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❖SERMON NOTES❖

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Sunday, February 18, 2007

**“GIVING AN ACCOUNT FOR MY LIFE”**

(Matthew 25:14-30)

Today we begin a new series on stewardship. When most people hear the word “stewardship” at church they immediately think of money. Biblical stewardship is much more. It is the wise, Christ-honoring use of anything God has entrusted to us. This morning we will survey the reach of stewardship and our accountability to God for all of life.

*“Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously” (2 Corinthians 9:6, NIV).*

*“Each of us will give an account of himself to God” (Romans 14:12, NIV).*

*“Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful” (1 Corinthians 4:2, NIV).*

**1. We are accountable for our time.**

*“Making the most of your time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:16, NASB).*

**2. We are accountable for our words.**

*“But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken” (Matthew 12:36, NIV).*

**3. We are accountable for our family.**

*“If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever” (1 Timothy 5:8, NIV).*

**4. We are accountable for our work.**

*“God blessed them and said to them, ‘Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground’” (Genesis 1:28, NIV).*

*“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men” (Colossians 3:23, NIV).*

*“Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God” (1 Corinthians 10:31, NIV).*

**5. We are accountable for our talents.**

*“We are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do” (Ephesians 2:10, NIV).*

**6. We are accountable for our body.**

*“Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit lives in you?” (1 Corinthians 3:16, NIV).*

**7. We are accountable for our material possessions.**

*“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21, NIV).*

*“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs” (1 Timothy 6:10, NIV).*

**8. We are accountable for the gospel.**

*“We speak as men approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts” (1 Thessalonians 2:4, NIV).*

*“Yet when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, for I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! If I preach*

*voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make use of my rights in preaching it. Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible” (1 Corinthians 9:16-19, NIV).*

*“Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you” (Hebrews 13:17, NIV).*