

Text 'HERE' to # 208.297.7630 to record your attendance

Text to give to Real

Life, simply text your amount to #208.261.7473

## SERIES OVERVIEW:

- This series is about understanding the invitation we get from God to be good stewards of our lives.
- Our lives are expressed through our beliefs and actions
- The stewardship of our actions is a direct result of the belief that we have in application

## LAST WEEK – STEWARDSHIP OF OUR DAYS

## THIS WEEK – OUR ECONOMY

## SOME HELPFUL DEFINITIONS:

**Economics (n)** - a social science concerned chiefly with description and analysis of the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. (M. Webster)

**Economy (n)** - a social domain that emphasize the practices, discourses, and material expressions associated with the production, use, and management of **resources**. (J. Paul)

**Resource (n)** - a **source of supply** or support; an available means; a natural source of wealth or revenue; a natural feature or phenomenon that enhances the quality of human life; computable wealth; a source of information or expertise; something to which one has recourse in difficulty; a possibility of relief or recovery; a means of spending one's leisure time; an ability to meet and handle a situation. (M.W.)

**Stewardship (n)** - the conducting, supervising, or managing of something, *especially* the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care by another.

**(G3622) (economy) oikonomia (n)** - the management of a household or of household affairs, specifically the management, oversight, administration, of other's property. The office (responsibility) of a manager or overseer, a **steward**.

- **(G3624) oikos (n)** - **house**, dwelling space; the inhabitants, family, household.
- **(G3551) nomos (n)** - law, command, custom, **rule**.

**(G3623) (steward) oikonomos (n)** - the manager of household or of household affairs; a **steward**, manager, superintendent to whom the head of the house or proprietor has **entrusted the management** of his affairs, the care of receipts and expenditures, and the duty of dealing out the proper portion to **every servant** and even to the children not yet of age.

How we use our **resources** is the subject of **economics**, and in a biblical sense it is the chief concern of **stewardship**. (R.C. Sproul)

Biblical stewardship is the practice of caring for and managing the resources God has given us for the glory of God and the betterment of creation. It's based on the idea that God owns everything, and we are stewards or caretakers of His blessings.

## THE SOURCE OF SUPPLY, THE HOUSEHOLD & IT'S MANAGERS:

**Genesis 1:1 (NIV)** - 1In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...

- God is the source and supply of all goods and resources.

**Genesis 1:28 (NIV)** - 28God blessed them and said to them, "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."

- Creation is the household of God and we are the inhabitants in it.

**Genesis 2:15 (NIV)** - 15The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

- We are to be the stewards of it all.

## GENEROSITY - THE METHOD OF THE MANAGEMENT

**RLM Doctrinal Statement: STEWARDSHIP & GENEROSITY:** We believe our whole lives; our time, talents and treasures, are to be given obediently and generously in response to God's grace, mercy and love for us. We believe that giving 10% of our income is defined as a "tithe", the Biblical starting point of giving to the local church (the storehouse). We believe that any giving over 10% is an "offering" of gratitude for the great things God does for us daily and can be directed at the giver's discretion to any worthwhile ministry, church or organization. We believe that generosity and stewardship are essential to maturity and the accomplishment of Christ's mission. (Supportive Scripture: Leviticus 27:30, Malachi 3:7-12, Acts 4:32-5:11, 2 Corinthians 8:1-9:15, 2 Corinthians 9:6-15, Mark 12:43, 2 Samuel 24:24, Matthew 23:23, Luke 11:42.)

**Leviticus 27:30 (NIV)** - 30A **tithe** of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.

**Malachi 3:7-12 (NIV)** - Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the Lord Almighty. "But you ask, 'How are we to return?' 8"Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. "But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' "In tithes and offerings. 9You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing me. 10Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. 11I will prevent pests from devouring your crops, and the vines in your fields will not drop their fruit before it is ripe," says the Lord Almighty. 12"Then all the nations will call you blessed, for yours will be a delightful land," says the Lord Almighty.

**Acts 2:44-47; 4:32 (NIV)** - 44All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved...32All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.

**2 Corinthians 9:6-15 (NIV)** - 6Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 9As it is written: "They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever." 10Now 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. 11You 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. 12This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. 13Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. 14And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. 15Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What stood out to you from this message? Why?
- What is the most personally challenging part of this message? Share.
- How does God's part, our part and other's part play into the topic of generosity?
- What is one next step you can take from this message?
- To watch the Overtime Podcast, go to: <https://bit.ly/RLOvertime>



Overtime Podcast