

## “Stewardshift”

- Introduction:
1. Our plea is to be Christians, and Christians only; to go back to the Bible and simply be and practice what the Bible teaches.
  2. Could it be that we still need to restore some matters concerning 1<sup>st</sup> century Christianity?
    - a. Not in form, but in function?
  3. This series of lessons will challenge us to make what may be some necessary shifts in our way of looking at certain Bible topics.

### I. Does Our View Of Stewardship Need A Shift

- A. Talking about money is a very touchy issue with people today.
- B. Money is very personal, but Jesus and his disciples had much to say about it.
- C. To be faithful, so must we.
- D. Because it is touchy, many have shied away from the topic, and the result has been that there are several shifts that need to be made in our thinking.

### II. StewardShifts That May Need To Be Made

- A. A Shift In What We Give.
  1. (2 Corinthians 8:5).
  2. God wants us before he wants our money.
  3. Investment determines interest.
- B. A Shift in How We Give.
  1. (2 Corinthians 9:7).
  2. It's not “give till it hurts,” but rather “give cheerfully.”
  3. The Greek word for “cheerful” is “hilaros” from which we get our English word, “hilarious.”
- C. A Shift in How Much We Give.
  1. “Every little bit helps?” - Not so when courageous and bold sacrifice is needed.
  2. Sometimes this slogan is a salve to sooth our consciences.
  3. (Acts 4:33-37; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2).
- D. A Shift In Whose Money It Is.
  1. (Psalm 24:1).
  2. Stewardship vs. Ownership.
  3. (Matthew 25:14-30).

- Conclusion:
1. We may need to make several shifts in our thinking about stewardship.
  2. God is concerned about how we give.
  3. And our stewardship is a matter of Heaven and Hell.
  4. (Luke 12:16-21).
  5. (James 5:1-3).