

Who's the Lord of your life?

In the end, stewardship in the Bible boils down to this question: Who's the Lord of your life? Are you or is the Lord? How do you know?

To help you examine yourself (1 Cor. 13:5), here are some questions you can ask:

- Do you desire to seek the Lord?
- Do you long to read the Bible?
- Do you want to participate in the life of a local church?
- Do you follow the Lord as he has revealed himself in the Bible?
- Do you work as if you are working for the Lord?

These questions and more will help you to make an honest assessment of your life. Answering these questions are opportunities for you to speak within yourself, with your spouse and your children about ways you can be steward of God's gift to you. One benefit of doing this exercise is to help you reflect on how God has blessed you in your life, as God has done for Job (Job 42:7-17 - [Job, CHAPTER 42 | USCCB](#)) after Job has shown his faithfulness in God.

The following 3 examples may help you see, in a more practical way, stewardship from 3 figures, we all familiar with, from the Bible. You can pick and choose to read and reflect on any of these three examples.

1. God called Adam to work

From the very beginning, God had good intentions for work. In Genesis 2:15, we read, “The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.”

God called Adam to “work” and to “keep” the garden. Basically, God commanded Adam to take care of things on his behalf.

God’s call of Adam to work wasn't a burden, and God isn’t a vindictive taskmaster. Since Adam's call to work preceded the entrance of sin (Gen. 3), we can see that God had a good purpose for work in mind.

2. Joseph took care of Potiphar’s house

Joseph’s is arguably one of the best examples of biblical stewardship (Gen. 39 - [Genesis, CHAPTER 39 | USCCB](#)).

After Joseph was brought to Egypt, the LORD made him a successful man. While Joseph was in the house of his Egyptian master, we read, “[God] favored Joseph and made him his personal attendant; he put him in charge of his household and entrusted to him all his possessions.” (Gen. 39:4).

Joseph didn't own this home.

He didn't own the furnishings.

He wasn't responsible for generating income.

But he was given stewardship over the house and everything his master owned.

Referring back to the biblical stewardship definition — “the manager of a household” — you can see why Joseph is the perfect example of what it means to be a steward.

3. Protection of God's gifts

Remember, God owns everything. As the owner of everything, he makes his desires for his creation known. We see just one example of this in Leviticus 25:1-5: “The LORD said to Moses on Mount Sinai: Speak to the Israelites and tell them: When you enter the land that I am giving you, let the land, too, keep a sabbath for the LORD. For six years you may sow your field, and for six years prune your vineyard, gathering in their produce. But during the seventh year the land shall have a sabbath of complete rest, a sabbath for the LORD, when you may neither sow your field nor prune your vineyard. The aftergrowth of your harvest you shall not reap, nor shall you pick the grapes of your untrimmed vines. It shall be a year of rest for the land.”

In this passage, the LORD told Moses to let the people farm the land for six years, but to make them take a break from farming the ground in the seventh year.

What does this have to do with stewardship in the Bible?

Simple.

From this passage, we see that God owns the earth, he oversees the growth of produce, and he knows how to handle his land.