



# WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

## Stewardship

is the task of **managing** or **taking care of something that belongs to someone else**

We are to be good stewards of...

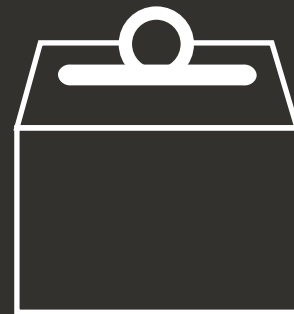
### time

God has given us time on this earth to glorify Him, share the gospel, help others grow in spiritual maturity, serve people in need, and develop a relationship with Him.



### money

God has also blessed us with material possessions. We are to use our money and resources to help people in need, spread the gospel, and so much more.



God trusts us to use our time and money in a way that pleases Him. It is our responsibility to (1) not waste these gifts and (2) not hoard these gifts for ourselves.

**Read Luke 19:11-27**



# STEWARDSHIP: TIME

“Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.”

*Ephesians 5:15-17*

## how we should spend our time:



### Spiritual Disciplines

We ought to spend time growing in spiritual maturity. This can be accomplished by practicing the spiritual disciplines such as prayer and studying the Bible.



### Worshipping God

God also deserves our time each day. We should set aside time to worship God as much as possible since He alone is worthy of our worship.



### Evangelism & Discipleship

We should also spend time helping others grow in spiritual maturity (whether believers or unbelievers). We can do this by serving, sharing the gospel, and spending quality time with other people.

## how we actually spend our time:



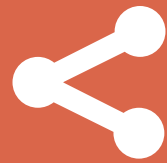
### Entertainment

Americans spend hours in front of the television each day. We watch shows, movies, the news, and sports on a regular basis. We have made entertainment an idol in our lives which tends to distract us from God Himself.



### Work (or School)

Work is necessary and even good, however we need to be sure not to waste our time at work. How can you grow in spiritual maturity, worship God, and help others grow in spiritual maturity throughout the work / school day?



### Social Media

More and more Americans are spending hours scrolling through social media platforms. This not only wastes a lot of time, but it has also created a culture that craves superficial relationships and popularity.



*Time*

is a *gift* from

GOD

that you can use to

*glorify Him*



# STEWARDSHIP: MONEY

“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”  
*1 Timothy 6:10*

## how we should spend our money:



### Necessities

We can and should provide for our own needs with the money we have. The problem is when we indulge ourselves rather than provide for ourselves. We need to learn to be content in all circumstances.



### People in Need

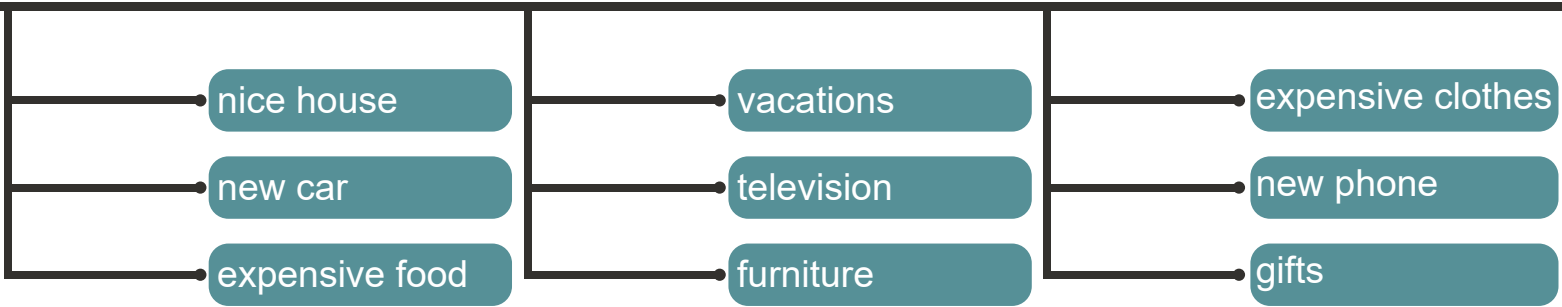
There are people all around us and all around the world who are in need of basic necessities. We can help these people (both Christians and non-Christians) by giving them things they need with no strings attached.



### Furthering the Gospel

Christian ministries need money to continue spreading the gospel around the world. Churches, Christian non-profit organizations, and missionaries are a few of the places where we can send our extra finances.

## we actually spend most of our money on... ourselves!



There is nothing wrong with having these things, however we tend to look out for our own **wants** before the **needs** of other people. The more money we make, the more money we spend on ourselves. We decide to use our money to buy a bigger house, a nicer car, more expensive food, more luxurious vacations, high-end clothes, and so on.

**Money is a blessing from God that should be used how He wants, not how we want.**



# BEING CONTENT IN ALL SITUATIONS

Why do we continually spend money on ourselves when so many people are in desperate need of money to feed their families, pay their bills, and receive medical treatment?



## Selfishness

We almost always think about ourselves first and others second (if at all). We tend to be selfish and it is most clear when it comes to how we spend our money. How do we justify spending so frivolously when people are in such need?



## Pride

Sometimes our pride consumes our spending. We want to appear successful so we spend money on things we do not need to impress our friends, family, and neighbors with what we can afford.



## Ignorance

A lot of us Christians do not even realize how much we waste our money for our own wants. Spending money for ourselves is such a common part of our lifestyles that we are often unaware of just how much of a problem this is.

## How can we fix this?

### Being Content

We need to learn to be content with what we have. We always want more, but we need to be thankful for what we already have and recognize that other people are not as well off as we are. There is always someone who can use our help.

### Having Compassion

When we see someone in need, we ought to have compassion for them and do everything we can to help them. There is only so much we can do, however what little we can do will make a huge difference in people's lives.

### Thinking In Light of Eternity

No matter how much we own on this earth, it will be gone the moment we die. To store up treasures on earth that fade away is foolish. We should instead be generous with our money in order to store up treasures in heaven.

### Relying on God

Ultimately we need God's help if we hope to rid ourselves of these selfish desires. As much as we try to find purpose and joy in material possessions, only God can fulfill our deepest desires.





# GIVING TO PEOPLE IN NEED



- Ignore the hungry
- Ignore the thirsty
- Do not provide shelter and clothes to the poor
- Do not take care of the sick
- Ignore those in prison

## The Parable of the Sheep & the Goats

*Matthew 25:40*  
‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’



- Feed the hungry
- Give water to the thirsty
- Provide shelter and clothes to the poor
- Look after the sick
- Visit those in prison

### Acts 20:35

Work hard in order to help people in need. “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

### 2 Corinthians 9:7

Do not give out of obligation but out of joy. “God loves a cheerful giver.”

### James 1:27

“Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress...”

### 1 Timothy 6:17-19

Do not trust in wealth, trust in God. Use your wealth to generously give to people in need.

### James 2:14-17

Faith without actions is worthless. True believers will go out of their way to help other people who are in need.

### Mark 12:41-44

It does not matter how much you give, just that you give. Nobody has an excuse not to give to other people in need.



# WARNINGS



Do not give out of **PRIDE**

Do not give out of **PITY<sup>1</sup>**



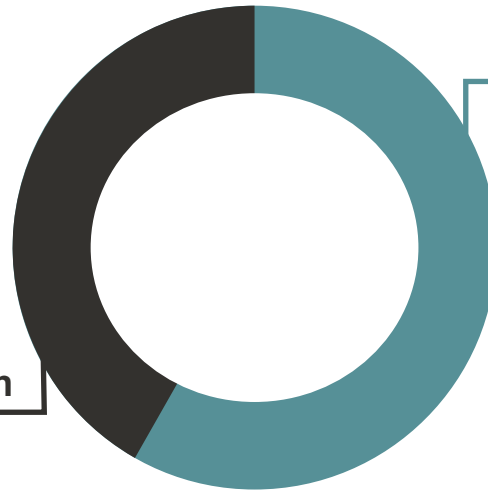


# USING MONEY TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL

## Unreached People

What happens to people who never hear the gospel? Will they go to Heaven or Hell? Why do you believe this?

**Unreached:**  
“A people group whose number of followers of Christ and amount of resources make outside assistance necessary to reach the rest of the group with the gospel.”<sup>2</sup>



4.52 billion  
**58%** Reached

Minimally Reached.....7%  
Superficially Reached.....10%  
Partially Reached.....22%  
Significantly Reached.....20%

Unreached 3.23 billion  
**42%**

*Statistics gathered by Joshua Project <sup>3</sup>*

## The 10/40 Window:

The area of North Africa, the Middle East and Asia located approximately between 10 degrees north and 40 degrees north latitude.



97% of the unreached people in the world live in the 10/40 window<sup>4</sup>

## The Role of Money in Reaching the Unreached

Missionaries are going into dangerous countries in order to spread the gospel to the unreached, however they need to have funds in order to survive and do their work in these countries. We have the duty and the privilege to take part in the work of these missionaries through prayer and giving financially.



# TEMPORARY TREASURES VS ETERNAL TREASURES

“Then Jesus said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

“Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’

“But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

“This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

*Luke 12:15-21*

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

*Matthew 6:19-21*

## Spiritual Truths:

1

**This life is temporary:**

Eventually we will die and either spend eternity in Heaven or in Hell.

3

**Heavenly wealth is eternal:**

Our rewards and possessions in Heaven will exist for eternity. We will never lose them.

2

**Earthly wealth is temporary:**

When we die, we will not take our possessions with us. They will be gone forever.

4

**How you spend your money shows where your heart is:**

People with a heart devoted to Jesus will not idolize their money<sup>5,6</sup>.

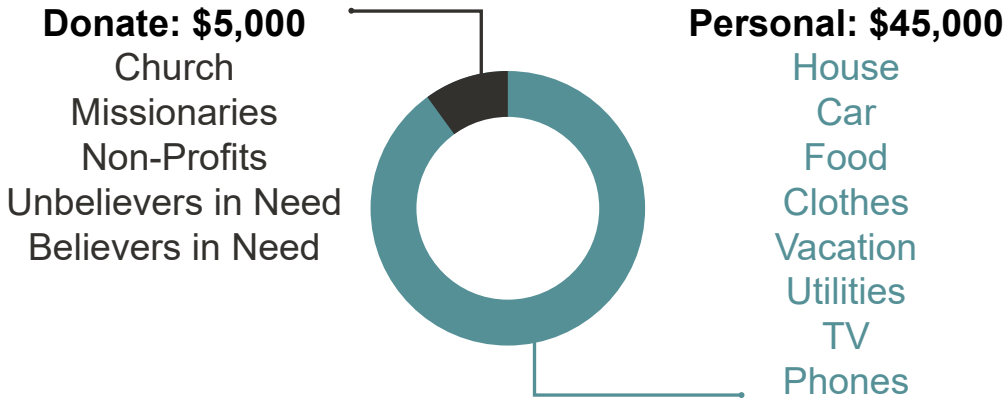




# CHRISTIAN BUDGETING

**Income: \$50,000**

Imagine you work a job where you make \$50,000 per year.

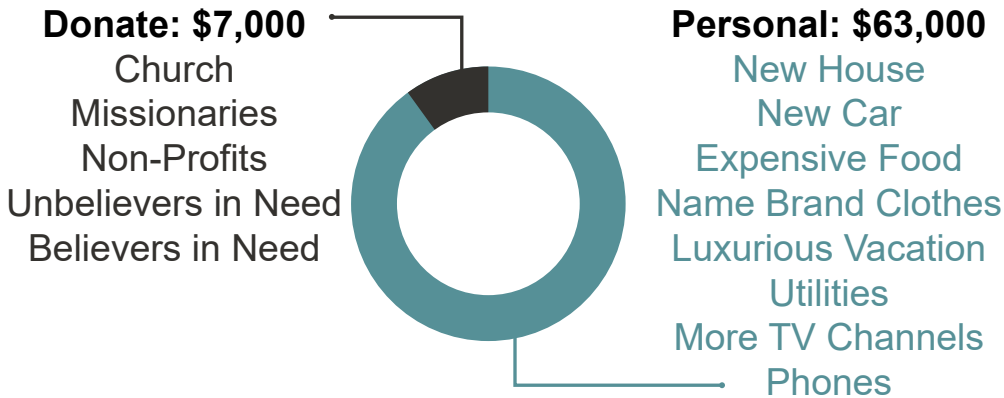


The Bible never says to donate 10% of your income, however it is a good place to start

**Income: \$70,000**

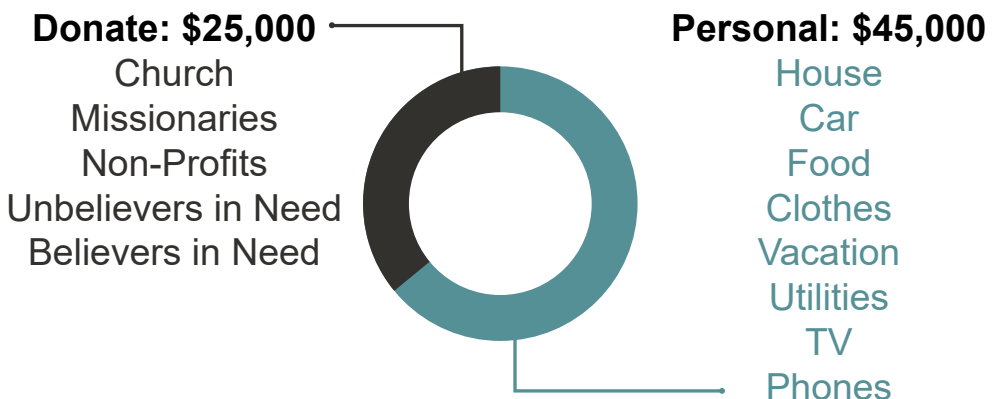
Now you receive a promotion and start making \$70,000 per year

**O  
P  
T  
I  
O  
N  
1**



Rather than keeping their lifestyle the same, some people see an increase in income as an excuse to start spending more money on themselves.

**O  
P  
T  
I  
O  
N  
2**



If you could survive on \$45,000 per year before your raise, why start spending more money on yourself just because you make more money?

Give Sacrificially!