

Being Wise and Faithful Stewards Over Opportunities



Ephesians 5:15-17

- Review – “Being Wise and Faithful Stewards - (1 Cor. 4:1-2).
- There are many Christian believers that are enjoying life to the fullest because they are living by the “Principle of Stewardship.”
- Stewardship is a lifestyle.
- There are five things we must know and understand.
 - A. The author of stewardship is God (Stewardship began with God and it will end with God).
 - B. The attitude of stewardship is gratitude.
 - C. The authority of stewardship is the Word of God.
 - D. The adversary of stewardship is Satan.
 - E. The accountability of stewardship.

Wise and Faithful Stewards Over Opportunities

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- Wise – having wisdom – having or showing good sense or good judgment.
- Opportunities – an appropriate or favorable time, season or occasion.
- All of us are blessed with so many opportunities in life.
- We must know how to see and seize meaningful and beneficial opportunities.
- Life is not about us, but about us knowing Jesus Christ, and fulfilling His will and purpose for our lives.
- When we pursue the opportunities that the Lord sends our way, we will encounter all kinds of obstacles.
- Paul sent a letter to the Corinthians describing an opportunity he had been given and the obstacles that came with it.
- Paul seized every chance he was given to declare God’s truth.

- There are people in the Bible that made the most of opportunities in spite of opposition.
 1. Moses' parents hid him for three months (Ex. 2:1-5).
 2. Esther made the most of her opportunity to influence the king (Esther 4:16).
 3. Rahab saw the opportunity to help the spies (Joshua 2:9).
 4. David made the most of an opportunity to fight Goliath (1 Sam. 17:45).
 5. Nehemiah saw the opportunity to led the Jewish people to rise-up and rebuild the wall (Neh. 2:10).
- There are people in our day that have seen and seized opportunities in the face of opposition.

- What are the opportunities that we are called upon to steward as believers of the 21st century?
 1. Opportunity to walk in wisdom by looking around and watching every step (v. 15).
 - A. There is the foolish or unwise person: unthinking, thoughtless, careless, worldly-minded.
 - B. There is the wise person: the thinking, thoughtful, careful, spiritually minded person.
 2. The opportunity to evangelize (v. 16).
 - A. Opportunities to spread the gospel are to be used as if they were great riches.
 - B. Sharing the gospel is an essential part of the Christian life.
 3. The opportunity to know the will of God (v. 17).
 - We discover the will of God as He transforms the mind.
 - A. God wants us to understand His will for our lives, to use our gifts and talents for His kingdom.
 - The word “understand” means to grasp, perceive, see with the mind and comprehend.

B. God wants us to understand that He has a plan for our lives (Jer. 29:11).

- **His first plan for us is to be saved.**
- **After salvation, we are to become salt and light.**