Lay reader talk (week two)

(It would even more effective to have a member give a personal testimonial.)

**Living Each Day as a Steward**

Today is the second week of our stewardship emphasis. Everyday Stewards.” What if our pastor asked you to give a testimonial about your life as God’s steward? If you were asked to share how you manage and care for God’s property, what would you say? Have you considered what a faithful steward is expected to be and to do?

Perhaps you would say that, as a God-pleasing steward, you acknowledge God as the creator and source of all things. As the creator of all, He owns everything. God’s property is on loan to us. As stewards, we are to manage what He has entrusted to us responsibly and for God’s purposes. As God’s stewards, we are not to be passive managers but active and involved. We are caretakers and managers of God’s gifts, so we are accountable for what we do with His gifts of time, talents, and money. As faithful stewards, we can glorify and honor God with lives of service and faithful use of our gifts.

Stewards live a life expressing gratitude to God for both our created and redeemed lives. We live a life of saying “thank you” to God for His love and mercy. Stewardship is faith in action. Filled with God’s grace, we share our gifts with others.

To answer the question, “Are we being faithful stewards with our lives and gifts?” we may want to check our calendars and check registers. Faithful stewards would have times marked on their calendars for helping others, church meetings, and Bible studies. We would be spending time in prayer and attending worship services. Through faith, we try our best to use our time doing God’s will. Our check book register would show weekly offerings being made to God through our church, and there would be some checks written to help the needy. Our calendars and check registers will show us what and where our priorities lie.

As stewards, God has blessed us with many blessings, but the decision is ours whether we will use those gifts for the work of the Lord. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, God enables us to use our gifts faithfully for His purposes. May God help us all to be the faithful, everyday stewards He wants us to be.