

**Nurturing the 12 Qualities
of a Servant Leader**

Stewardship

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The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The central text is positioned in the white space between these green elements.

Stewardship Vs Ownership

What is Stewardship?

- A steward is a servant who knows and accepts his identity and role
- Accountable to the master/employer (Luke 12:42-48 - 忠心有見識的管家)
- Takes care of the house when the master is absent
- Manages household matters well (including leading and managing other servants put in his charge)
- Is rewarded for doing a fine job when the master returns

Ownership

- The opposite of stewardship
- View his possessions (including talents and training) as his belongings only, acquired by birth or by personal effort
- Possessions seen as status symbols
- Uses them as he sees fit - lords it over them
- Seeks personal gains with them
- Squanders them and bears the consequences
- Suffers for their loss

Being a Steward for what?

- What is personal: life, health, time, knowledge, skills, talent, gifts, experiences, training, money and other possessions
- What is public: positions, power, trust, performance of the institution, others under him

Stewardship in an institutional sense

- Understands the importance of being entrusted with the power (position) and all that goes with it
- Equates stewardship with trusteeship
- Remembers to be a servant first: serve the institutional vision and the people to realize the vision
- Serves by leading well - growing people, achieving excellence, establishing justice and a moral climate, and using power benignly
- Ready to account for his/her life's decisions and actions at any time

How to nurture stewardship?

- Remind yourself often that you are a steward or trustee only, not the owner or lord over others
- Be always grateful for life and everything that comes with it
- Often take stock of what you have, how you use it (for whose benefits) and what gains you have produced in your servant leadership (especially the golden test)
- Be aware of what new resources (e.g. fortunes, knowledge, skills and experiences) are entrusted to you and put them to good use
- Grow with your opportunity and ask God to expand your territory

雅比斯 (Jabez) 求告以色列的神說：「甚願你賜福於我，擴張我的境界 (land, territory property, borders, coast, terms)，常與我同在，保佑我不遭患難，不受艱苦。」神就應允他所求的。(Chronicles I 歷代志上 4:10)

What hampers stewardship?

- Pride and self-centeredness
- Greed and lust
- Laziness
- Others' flatteries
- Temptations
- The Master's long absence or delay