

A REDEMPTIVE STEWARDSHIP™ RESOURCE

Redemptive Stewardship™

A Devotional Journey



WORKBOOK

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Introduction

At Crown, we are passionate about seeing lives restored through the teaching of biblical stewardship. God has shown us that the practice of biblical stewardship not only restores broken finances, it also restores broken marriages, families, businesses, communities – it can even change nations. Stewardship changes everything! Because when we care for what God has given us in the way He intended, we and those around us are blessed. In fact, every major aspect of life is impacted by good and faithful stewardship. We call this invisible, restoring power Redemptive Stewardship™.

This book is intended to guide you to a deeper understanding of the six key areas of Redemptive Stewardship:

- Resource Stewardship
- Vocational Stewardship
- Gospel Stewardship
- Generational Stewardship
- Business Stewardship
- Environmental Stewardship

You may use it however you like but it was written to take you through a 12-week journey, allotting 2 weeks for each of the 6 areas of Redemptive Stewardship. For each week you will find a biblically-based devotional thought, questions for reflection, the opportunity to set goals (with samples included), 2 scriptures you can meditate on throughout the week, 4-5 tips you could apply and an inspiring quote from Crown founder Larry Burkett or current CEO, Chuck Bentley. You may use it for your own personal study, reflection and growth, with your spouse or other family members, or potentially even in a small group setting.

Without biblical stewardship, everything fails. With it, everything flourishes. From your money to your talents, job, family, business, even the natural resources around you – God has entrusted A LOT to your care. May He use the pages that follow to guide you to a deeper understanding of how He wants to use you and everything He has given you, during your time on earth.

Blessings for the journey ahead,

Your Crown Family



Our Prayer for You

May you embrace the possibilities that exist when you truly surrender all that you are and all that you have to be His faithful steward. We pray that you will experience a peace, joy and freedom you did not know was possible. Our hope is that you will live a fulfilling and abundant life of purpose today, with even greater eternal rewards to come.



Resource Stewardship

“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’”

Matthew 25:21 ESV

Resource Stewardship is about so much more than getting out of debt and living on a budget. It is growing into the understanding that all that we are and all that we have was never intended to be about us. It is to be used by God to advance His kingdom for His glory and the benefit of others. We are called to manage everything God has given us according to His biblical principles, because when we care for what God has given us in the way He intended, we and those around us are blessed.

As you read through the Old Testament, you may shake your head as the Israelites worship false gods like Baal. But are we really that different today? While you don't have an altar in your home, you may be worshipping money in more subtle ways. Do you trust God to provide for you, or when it comes to money do you always try to take control? Matthew 6:24 says "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

Search your heart for where money may have a hold over you. Consider the following attitudes and determine which could be true of you.

- Fear of going without
- Pride over what your hard work has accomplished
- General discontentment with what you have
- A desire to keep up with the Joneses
- Difficulty distinguishing between needs and wants

If you notice one of the heart attitudes toward money mentioned above in your own life, take it immediately to the Lord in confession and ask for His help to overcome it and to replace it with His way of thinking.

1 Chronicles 29:11-12 says, "Everything in the heavens and earth is yours, O Lord, and this is your kingdom. We adore you as being in control of everything. Riches and honor come from you alone, and you are the Ruler of all mankind; your

hand controls power and might and it is at your discretion that men are made great and given strength.” What a great reminder that everything belongs to the Lord, including your home, car, and paycheck. He is sovereign over every single aspect of your life. Give Him control, and place total trust over your finances and materials to Him.

When you do, you will find freedom and peace. Then, with God in control, guiding your steps, you can determine the practical steps you need to take in order to devote your time and resources to growing His kingdom instead of your own earthly treasures. Do you need to focus on:

- Getting out of debt
- Living on a budget
- Starting or increasing your savings
- Tithing
- Investing
- Becoming more generous

Spend some time thinking about your underlying attitudes about money, asking: what are my tendencies, where do they come from, and how does God want to replace those attitudes with His perspective? Then, take the first steps toward becoming His wise manager of all He has entrusted to you by focusing on one of the practical areas above.



“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:19-21

PRACTICAL TIPS AND ADVICE

Consider implementing the tips below. In the space provided, feel free to modify them or make a note of how you plan to apply the tips to your life.

1. Consider only paying for items with cash. Set aside every five dollar bill you touch. At the end of a predetermined period of time, use this money towards one of your monthly goals.

2. Make a list of any debt you have. Consider how much margin could exist in your time and budget for serving the Lord if these debts were paid off. Begin a debt repayment plan.

3. Try a spending fast for a period of time and only purchase absolute necessities. Look for creative ways to use what you already have instead of purchasing more.

4. Start a list of everything you are thankful for and continue to add to it daily. See how long you make your list.

5. Choose something that you have that you could use to meet a need around you in an act of generosity (money, clothing, time, etc.).

GOALS

This week, focus on setting goals related to your finances and material resources. For example, you may set out to pay off a certain amount of debt, save a certain amount, tithe an additional percentage, or give away some treasured objects.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Throughout this week, answer these questions on the following pages.

Your past experiences with money make a major impact on your mindset about money today.

How did your family manage money when you were growing up?

Was one parent a saver? The other a spender?

Was money the source of conflict?

Are there elements you want to carry into your family and others you want to guard against?

How do you view the role of God in your finances? How does this impact the way you spend, save, and give?

What are some practical steps you could take to move you from where you are to where you would like to be when it comes to 1) trusting God and 2) living as His wise manager of the resources He's entrusted to your care?



REFLECTION NOTES

REFLECTION NOTES

“Do you really trust God, or do you just say you trust God?”
– Larry Burkett



Vocational Stewardship

“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful. I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.”

Psalm 139:13-15 NIV

At first glance, you may think vocational stewardship is about finding a good job so that you can make money, so that you can give, save, and spend the way God wants you to. But that isn't it at all.

Vocational stewardship is about recognizing God as our Creator ... our Designer ... and discovering the gifts, skills, and strengths He has placed in us for His glory. It is about knowing who we are, why are we here and what God wants to do in and through each of us. In short, it focuses on our identity and our work.

God wants to use the gifts and talents he has given us for His glory. He has blessed each of us with a personality, natural abilities, learned skills, spiritual gifts and life experiences. He wants to work in each of these areas of our lives to fulfill His purposes for us, our families, friends, neighborhoods, churches, schools, workplaces and beyond.

So who are you? Who did God create you to be? What is your identity?

There are endless personality tests, soul-searching books and articles, and people who dedicate their careers to helping others discover their identities. This desire to find one's true identity has been around for thousands of years. And, in the search to find their identity, people often place their hopes in things they believe will truly fulfill them ... things like money, work, sports, status, popularity, power, relationships. But we will never be able to find our true identity in things of this world and these things will never truly satisfy.

Ephesians 4:22-24 points us in the right direction, "Throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God – truly righteous and holy."

There is only one path we can take to find our true identity, and that path is in and through Jesus Christ. We can only truly know our real identity when we realize and believe that our identity comes from the one who created all things. Genesis 1:27 says "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." Knowing our Creator is essential

to discovering and living out our true identity. “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come” (2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV).

You are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14). God designed you on purpose with a specific purpose in mind. You are fully known and fully loved for who you really are by Him, not for who you want to be or who you want others to think you are. When we place our confidence in the knowledge that we are loved regardless of what the world thinks of us, we receive true fulfillment through Christ. We can stop taking on the cheap imitation identities the world assigns to us, and replace them with our true God-given identity, which is first and foremost child of God.

Then, once we are secure in His love, in our identity as a child of God, and in His perfect design for us, we can start to live according to that design and fulfill the purposes for which he created us.

PRACTICAL TIPS AND ADVICE

Consider implementing the tips below. In the space provided, feel free to modify them or make a note of how you plan to apply the tips to your life.

1. Consider a fast from the things that cause you to compare yourself to others. It may be certain social settings, tv or social media. Instead, allow God to speak regarding who He created you to be.

2. Journal on the topic “How did God design me?”

3. Consider taking a Christian personality assessment like Crown’s PID.

4. Taking into account everything you know about how God wired you, write a personal mission statement that summarizes His calling on your life.

GOALS

This week, focus on setting goals related to understanding your true, God-given identity and design. For example, you may set out to break free of a certain worldly identity, take a spiritual gifts inventory, immerse yourself in scripture related to God as Creator and the identity He assigns His followers, or write a personal mission statement for your life based on how God designed you.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life that I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

Galatians 2:20

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Throughout this week, answer these questions on the following pages.

What is your greatest temptation to try and be someone you are not?

What is a significant area of insecurity for you and how does that cause you to try to prove to others that you are worthy of love and acceptance?

What are some of the identities the world has assigned to you?

How would you describe your God-given design? Think in terms of personality traits, natural abilities, strengths, spiritual gifts, etc.

How might God want to use your design to build His Kingdom? Include how He might want to use both your insecurities (or help you overcome them) as well as your God-given design.

REFLECTION NOTES

REFLECTION NOTES

“My greatest fear in life is standing before the Lord and hearing Him say, ‘I had so much more for you, but you held on too tightly.’”

Larry Burkett



Gospel Stewardship

“Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’”

Matthew 28:18-20

Our world is hurting. People all around us are wandering, looking for answers, purpose, meaning, identity, belonging and more. Everything they are searching for, everything that is worth anything at all can be found in the person of Jesus. Jesus came to seek, restore, and redeem our broken world. But for many, no one has ever taken the time to share who Jesus is with them. Or, they have been driven away from Him because of their own misunderstandings or even false testimonies, evil intent or hypocritical actions of others.

As Christ-followers, our highest calling is to lead others into the love, joy, peace and hope offered through a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ. One of our greatest responsibilities is how we carry the name of Jesus through our words and actions.

1 Corinthians 4:1-2 reminds us, “This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.” We are to be servants and we are carrying the mysteries of God. The greatest, most lasting impact we can make in another person’s life is to help them begin to see these mysteries of God all around them and in doing so lead them into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ.

At Crown, the purpose behind everything we do is to bring people into a life-transforming relationship with Jesus Christ. The same can be true of you. Every other area of Redemptive Stewardship exists as an opportunity for you to be a steward of the Gospel.

We’ve already looked at Vocational Stewardship from the perspective of your God-given identity and design. He has uniquely designed each of us. He is sovereign over our cultural differences, our life-experiences that shape the way we see things and think about life, He is sovereign over our past, present and future ... and He has a plan to use all those things that are unique to you, in order to reach someone else who needs you in their life.

In the New Testament, after Jesus’ death and resurrection and ultimate ascension, the disciples were commissioned with spreading the gospel to the end of the earth (as are each of us). We see countless examples of God sending the right person at the right time with the right message and it is powerful!

- Peter, a Jewish disciple of Jesus, preached largely among the Jews – starting in Acts 2
- God very specifically sent Ananias to baptize Saul – Acts 9
- God sent Cornelius and his friends and family to Peter – Acts 10
- God sent Barnabus (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, first to stand up for Saul among the disciples and then to accompany Saul in his ministry – Acts 9 & 14
- Paul, born of Jewish Pharisee parents in Tarsus which was a gentile city, was disliked by Jews and Christians alike for a period of time, before ministering to the Gentiles during a lot of his New Testament ministry.

In each of these instances, God matched the gifts and abilities He had given each person, their background, and their life experiences with those of the people who needed to hear God's message. You, too, are the right person, with the right background, and the right message, at the right time for someone. Ask God to show you who and to give you the courage and determination to follow through.

PRACTICAL TIPS AND ADVICE

Consider implementing the tips below. In the space provided, feel free to modify them or make a note of how you plan to apply the tips to your life.

1. Write out what you would say if given the opportunity to share the gospel with someone.

2. If you do not already know your neighbors, find a way to introduce yourself and meet them. Don't forget about neighbors who may live across, beside and behind you.

3. Set aside a time each day to pray specifically for the people you know who are not Christ-followers, or for opportunities to get to know people who are not Christ-followers but need Jesus.

4. Write out your God story. What was your life before you knew the Lord? How did you come to know the Lord? What difference has He made in your life. How have you grown in your relationship with Him?

GOALS

This week, focus on setting goals related to sharing the gospel with others. For example, you may need to intentionally reach out to someone God puts on your mind, daily pray for opportunities to share His love with those around you, write out or practice saying exactly what the gospel message is and what it has meant to you.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



“Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints.

Colossians 1: 24-26 (ESV)

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Throughout this week, answer these questions on the following pages.

Who first shared Jesus with you and what difference did it make in your life?

How often do you get to share who Jesus is to you with others?

Are you comfortable talking with others about Jesus? Why or why not?

Who has God put on your heart to share the Gospel with?



REFLECTION NOTES

REFLECTION NOTES

At Crown, we believe redemption and true freedom begins with a relationship with Jesus Christ. That is where everyone's journey begins.

– Chuck Bentley



Generational Stewardship

*“Remember the days of old; consider the generations long past.
Ask your father and he will tell you, your elders, and they will
explain to you.”*

Deuteronomy 32:7

Generational stewardship is about more than just teaching the next generation. It is about investing in every generation, to ensure future generations have strong shoulders to stand upon. It is about strengthening marriages so children grow up seeing the love and commitment of Godly, Christian marriages. It is about respecting the wisdom of the previous generations, taking the time to listen and record the history and the stories. It is about framing those stories for future generations so they can apply the wisdom and avoid repeating the sins of the past. It is about forming habits or traditions now so that God's faithfulness is communicated throughout all generations. Generational stewardship is about the legacy you leave, including not only passing a financial inheritance but more importantly a spiritual heritage including God's principles of stewardship to the next generation.

The following verse is often used specifically with parents, but as you read it, imagine Moses saying these words to the entire Israelite community. Read it as though the children he mentions are the responsibility of a community and think about your own children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or other children in your church or community God has entrusted to your care.

After passing along the Ten Commandments to the Israelites, Moses tells them how important it is for them to explain to their children the many ways they had experienced God's faithfulness between the time they fled Egypt and up to this point. In Deuteronomy 11:18-19 he says, "Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

In other words, talking about the Lord, His Word, His faithfulness, and how He has worked and is continuing to work in our lives should be a part of our daily conversations. We should help those around us fix their eyes on Him first thing in the morning, all throughout the day as we come and go to and from daily activities, during our mealtimes, and before we go to bed.

What type of spiritual legacy was passed to you? You may be standing on the

shoulders of those before you, or you may be the start of the spiritual legacy that will be passed through your family tree for generations to come. In either case, each of us has a tremendous responsibility to “Tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.” Psalm 78:4. We also have a responsibility to warn the future generations regarding the sins of the past.

Maybe you are in a situation where there are still opportunities to learn from the previous generation. Do you know the God stories of the past? Are there relationships that need to be reconciled? Is there history that needs to be recorded? Family tendencies that need to be avoided in the future? This month, spend time considering where God has placed you, in your family tree. It could be, as in the day of Queen Esther, that He wants to use you for such a time as this to strengthen the spiritual heritage of your entire family.

PRACTICAL TIPS AND ADVICE

Consider implementing the tips below. In the space provided, feel free to modify them or make a note of how you plan to apply the tips to your life.

1. Make a plan to spend one on one time with each person in your family sometime over the next two weeks to love and encourage them.

2. Meditate on and memorize Psalm 145:13, "Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does."

3. Make a list of the children in your life. Daily ask God what He wants to do in each child's life. When He answers, write your prayer request for each child and list how you can encourage each child along God's path.

4. If you are married, pray for your spouse. Encourage him/her through a handwritten note, small gift, or special treat they will like. If you are not married, choose another relative to pray for and encourage.

5. Pray for and encourage an elderly relative or friend and set aside a time for a visit. Ask them to tell you stories of the past. Ask about their walk with the Lord.

GOALS

This week, focus on setting goals related to your family's spiritual heritage. For example, you may want to start a daily devotional time with your children, find a church if you are not already plugged into one, schedule intentional date nights with your spouse to strengthen your relationship, or meet with some of your older relatives to listen and learn more about the past.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



“But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.”

Psalm 33:11

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Throughout this week, answer these questions on the following pages.

Who are the children in your life that God is wanting you to teach about Him?

How could you best teach them about God, His Word, His love and faithfulness?

What values do you believe it is important to pass on to the children in your life and to their future children?

Are there generations ahead of you who are still alive? What wisdom, stories, or history could you learn from them?

How could you help to encourage the older generation in their walk with the Lord?

REFLECTION NOTES

REFLECTION NOTES

“There is no investment capable of matching the highest and most lasting rewards that are derived from investing in and disciplining the next generation.”
– Chuck Bentley



Business Stewardship

“The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.”

Isaiah 58:11-12

We live in a society of complex issues, and the solutions they require are often even more complex. But God has placed high-achieving, spirit-led leaders among us to dream, inspire, and problem solve. He has gifted and equipped certain people to be the business leaders, entrepreneurs, experts, founders and innovators He wants to use to carry out His solutions. You may be one of them!

Business stewardship is about establishing ministries, businesses, nonprofits or other organizations that glorify God in the way they meet needs, produce products, and impact people. It is about companies or organizations that are stewarded by Christ-like servant leaders who stand out because of their honesty, integrity and excellence.

Are you designed by God to start a business or organization to impact the world? Has God placed a desire in you or a call on your life to address a particular need or challenge? It is possible that God wants to use you to change lives and glorify him through your industry.

God may be calling you as He called Nehemiah. Spend some time studying his story this next month. Nehemiah received a report from his brothers that the Israelites who had survived the exile were in great distress and that the walls around Jerusalem, the city that he loved so dearly, the city where his father was buried, were crumbling leaving the city and its people susceptible to all kinds of harm. Immediately, Nehemiah was heartbroken over the needs of the people and the city. He sat down, cried, and prayed ... for days. In that time, God began a work in Nehemiah's heart.

Shortly after, God gave Nehemiah an opportunity to speak to the King whom he was serving as cupbearer. The King, moved by Nehemiah's compassion, gave him permission to go to Jerusalem. Nehemiah had already experienced God's call but in chapter 2 verse 12 it says, "I told no one what my God had put into my heart to do for Jerusalem." He took the 3 days the King gave him to: visit the city, make observations, inspect the broken-down walls and gates, and form a plan. At the end of the three days he called the people to action. Heartbroken by an intense need, emboldened by a God-given vision, and equipped with a plan, he was

ready to lead the people to rebuild the ruins. Nehemiah 2:18 says, "I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me for good, and also of the words that the king had spoken to me. And they said, 'Let us rise up and build.'"

So what breaks your heart? What need or void do you see in the world around you? What action is God calling you to take? The book of Nehemiah is full of very practical leadership skills from which we can draw great wisdom.

Whether you are a seasoned business leader or are just starting out with a God-sized vision determined to make a difference, spend some time allowing God to align your skills and talents with His plans so He can use you as His leader in the marketplace. Even in the world today, ESPECIALLY in the world today, you can operate a business or organization that is guided by God's economic principles and that advances His kingdom-focused objectives.

PRACTICAL TIPS AND ADVICE

Consider implementing the tips below. In the space provided, feel free to modify them or make a note of how you plan to apply the tips to your life.

1. Pray daily for God to make His vision for your work clear to you.

2. Spend time planning. What are your next steps in your business ... your one- and five-year strategic plan? Or, if you are starting out with a vision, spend time with God formulating a plan?

3. Form a group of trusted advisors who either have knowledge regarding the types of next steps you need to take or, have Godly wisdom and a willingness to prayerfully walk alongside you.

4. Take at least one action step related to your strategic plan.

GOALS

This week, focus on setting goals related to your business or a business or organization you dream about. For example, you may want to set a goal to research or gather information that would be important to the start or growth of your business, contact a specific person who could be a mentor, valuable resource or prayer partner, or spend time daily with the Lord asking Him to clarify and strengthen His vision for you.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



“Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.”

Jeremiah 33:3

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Throughout this week, answer these questions on the following pages.

Prayerfully consider the following questions.

What need around you has God specifically called your attention to?

What research or observations need to be made?

What kind of plan needs to be implemented to bring about a solution to the problem?

Who would you want on your team to address the need?

What resources would you need to accomplish the work that needs to be done?

REFLECTION NOTES

REFLECTION NOTES

*“A wise man seeks
much counsel ... a fool
listens to all of it.”*

– Larry Burkett



Environmental Stewardship

“The poor and needy search for water, but there is none; their tongues are parched with thirst. But I the Lord will answer them; I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them. I will make rivers flow on barren heights, and springs within the valleys. I will turn the desert into pools of water, and the parched ground into springs.”

Isaiah 41:17-18

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” Genesis 1:1. The scripture goes on to describe exactly how He did it. We see that for everything He created, God spoke ... and it was so. And it was good! At the end of Genesis Chapter 1, God creates mankind “so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” (Genesis 1:26)

The first job God gave to mankind was to be good stewards of His creation. He gave us these instructions, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground ... I give you every seedbearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food. And it was so.” (Genesis 1:29-30) Then, in Genesis 2:16 after God created Adam, the Word says, “The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.”

Environmental stewardship is about caring for the natural resources around us. In His sovereignty, God, the mastermind behind every created thing, entrusts His spectacular and bountiful creation to us. As His children, we should be the best stewards of the earth. We should care for it, protect it, and use its resources wisely. When we live according to God’s principles of environmental stewardship, it enables others who would otherwise be destitute because of injustices surrounding the negligent or wasteful use of resources, to thrive. It also protects natural resources for those coming after us.

In Deuteronomy 16 the Israelites are tired and hungry and seem to have forgotten that God is a faithful provider. He tells them that He will give them bread from heaven each day but they must follow His specific instructions and only collect enough for that day. He sets it up as a test to see if they will follow His instructions. Will they save enough? Will they save too much and become hoarders of God’s provision?

What if the same is true of us today? What if God has already given us everything we need to meet the varying needs of the 7.5 billion people currently inhabiting planet earth? What if the lack of food, pure drinking water, fertile farmland, and clean air are stewardship issues? Environmental stewardship is about following God's instructions for using the natural resources He has entrusted to us as His provision for our families, but also as an opportunity to meet the needs of others. It is about meeting the needs of the people we encounter today as well as protecting and preserving for future generations.

PRACTICAL TIPS AND ADVICE

Consider implementing the tips below. In the space provided, feel free to modify them or make a note of how you plan to apply the tips to your life.

1. Find out the best way to recycle in your area and start a system that will be manageable and work well for your family.

2. Save and shred papers that you would normally throw away to use in the garden.

3. On your upcoming trips to the store, take your own bags and look for ways to avoid products packaged with excess paper or plastic.

4. Cut back on paper towels by keeping a bin of rags nearby that can serve the same purpose.

GOALS

This week, focus on setting goals related to managing the natural resources around you. For example, you may want to start recycling, cut back on paper products, or start a community garden.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.”

Psalm 24:1

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Throughout this week, answer these questions on the following pages.

How are you currently a good steward of the environment in which you live?

How could you be a better steward of your environment?

Have you ever had the opportunity to meet a need through environmental stewardship?

Can you make a connection between the way you care for God's creation and how God could use your faithfulness to bless someone else?



REFLECTION NOTES

REFLECTION NOTES

“The world is not in danger of running out of resources; but the world is in danger of running out of faithful stewards.”

— Chuck Bentley



REFLECTION NOTES



CONGRATULATIONS! YOU ARE HALFWAY THROUGH THIS DEVOTIONAL. NOW WE'RE GOING TO GO BACK AND LOOK AT THE AREAS IN ANOTHER LIGHT AND DELVE DEEPER INTO WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A FAITHFUL STEWARD IN EACH. DRAW FROM YOUR EXPERIENCES FROM THE FIRST HALF OF THE BOOK AS YOU BEGIN EACH AREA ANEW.



Resource Stewardship

“As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.”

1 Timothy 6 : 17-19

The world is not in danger of running out of resources. The world is in danger of running out of faithful stewards. Matthew 6:25-34 reminds us not to worry about what we will eat or drink or what we will wear. He knows exactly what we need, and He is our provider. We are the stewards of all that He provides and He expects us to be faithful to Him, the Creator and true Owner, in how we manage these resources.

The world's standard is for us to become SUCCESSFUL at managing OUR resources ... which often means accumulating and multiplying temporary, earthly treasures. The world's standard can lead us down a path of worry, stress, fear, anxiety and meaninglessness. But God's standard is for us to become FAITHFUL at managing HIS resources, which means building His kingdom and storing up eternal treasures in heaven. God's standard leads us down a path of freedom, trust, true abundance and significance.

Generosity is key to living a truly significant life. It helps us manage our finances in the proper way. It breaks the grip that buying stuff has on our life. It changes our perspective and our priorities.

But the first step in becoming God's giver is to get over our fear. The reason that people don't give is not because of greed, it is because they're afraid. Giving signifies we've replaced that fear with absolute trust. There are two excellent examples in scripture.

First, let's look at the Macedonian church in 2 Corinthians 8:1-4.

"And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people."

Even in the midst of a difficult season, when they were likely tempted to withhold, or cling to what they had for a rainy day, or simply felt justified that God would understand if they could not be generous in this particular instance, scripture says they pleaded for the privilege to share. What an inspiring picture

of generosity! In spite of our hardships, God wants to use us and the resources he has put in our hands, great or small, to impact others, build His Kingdom, and make a significant, eternal difference.

A second great example is the widow who gave two copper coins while rich people all around her were giving large amounts of money. Jesus used her as an example saying, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything – all she had to live on." Mark 12:43-44

What an example of absolute trust! She gave out of her poverty, she gave sacrificially, she gave out of complete trust. And Jesus commended her for it.

Just like the Macedonian church and the Widow commended by Jesus, once we are set free from financial ignorance, spiritual blindness and poor money practices to live as His wise and faithful managers, our lives are redeemed and filled with freedom, purpose, and significance.

PRACTICAL TIPS AND ADVICE

Consider implementing the tips below. In the space provided, feel free to modify them or make a note of how you plan to apply the tips to your life.

1. Make a list of every material need you encounter in your community for a period of time.

2. Make a list of the material resources you have at your disposal.

3. See if you can meet any of the material needs you listed with the resources you listed.

4. Establish a generosity fund. It may be as basic as a jar for spare change or an account where you start direct depositing a little from each paycheck.

5. Declare a personal fast from a specific food, meal or drink each day, or media, or something that will be challenging and feel sacrificial. Spend time connecting with God and meditating on sacrificial giving.

GOALS

This week, focus on setting goals related to your finances and material resources that could help you increase in generosity. For example, track your spending for 30 days, research ministries doing Kingdom work (like Crown) and choose one to start supporting above and beyond your tithe, find a local need and use resources you already have to meet the need, cut a certain category of expenses in order to put money toward your generosity fund.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



“Once a Christian truly accepts and experiences financial freedom, there will never be a desire to stay outside of God’s will ... Once someone experiences and lives financial freedom (meaning freedom from the bondage of debts, freedom from oppression of others, freedom from envy and covetousness or greed, and freedom from resentment), that person stands out like a beacon at sea.”

— Larry Burkett

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Throughout this week, answer these questions on the following pages.

On a scale of 1 to 10, how generous do you think you are with your resources?

How generous would you like to be?

What is standing in your way? Is it a financial issue or a spiritual issue?

If it is truly a financial issue, what practical steps can you take this month to create the margin that would enable you to be more generous?

If it is spiritual, confess the issue and spend time in prayer and focusing on scripture that can encourage you and allow God to work in your heart.



REFLECTION NOTES

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 Corinthians 9:7 ESV



Vocational Stewardship

“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

Ephesians 2:10

In addition to our identity and design, vocational stewardship leads us to focus on the work we do, how we accomplish it and who we are working for.

It is a common misconception that work is a result of the curse after the fall of man in Genesis 3. However, as early as Genesis 1:26 God's plan was for mankind to have dominion over all that He had created. Then, in Genesis 2:15 it says, "The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it."

God established work from the beginning of time. It was part of His plan for us. In fact, His great work at the beginning of time was to create EVERYTHING ... light, darkness, sun, moon, stars, land, water, plants, animals and finally us. And at the end of each day, as He looked back on the day's work, He said, "It is good." Then, when He decided to make man in His image, it seems He put that same design in us – a desire for purpose and a desire to accomplish something we can look on with a sense of satisfaction and fulfillment.

The misconception of work as a curse likely results from an issue in one of the following areas:

- 1) Who am I working for?
- 2) What is my motivation for working?
- 3) Does my work fit with how God designed me?

As Christians, we are working for the Lord. We are His workers. He is our ultimate authority and master. He is the one who provides our work and has given us the ability to accomplish it. When we shift our focus from performing for earthly employers or masters, to working for the God of the universe who created each of us and knows us intimately, we can approach our work wholeheartedly. We are the hands and feet of Christ in EVERYTHING we do. Approaching our work in this way will give us incredible opportunities to build His Kingdom through our work, regardless of the job.

If our motivation for working is money or success or power we will be disappointed and unfulfilled every time. But if our motivation is to use the skills and

abilities God has given us in an act of worship to Him for His glory, it does not matter what we are doing or who our earthly master is, we can experience joy, fulfillment and satisfaction by approaching work as worship.

Finally, there are many times where a job change or change in circumstances is necessary. There are many unjust or corrupt and unethical employers or companies under which we should not continue to work. And, there are certain jobs we are simply not designed for. We each have a unique design, given to us by God to do work He specifically created us to do. Part of our responsibility is to do our part to determine how we are designed and how we can best use the skills and abilities He has given us to accomplish His Kingdom purposes through our work.

God made you, He knows you intimately and He loves you. He wants you to experience joy, purpose, fulfillment and satisfaction. And He has designed us in such a way that we are most fulfilled when we are living for His glory in every aspect of our lives. As we worship Him in our work, whether that is in our homes, in a business, at church or in our community, He becomes greater, we become less yet our joy is complete as our purpose is about elevating Him.

PRACTICAL TIPS AND ADVICE

Consider implementing the tips below. In the space provided, feel free to modify them or make a note of how you plan to apply the tips to your life.

1. Start each day with a prayer acknowledging God as your master and giving Him all the tasks of the day.

2. Focus on excellence in everything you do, from the smallest, seemingly meaningless tasks to the larger ones.

3. Consider looking into Crown's Career Direct assessment and consultation if you want to understand more about how God designed you and the work He designed you to accomplish.

4. Approach every task and every employer as an opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ.

GOALS

This week, focus on setting goals related to your work. For example, you may want to focus on a particular attitude you have toward another person or task, commit to tackling tasks with a renewed sense of excellence (as working for the Lord), or intentionally incorporate moments of worship throughout your day as a reminder of the One for whom you are working. Or, if you sense a change is ahead you may want to update your resume, seek Godly counsel and start praying and looking for opportunities.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.”

Colossians 3:23

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Throughout this week, answer these questions on the following pages.

Define your work.

What do you do?

Who do you work for?

What is your current attitude toward your work?

Do you believe your work is a good fit for the way God designed you?

Explain why.

How could you approach your work differently in light of seeing work as an opportunity to worship?

REFLECTION NOTES

“Stewardship of your talents is your first responsibility. There is only one you and you are as unique as a snowflake. Know who God created you to be, then be yourself.”

– Larry Burkett



Gospel Stewardship

"I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches. I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word."

Psalm 119:14-16

Gospel Stewardship is not just about leading people into a relationship with Jesus and stewarding the Gospel message. It is about discipleship, biblical literacy and spiritual maturity. Once we become Christians, we need to continue to grow. However, we also need to continue to help others grow. These two things go hand in hand.

There are two examples in scripture where God uses something we are very familiar with – milk – to help us understand this relationship.

1 Peter 2:2 says, “Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation.” (ESV) When we first taste that the Lord is good, we want more. This verse reminds us to be like infants craving milk. We may refer to things like solitude, reading the Bible, fasting, praying, journaling, etc. as spiritual disciplines, but the truth is, the closer we draw near to God, the more we taste His goodness, and the less these things feel like disciplines. Instead, we crave more of Him and we crave the things that help us experience Him.

On the other hand, if we do not continue to grow, we run the risk described in Hebrews 5:12-14, “In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God’s word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.” (NIV)

So let’s look at some ways we can grow (so we can encourage others to grow as well):

God’s Word: The Bible is God’s personal message to each of us, showing us how life works best, offering true relief and freedom from the burdens of this world. Unfortunately, so many people have been led to believe it is a giant book of rules to be followed. This is so sad because His Word is one of the greatest resources God has entrusted to each of us. He wants to use His Word to teach us, protect us and grow us, to show us how much He loves us, encourage us with His prom-

ises and to help us encourage others.

Prayer: We can talk to God anytime, anywhere, about anything. In fact, scripture encourages us to pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Romans 12:12 tells us to be “joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer.” Philippians 4:6 says “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” And finally, James 5:16 says, “The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” God answers prayers. He performs miracles through prayer. Prayer makes a difference. And even when He doesn’t answer the way we want or hope, there’s something about our time spent in prayer that changes us, even if it does not change the circumstances for which we are praying.

Solitude: In our very busy world, solitude can be hard to come by. Yet even when He was being chased down by crowds of thousands of people, Jesus made time to sit in solitude with His Father and recharge. Following time in the Word, and time in prayer, spending time in solitude can give God the opportunity to speak into our lives in His still, quiet voice. He can use the solitude to shape our hearts and our perspective to more fully align with His.

Leading others: Finally, leading others is a great way to grow in our relationship with the Lord. We have heard testimonies of many people who were struggling financially, got started on the right track, and then started leading small groups to help others. Being leaders served as the added accountability that was needed to finally overcome some of the challenges they faced. And in the words of Aristotle, “Teaching is the highest form of understanding.” When we are leading and discipling others, we grow.

PRACTICAL TIPS AND ADVICE

Consider implementing the tips below. In the space provided, feel free to modify them or make a note of how you plan to apply the tips to your life.

1. Increase the amount of time you spend in God's Word for a period of time. Read more, memorize more or start a new study.

2. Commit to additional prayer time. Set aside extra time at the beginning of the day, take short breaks often throughout the day for prayer, or practice praying continually.

3. Take an extended amount of time to get away from all distractions to sit with the Lord.

4. Consider opportunities where God may be asking you to disciple others.

5. Host a special time together for a current or hopeful discipleship group and look for ways to encourage spiritual growth.

GOALS

This week, focus on setting goals related to your personal discipleship journey and your discipleship of others. For example, start a personal growth plan, increase your time in the Word, increase your time in prayer or solitude, or start a group to teach God's principles of stewardship to others in your church or community.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



“The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.”

Isaiah 61:1

Generational Stewardship

“Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.”

2 Corinthians 9:10-11

Generational stewardship is about investing your life in others, especially future generations ... the generations that will likely go on to impact others beyond our lifetime.

Timothy, one of the trusted companions on Paul's journey to establish the first churches was blessed with a family heritage built upon faith. In Paul's letter to Timothy he writes, "I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." (2 Timothy 1:5-7) It is clear Timothy was standing on the strong shoulders of his mother and grandmother as Paul continued to build him up for the ministry at hand.

Generational stewardship involves seeing the people God has put in our path ... family, friends, neighbors, even churches and other ministries ... as opportunities that He's placed in front of us to love, to share values, and to pass His teachings on so that future generations can do the same. While the spiritual heritage we leave for future generations is most important, scripture does also warn us about the importance of providing for our family members. 1 Timothy 5:8 warns, "But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."

This scripture does not mean God expects us to leave tremendous amounts of wealth for future generations. Once again, it is a matter of stewardship. Who has God entrusted to our care, what are the skills and abilities He has given us, and what resources has He blessed us with that we can wisely manage to provide for our family's financial future?

Through good planning you can leave a legacy of love and care for your family and friends that provides, encourages them, even inspires them. But you can also manage your will and estate plan in such a way that long after you are with Jesus in heaven, the assets you accumulated while on earth can continue to be used to advance His Kingdom. You can leave a legacy of things like grace, good character, generosity and joy. And, you can leave a financial inheritance that pro-

vides for your family members and future generations but that also continues to fund the work you care about.

This is a great time to think about your personal mission statement. What are you passionate about? What breaks your heart? What are the things you want your family to remember about you and what difference do you want to continue to make even when this short life is over? The spiritual and financial inheritance you leave can work together to continue to accomplish your God-given mission for decades to come.

PRACTICAL TIPS AND ADVICE

Consider implementing the tips below. In the space provided, feel free to modify them or make a note of how you plan to apply the tips to your life.

1. Write three goals for the Kingdom that you want to accomplish by the end of your life. Write down the next step you will take towards each of them.

2. Download Crown's Planning Your Legacy: A Christian Guide to Planning Your Will & Trust at crown.giftlegacy.com

3. Start or review your current will, estate plan and healthcare directives and ensure everything is in order in a way that enhances the spiritual legacy you hope to leave.

4. Plan a time to share with your spouse, child, or grandchild about something that is important to you and why. If there's an opportunity for them to join you on an outing you can show them, even better!

GOALS

This week, focus on setting goals related to the legacy you will leave. For example, you may want to set up a meeting with your attorney to start or revise important end of life documents, take your children or grandchildren on a service project that is important to you, or start a family journal or Bible that will be passed down through the generations.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous.

Proverbs 13:22

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Throughout this week, answer these questions on the following pages.

What is your personal mission statement?

What are the missions within your church and other ministries that you are most passionate about supporting?

How could you communicate your joy of giving toward these ministries to your family?

When was the last time you reviewed your will, estate plan and healthcare directives for the end of life?

What are the main things about you, your heart, and your work on earth that you hope will live on in future generations? How can you start planning today to make this a reality?

Business Stewardship

“Now this is our boast: our conscience testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially in our relations with you, with integrity and godly sincerity. We have done so, relying not on worldly wisdom but on God’s grace.”

2 Corinthians 1:12

Business stewardship is not only for entrepreneurs. It is about everything from honesty and integrity in the marketplace to how you know you are in the right career for you, to maintaining biblical standards of excellence in every aspect of your work. It is about being God's leader in your business. Martin Luther once said, "The Christian shoemaker does his duty not by putting little crosses on the shoes, but by making good shoes, because God is interested in good craftsmanship."

We are to be salt and light in the world. God has given you your business or your position within your business to use as a platform for ministry. Matthew 5:16 says, "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Are you being faithful with the opportunities He has given you?

Leaders influence those who follow them. The same way a person of integrity influences many for good, a dishonest leader produces distrust and dishonest followers. Leaders of businesses, churches, homes, and communities must set the example of honesty in their personal lives before those under their authority can be expected to do the same.

Jethro, Moses' father-in-law gave Moses this advice in Exodus 18:21, "You shall select out of all the people able men who fear God, men of truth, those who hate dishonest gain; and you shall place these ... as leaders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties and of tens." Two of the four criteria for leadership selection dealt with honesty: "men of truth, those who hate dishonest gain." God wants us to continue to select leaders based on these same character qualities today.

As Christians, God's Word is our standard for doing business. But our culture pressures us to go against God's Word and it is easy to rationalize a lot of dishonesty as common practice, even necessary. However, any time we are dishonest, our behavior shows we don't believe God can meet our needs.

Genesis 39:2-3 reminds us that it is God who gives us our successes. "The Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered ... his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did." God also controls

our promotions and advancements. “No one from the east or the west or from the desert can exalt [prosper] a man. But it is God who judges: He brings one down, he exalts [promotes] another” Psalm 75:6-7.

Integrity in the workplace is an issue of faith. It may require hard decisions that look foolish in light of what we can see. But every honest decision we make strengthens our faith in God, helps us grow into a closer relationship with Christ, and even draws those around us closer to Him as well.

PRACTICAL TIPS AND ADVICE

Consider implementing the tips below. In the space provided, feel free to modify them or make a note of how you plan to apply the tips to your life.

1. Commit to total honesty in your word, actions and motives. If you are dishonest, even telling “a little white lie”, immediately confess to the recipient of the lie.

2. Take time to think about your leadership. Chances are, you are a leader somewhere whether it is at work, church, home or in the community. What type of leader are you? Are you honest, fair, and humble? Are you a servant leader? How would others describe you? How would God describe you?

3. Choose one biblical character trait, attribute of Christ, or quality of a servant leader to meditate on and ask the Holy Spirit to cultivate in you.

4. Set aside any people-pleasing tendencies and seek God's approval only.

GOALS

This week, focus on setting goals related to your honesty and integrity. For example, you may want to contact someone with whom you have been dishonest or had a falling out, host a fun and encouraging meeting for your employees on the importance of integrity in the workplace and the type of culture you expect, or commit to complete and total honesty, even in the seemingly insignificant things.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



“Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out.”

Proverbs 10:9

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Throughout this week, answer these questions on the following pages.

What does the word integrity mean to you? What would it look like for you to live a life of complete integrity in both your work and personal life?

Why do you think it's so hard to be completely honest?

What influences you to act dishonestly?

How has dishonesty (by you or others) affected your business?

How is dishonesty a sign that we do not trust God?



Environmental Stewardship

“For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him.”

Colossians 1:16

God's creation is one of the greatest testimonies to who He is. Romans 1:20 says, "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse."

We see evidence of God's power, His sovereignty, His creativity, and His character all around us – in the wind, the rain, the changing of seasons. Environmental Stewardship is about seeing the creation through the eyes of the Creator and taking on the responsibility to care for all He has made as an act of worship. As we worship, God can use His creation to speak to us and to reveal Himself to us in new ways.

We can also be good stewards of creation by using it to point others to the Lord. In scripture we have countless examples of God leading people out, in solitude, to the top of a mountain, or the middle of a lake, or tucked away in a cave, even in a valley, so they can experience either His great might or His still small voice.

We see examples of the Lord using creation to perform miracles – miracles that testify to His greatness, fulfill His purposes, and provide for His people. Miracles like the parting of the seas, the calming of a storm, a burning bush, or using water to ignite a fire.

So how does God want to speak to you and those around you through creation? Maybe you need to set aside some time to be still and quiet and once again in awe of all He has made. Maybe you know someone who struggles to understand who God is and experiencing Him in creation with a Christian who can point to His handiwork all around would make a significant difference.

Finally, as we worship Him and as He opens our eyes to the vast natural resources He has entrusted to our care, we become even more mindful of our high calling as His environmental stewards. He has a way of instilling a sense of gratitude while also turning our minds toward those who may not have access to the same resources. We may even have the opportunity to use the environ-

ment in which we live to come up with creative solutions for improving the lives of others who may not have access to the same resources.

PRACTICAL TIPS AND ADVICE

Consider implementing the tips below. In the space provided, feel free to modify them or make a note of how you plan to apply the tips to your life.

1. Start a list of all the attributes of God that you notice through creation and add to it daily.

2. Make an appointment to spend time outside with God.

3. Make a list of the conveniences that are available to you because of your environment – running water, warm water, indoor plumbing, electricity, etc. Pause to imagine what life would be like without these.

4. Commit to one action item you will implement to be a better steward of your surroundings.

5. Set aside a specific period of time and make it a point to be mindful of all the ways you may be wasting valuable resources.

GOALS

This week, focus on setting goals related to worshipping God in creation. For example, you may want to set aside a certain amount of quiet time to spend outside, spend time researching what God’s Word says about how we should care for His creation, or make a plan for a sabbath retreat in the wilderness for you or maybe even you and someone who is not yet following the Lord.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



“For behold, he who forms the mountains and creates the wind, and declares to man what is his thought, who makes the morning darkness, and treads on the heights of the earth—the Lord, the God of hosts, is his name!”

Amos 4:13 ESV



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