



REWARD OF STEWARDSHIP

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INTRODUCTION

To have a better understanding of the context of this discuss, it is important to define and appreciate the keywords contained in the topic, namely; What is Reward? Who is a Steward? and What is Stewardship?

Reward: This is the activity of giving something valuable to a person for a job well done, in appreciation of the person's usefulness and worthwhile contribution. It will make the person happy to want to do more. This is a sort of motivation. It can be financial reward or otherwise. Reward can be positive or negative i.e. it can be good reward or bad reward according to the work of the person.

Steward: This refers to a Special Servant employed to oversee and manage the affairs of the household according to the dictates of the Owner. It is an act of taking care of or managing a property, organization, money or valuable objects. In religious or biblical context, it means a Servant who God has entrusted with the authority to make decision on behalf of the master. The Servant himself owns nothing. Everything belongs to the master who is the Head of the Church (Ephesians 5: 23-24) i.e. Christ is the Head of the Church and the Church is subject unto Christ, the Son of God. A Steward is therefore a manager or overseer of the House of God.

Stewardship: This is the act of serving God and the interests of his Kingdom. It also means craving for the things the Lord has given to us and honoring him. It is an act of being committed to the growth, expansion, advancement and enlargement of the Kingdom of God. Stewardship is neither a calling nor a gift but a position of trust, that can be lost or taken back by the Lord. This is called Christian Stewardship. It is an awesome responsibility which should be handled with utmost care because one has to give account of one's stewardship to the

Owner (God).

Christianity entails total submission to the will of God as revealed in his Word. A Christian must view God as the ultimate Owner of everything who decides to delegate and distribute his important affairs and assignments to his believers. It is important for us to know that Stewardship for God has its Reward (Benefits) which can be regarded as the most profitable venture as it does not only pay, but pays the most and the best. As the saying goes: "it usually pays to serve the Lord" [Colossians 3: 22-25 (KJV)]. This biblical passage has summarized everything relating to Stewardship and Reward.

God never ignores any good act. He always rewards every sacrifice, service, time devoted, money spent, resources used, in multiple folds [Hebrew 6: 10 (NIV)]. God is not unjust or unrighteous; he will say 'thank you' and reward you handsomely.

Just as God gives good rewards for the faithful and just servant, God can also reward in the negative manner for bad or evil work or wrong doing (Colossians 3:25). In this world, it is what a person sows that he/she will reap (Galatians 6:7-8; Proverbs 11:18; Proverbs 22:8; 2 Corinthians 9:6). God says there is a reward for the stewardship of every servant of the Most high God [1 Corinthians 3:7, 1 Corinthians 3:8-9 (NIV), 1 Corinthians 4:1-2 (KJV)] "So then, men ought to regard us as Servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the secret things of God. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful".

TYPES OF STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship can be classified into two types:

1. **Physical Stewardship:** This involves our engagement in various service

groups in the church.

2. **Spiritual Stewardship:** This involves our engagement in:

a. **Prayer and Fasting** (Mathew 17:21): We serve God through prayer and fasting; by praying for the salvation of souls, for church growth, establishment of new converts in the faith, effective outreaches, impactful service, etc.

b. **Carrying out the Great Commission** (Mathew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-18): This is achieved through the propagation of the Gospel, Soul winning, Evangelism, etc.

WHAT ARE THE RESOURCES INVOLVED IN STEWARDSHIP?

There are four major Resources and these are:

1. **Time:** This is a precious resource in the management of God's Kingdom, Do you create time for God and his Kingdom? Do you make yourself available for God's work? Time waits for no one! We have limited time on this earth. Time is very short! We are going to give account of our Stewardship one day, whether we like it or not. So, make diligent and judicious use of your time every day!

2. **The Body:** is the temple of God. How do you make use of the Body? [1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV)]. Are you using your body to glorify God or discredit him? If we abuse our body through neglect or sinful act, this certainly brings disapproval from God.

3. **Talents or Gifts:** These are things God has given and entrusted upon you; not for your betterment but for the betterment of all. Are you using your talents/gifts for the well-being of the people? Is it having far-reaching positive effect on people's lives? Are you carrying out God's Agenda with your talents/Gifts

or you are pursuing your own agenda? The parable of the Talents in Mathew 25:14-23 is an illustration.

4. Our Relationships: Relationship matters a lot in the execution of God's work. The way and manner you work with others goes a long way to influence your effectiveness. All our relationships in life, namely Family Relationships, Casual Relationships, Work Relationships and Church Relationships have effect on our work before God. God's work involves relating to people of diverse background, Religion, Culture, Education, Language, etc.

All these are heavenly ordained resources needing cultivation and proper management. We must be diligent in the proper deployment of resources in our stewardship, knowing that there is surely a promotion and great reward. Using the resources properly will bring gladness and commendation to man and to God. But if you abuse the resources handed over to you to manage, this will bring condemnation and punishment from God. This will not be your portion in Jesus Mighty Name, Amen.

QUALITIES OF GOOD STEWARDSHIP

The most important qualities for Good Stewardship are:

a) Faithfulness (Mathew 25:14-23).

- b) Trustworthiness
- c) Obedience
- d) Honesty, Transparency and Accountability
- e) Righteousness and Holiness
- f) Total submission to God's word and commandments
- g) Prayer warrior with fasting
- h) Spirit-filled and Spirit-led.
- i) Fear of God, not man
- j) Effective use of Resources, Time, Talents and Gifts.
- k) Being Focused, looking unto Jesus, the Author and finisher of our faith

WHAT ARE THE REWARDS (BENEFITS) OF OUR STEWARDSHIP? [Matthew 16:27 (KJV)]

The Rewards of our stewardship can be summarised as follows:

- I. **Blessings** (abundant and unimaginable blessings) [Matthew 24:46-47 (KJV)]
- ii. **Healing and Longevity** [Exodus 23: 25 – 26 (KJV)]
- iii. **Supernatural Supplies and Prosperity:** It delivers us from begging, lack and want [Job 36:11 (KJV)]
- iv. **Supernatural Joy and Rulership:** The joy of the lord is assured (Matthew 25: 23).
- v. **Life of Fulfilment and Guest of Jesus at His Marriage Supper:** The parable of the ten virgins comes in handy as a perfect example (Mathew 25: 10 – 13).

vi. Eternal Life and Crown of Life [Revelation 2: 10 (NIV)]

CONCLUSION

Apostle Paul in Galatians 1:10 (NIV) says: *"Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God? or Am I trying to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a Servant of Christ."* For you to win the approval of God, you must be a Servant/Steward of Christ. That is how you will win the Kingdom of God and make heaven. Sometimes, it may appear that you are not getting reward for your labour in the House of God; don't lose hope. It will surely come at the right time, if you keep working for God. Galatians 6:9 (NIV) says: *"let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest, if we do not give up"*. Jesus has given us the assurance in Revelation 22:12 (KJV) which says: *"And behold, I come quickly, and my reward is with me, to give everyman according as his work shall be"*.

This is a wake-up call to us and to all brethren, who hold positions of responsibilities as Representatives of the Almighty God and Ambassadors of Christ. My Prayer Is that God will help us to serve him better with all our hearts, soul and resources, and he will bless and reward us richly in Jesus Mighty Name, Amen

King David Band

Rejoices with

*The entire members of C&S Movement Church,
Dakibiyu District HQ, Abuja on her*



& Harvest
THANKSGIVING

Congratulations
Ayo Ni O!

WARDEN BAND

Cheerfully rejoices with

District Chairman, Elders and the entire members of
C&S Movement Church, Dakibiyu District HQ, Abuja
on her



& Harvest
THANKSGIVING

We are proud to partner with you towards securing the future

Ayo Ni O!