

All your works praise you, LORD; your faithful people extol you. They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, so that all people may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. 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. — Psalm 145:10–13 (NIV)

Review: Wk1 - Who Owns it All (Head); Wk2 - Enough is Enough (Heart)

Week 3 – “The Joy of Open Hands” (HANDS)

Ephesians 2:8–10 (NIV) — ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Colossians 3:17 (NIV) — ¹⁷ And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- If all that we are and have is from God, and He has given us all that we need, then the next question is what do we do with our time, talents, and treasures?
- What we believe in our Head and Heart must be put into practice in our Hands

1. TIME

Ephesians 5:15–17 (ESV) — ¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

James 4:14 (NIV) — ¹⁴ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

Question: *When I look back on my week, does what I did and how I did it align with the heart of God and did I bring glory to God and His Mission?*

2. TALENTS – Abilities, Skills, and Spiritual Gifts

1 Peter 4:10 (NIV) — ¹⁰ Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.

1 Corinthians 12:4–7 (NIV) — ⁴ There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶ There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. ⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

Question: *How would y*

our perspective of yourself change if you fully believed that all your skills and abilities were given you by God? Do you know what spirit gift has been given to you by the Holy Spirit?

3. TREASURE – Finances and Possessions

- **To be used to serve: God (tithe and offerings – Our Families – Others)**
 - Proverbs 3:9–10; 1 Timothy 5:8; 1 John 3:17–18

A closer look at Tithing

- What is a tithe? 10% (the first fruits)
- Where does it go? To the storehouse –temple in Old Testament and church in the New Testament

A. Where does this teaching come from?

- a. **Preceded the Law of Moses –See Genesis 14:18**
- b. **Old Testament Law**

Leviticus 27:30 (NIV) “A tithe of everything you produce belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.”

Malachi 3:7-12 (NIV) “... Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. ...”

- c. **The New Testament reinforcement** (Acts 2 & 4, 1 Cor. 16:2, 2 Cor. 9:6–11, Hebrews 7)

Matthew 23:23 (NIV) ²³ “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.

B. What is the tithe used for in the church?

- People are taught, cared for (widows/orphans/poor – Acts 6:1-6, 1 Timothy 5:3), missionary work (funded Paul’s ministry Philippians 4:14, 2 Corinthians 11:8)
- Paying pastors for their work (1 Timothy 5:18, 1 Corinthians 9:7)

C. What does the tithe do for us personally/spiritually?

- Reminds us of who is the Giver of our time, talent, and treasures.
- It helps us walk by faith and not by sight.
- Creates thankfulness.
- Reminds us that there is something else, something more than we see in this world.

Hebrews 13:5 (NIV) ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

Series Conclusion – The Owner’s Manual

1. **God owns it all** – Do you agree? What areas of your life or things are you holding too tight?
2. **God has provided what we need** – Are you content or always striving for more?
3. **God calls us to be obedient and generous givers** – Are my treasures God’s, or do I give God what’s left after I take my portion?

Psalm 37:23–26 (ESV) — ²³ The steps of a man are established by the LORD, when he delights in his way; ²⁴ though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the LORD upholds his hand. ²⁵ I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread. ²⁶ He is ever lending generously, and his children become a blessing.