

Sunday, 05-21-2023

**Hope through Stewardship**  
**Bible Background: 1 Peter 4**  
**Printed Text: 1 Peter 4:1-11 KJV/NLT**  
**Devotional Reading: Luke 16:10-13**

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**Aim for Change:**

- **KNOW** the cost of discipleship.
    1. What do I **KNOW** about the cost of discipleship?
  - **FEEL** able to recall a time when we relied on God's power.
    2. Do I **FEEL** more than I believe in God'?
  - **LOOK** for opportunities to serve others.
    3. Where do I **LOOK** for opportunities to serve others? In what ways do I serve now? Is my heart in the right place when I serve?
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**Devotional Reading: Saturday: Faithful in Little and Much – Luke 16:10-13; Proverbs 30:5-9; 1 Timothy 6:10**

- How can I tell if I'm a slave to money? Am I being faithful in what God gave me (not just finances)?
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**Focal Verses – Good Stewards of God's Grace – 1 Peter 4:1-11**

1. **Christ's Example (vv. 1-2) – 1 Peter 3:18-22**
    - How have I really suffered for/in the name of Jesus Christ? When I am going through life's challenges, is my mindset like that of Jesus when He said, "**Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done**" (Luke 22:42)? How much of my trials/struggles are caused by limiting God in my life? Have I made a clean break from ALL sin or am I holding onto a few? Who's winning in my spiritual battle?
  2. **Christ's Teachings: Put off the Old, Put on the New (vv. 3-6) – Romans 13:8-14; Ephesians 2:1-10; 1 Peter 2:1-3**
    - Am I letting my old creature resurface because of my laziness in the Lord? Do I give into peer pressure? Am I more concerned what others think than what God thinks? How do I want to be judged? Is my praise confusing the enemy or is my lack of praise inviting him to come closer?
  3. **Christ's Teachings: Be Sober, Watchful, and Prayerful (vv. 7-9) – Proverbs 10:12; Hebrews 13:1-3; James 5:19-20**
    - How disciplined is my prayer life? Are my prayers vain repetitions? Am I exemplifying love or demonstrating cordiality? How happy am I to help the less fortunate?
  4. **Christ's Teachings: Gifts of Honor (vv. 10-11) – Romans 5:15-19; 12:6-13; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, 28-31; Ephesians 4:11-16**
    - What spiritual gift(s) do I have? Is it for speaking, serving, or both? Do I know how to use that gift(s) to edify the body of Christ? Can I be a Christian if I don't have a gift?
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**Daily Readings:**

- **Monday: Trust God to Provide – Luke 12:22-28**
  - If I truly trust God, then why do I worry? When has the Father not provided?
- **Tuesday: The Unfailing Treasure – Luke 12:29-34**
  - Do I value stuff more than God? Does my Attitude, Action, and Behavior reflect where my heart is?
- **Wednesday: Be Alert and Ready – Luke 12:35-40**
  - How am I being watchful in today's world? Am I ready or just think I'm ready for Christ's return?
- **Thursday: The Faithful and Prudent Manager – Luke 12:41-48**
  - Am I grateful for what the Lord has provided? How would He rate my management skills?
- **Friday: The Perfect Gift from Above – James 1:12-18**
  - Do I treat my sinful desires/temptations as a test from God? Have I put the gift(s) God gave me on the shelf because it wasn't the one, I wanted or thought I should have?

\*\*Note – Sunday School Lessons originate out of the Precepts for Living w/Commentary 2022-2023\*\*

<https://store.urbanministries.com/collections/precepts-for-living/products/precepts-for-living-2023>