

# Everlasting Gospel Bible Studies

## Lesson 12

### CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP



God is the Creator and Upholder of all things. All true science reveals His work. All that we are, all that we have belongs to Him by virtue of creation and redemption. The psalmist tells us that "The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." Psalm 24:1

Since Creation, man has been given authority over every work of God's hand. "What is man, that thou art mindful of him? ... Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet" (Psalm 8:4,6). The biblical term for such authority is "stewardship."

Unfortunately, man's natural inclination is to abuse this God-given responsibility. Most people feel it is fitting to lavish upon themselves, or upon people of their choosing, whatever they have obtained either through labour or mental prowess. Few know Him upon whom their very life is dependent. Others refuse to acknowledge His claim upon their lives. Yet all have been benefited by God's bountiful blessings. He justly expects the acknowledgment of our moral obligation, to be demonstrated through our life, service, and sacrifice. In our life, in the use of our time and our talents, our finances, and even in our dress, we are to give honour and glory to God.

## A. GLORIFYING GOD WITH OUR LIFE

1. **To whom do our bodies belong? 1 Corinthians 6:19-20;  
1 Corinthians 3:16-17**



*Hamilton Seventh-Day Adventist Church*  
Taking the Three Angel's Messages to the world

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- ## 2. What is our reasonable service to God? Romans 12:1

**3. Above all things, what does God wish for us? 3 John 2; 2 Corinthians 7:1**

**NOTE:** The quality of our health affects our life and consequently, our service to God.

## B. GLORIFYING GOD IN THE USE OF OUR TIME

- 4. To what is man's time on earth likened? Job 7:1**

**NOTE:** In the context of Job 7:1, the term hireling is synonymous with the terms labourer, servant, and steward. Each of us is to obey the commands of our Owner, the Creator of our lives. The Bible refers to Christ as Owner, and to us His servants. Psalm 50:10-12; 1 Corinthians 4:1-2

- 5. How may we honour God in our time at work? Romans 12:11; Colossians 3:22**

- 6. What day did God set aside for man to rest from worldly pursuits? Exodus 20:8-11; Isaiah 58:13-14**

**NOTE:** Resting from worldly pursuits means not only that we refrain from our daily work and pleasure, but it includes spending special time in communion with our Maker.

**~ NOTES ~**

## SUMMARY

Our life on earth is only an apprenticeship. Our faithfulness or unfaithfulness to God's blessings will determine our fitness for heaven. "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much; and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much." Luke 16:10

## PERSONAL COMMITMENT

Today I recognize my responsibility as God's steward and commit myself to honour Him in my use of time and talents, in the faithful returning of tithes and offerings, in dress, and in caring for the needs of others.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

7. **How diligent should parents be to spend time teaching God's Word to our family? Deuteronomy 6:1, 7**

## C. GLORIFYING GOD WITH OUR TALENTS

8. **What does God give to every man according to his ability? Matthew 25:15; James 1:17**

**NOTE:** The talents in the parable were money, symbolizing every gift that God provides to increase our ability to serve our fellow men.

9. **What are we to do with our God-given talents? Matthew 25:22-23**

**NOTE:** Gifts and talents are synonymous terms in the context of what we are studying in this lesson.

10. **What kind of talents does God give to us? 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; Romans 12:6-8**

11. **If we do not use our talents, what happens to them? Luke 19:26**

## D. GLORIFYING GOD WITH OUR FINANCES

12. In what further way does God require us to honour Him?  
Proverbs 3:9-10

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**NOTE:** First-fruits is the offering of the first and best part of the harvest, separate from the rest of the offering.

13. How seriously does God regard a failure to return our tithes and offerings to Him? Malachi 3:7-8

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**NOTE:** All that we have belongs to God. The tithe is one-tenth of our increase. In biblical times, the Israelites used their tithe to support the Levites in the sanctuary or church. Numbers 18:21. Levites were men dedicated to God to serve in His sanctuary. Hebrews 7:5. Today the tithe is used to support those in full-time ministry for the Lord. He has asked us to return one-tenth of the increase we receive from Him to support His ministries. We may further show our love by freewill offerings.

14. What attitude should we have in giving back to God a portion of the resources He has entrusted to us? 2 Corinthians 9:7; 2 Corinthians 8:12

15. Where is the most secure place for our treasure?  
Matthew 6:19-20; Luke 12:33-34

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**NOTE:** To lay up our treasures in heaven does not imply a literal bank in heaven. Rather it refers to Christ's call for us to place first

priority upon using the funds entrusted to us to advance God's work instead of spending them in selfish gratification.

## E. GLORIFYING GOD IN OUR DRESS

16. What principle should guide our every action?  
1 Corinthians 10:31

17. How does this principle apply to clothing? 1 Timothy 2:9-10

18. What does God regard as our best suit? 1 Peter 3:3-4

19. How may we not dress? Deuteronomy 22:5

## F. OUR RESPONSIBILITY AS GOD'S STEWARDS

20. God is very gracious to us; how should we treat others?  
Matthew 10:8; 1 Peter 4:10

21. What does God require of us as stewards? Luke 12:48;  
1 Corinthians 4:2