardship, the paper deals with various topics surrounding the management of God's possession such as basic principles, spiritual warfare, prosperity gospel, tithing and debt. It gives us many biblical examples to support the ideas and provides the practical methods on how to be a wise and faithful stewards of what God has blessed us with.

It was reassuring to read the same belief when it came to tithing. It was really insightful to read the biblical reasons behind tithing. The cheerful giving vs. the mandatory or pressured giving and the 10% general rule of tithing that a lot of people are familiar with should really be preached and taught with the right information. That it's not the amount that matters but it's the faith that's behind the giving. God loves generous and cheerful giver who puts His kingdom above all other things. In my ministry, I see young generation struggling with tithing and even weekly offerings as they are caught up with the flashy and desirable things in the world. Often I do see them spending good amount of money on going out, eating out and hanging out with friends but during offering on Sunday, they are usually very hesitant to give something back to God. As the paper confirmed, I believe a good stewardship starts with faith in God and whether you have become a disciple of God and confess he is truly the Lord of your life.

I loved the passage on Matthew 6:19-24 on page 19/20 and how the word “master” could be a symbol for “Mammon” that represent the spiritual power in our lives to seek and desire money, power, prestige and lust. As the author mentioned, the term “master” and “slave” can be more than just literary reference but to point out our spiritual warfare we have with the desire of the worldly things. While it is difficult to free ourselves completely free from the Mammon, if our desire is to be like Jesus who gave everything up for us, then we need to mimic his lifestyle and teaching to give generously and let our Holy Spirit take control of us to defeat the spiritual demons of this world.

I was little perplexed by the example of John Wesley on page 27 as he gave us all his earning except for little he needed to live. While it was mentioned that it is an extreme example, I couldn't help but to walk away with the feeling that as the true stewards of God's belonging, I need to give away most of my possessions in order to be the true stewards. The paragraph does end with asking the readers to learn to own things without treasuring and to live simply but how do you define the simple living when you have given such an extreme example of stewardship. I was really excited to read about the health-and-wealth gospel as I was recently struggling with it but had hoped that there was something little more practical than what was discussed.

Overall, the paper was very helpful in reaffirming on some of my beliefs while providing me with much needed insight on topics I wasn't sure

on. I will definitely look to share some of the teachings in tithing and debts with my congregation in hopes of becoming a faithful steward of God before He calls us back to our real home.

With integrity, I have read this book (circle one):

- Thoroughly and Entirely 100%

Signed: __Seong Kim_____