

# **Practical Theology (CM3)**

## **Call to Action**

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Lakeside institute of Theology**



# Practical Theology (CM3)

Aug. 14 – Intro to Practical Theology & Stewardship

Aug. 21 – Stewardship of Call & Vision

Aug. 28 – Stewardship of Faith & Commitment

Sept. 4 – ***No Class***

Sept. 11 – Stewardship of Time & Opportunities

Sept. 18 – Stewardship of Money & Material Resources

Sept. 25 – Stewardship of Influence

Oct. 2 – Call to Action; Final Exam

# What is “Stewardship?”

*“The conducting, supervising, or managing of something; especially, the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care.”*


A steward is someone who cares for something that belongs to someone else.

As Christians, we know that all things are made by God and still belong to Him, and we are called to be stewards of everything God places (or entrusts) into our lives

# What is “Stewardship?”

Christian Stewardship has to do with every aspect of our lives and with every choice we make.

Jesus calls us to be disciples. As disciples of Christ we must have a clear understanding of the biblical call to ***Whole Life Stewardship*** as our most fundamental act of obedience.



# Stewardship – How should we then live?

- Everything is created by God.
- In addition to being the Creator, God has also paid a great price in Jesus to redeem the world from its own sin.
- Everything therefore belongs to God.
- Anything we have or will ever have is given to us for our use and our stewardship, but nothing ever really belongs to us.
- Therefore, if we are to be good stewards, the question we must ask of everything in our lives is: “What does God want us to do with His stuff?” (*WE are part of His stuff*)


# Stewardship of God's Call on Our Lives

- If God's objectives for His Call on our lives become our objectives, our lives will be both productive and fulfilling in ways we perhaps cannot imagine.


***“If you have a pulse, you have a purpose.”***

- So, what are you **CALLED** to do?

# Stewardship of God's Gift of Vision


- God speaks to us, confirming our Vision, in three primary ways:
    1. Through the instruction and direction given in His Word, the Bible.
    2. As we go and meet with Him in prayer.
    3. As He guides us through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in our minds and hearts.
  - **So, what VISION had God given to you?**
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# Stewardship of Faith – What do we do with faith?

1. **Receive it.**
  2. **Hold onto it; be sure of it.**
  3. **Practice it – apply faith in *practical* ways to all aspects of life.**
  4. **Be prepared to explain and defend it.**
  5. **Share it with others.**
- So, are YOU prepared to DO something with your FAITH?**
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# Stewardship of Commitment

- **Commitment is the determination to do what needs to be done, whatever the cost.**
  - **Commitment is the demonstration that we trust in God and rely on him only.**
    - 1. Commitment to Christ.**
    - 2. Commitment to People.**
    - 3. Commitment to Prayer.**
    - 3. Commitment to Principles.**
  - ❑ **So, are YOU prepared to demonstrate your COMMITMENT to Christ?**
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# Stewardship of Time

- **Our task** is to determine how best to use the time God has allotted to us. This is “*Stewardship of Time*” – to use time wisely, living in a way that pleases God and accomplishes his purposes.
- **What will be our *source* of satisfaction?**
- DEPTH is what matters – the depth of our devotion to God, as reflected in how we spend our time.
  
- ❑ **So, are YOU prepared to use your TIME in ways that please God and accomplish His will?**

# Stewardship of Opportunities

- **What opportunities has (and does) God place before me?**
  - ***Opportunities to Evangelize***
  - ***Opportunities to Empathize***
  - ***Opportunities to Act for others***
- ❑ **So, are YOU willing to take advantage of the OPPORTUNITIES God beings into your life?**
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# Stewardship of Tangible Resources

- **Biblical stewardship of money and material possessions requires us to view money differently from the secular world's view.**
- **Generosity is a primary way Christians evidence the fruit of the Spirit in their lives.**
- ***How much* we have is unimportant; *how we invest it* is very important.**
  1. **Enjoy things, but don't cherish them.**
  2. **Share things joyfully, not reluctantly.**
  3. **Think like a pilgrim, not like a settler.**
- ❑ **So, are YOU ready to share your MONEY and POSSESSIONS with God and others?**

# Stewardship of Influence

- **There are THREE Primary Objectives in the stewardship of Christian influence:**
    - 1. Influencing people to know the One True God.**
    - 2. Influencing people to believe in and follow Jesus Christ.**
    - 3. Influencing people to live a “normal” and productive Christian life.**
  
  - ☐ **So, are YOU ready to use your INFLUENCE to bring others to God and to Jesus?**
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