

Saturday, March 27

Stewardship Principle

Readings: Psalm 31:9-16  
Leviticus 23:1-8  
Luke 22:1-13

Prayer: *Father, give us wisdom to perceive you,  
Intellect to understand you,  
Diligence to seek you,  
Patience to wait for you,  
Eyes to behold you,  
A heart to meditate on you,  
And a life to proclaim you,  
Through the power of the spirit of our Lord Jesus  
Christ. Amen.*<sup>68</sup>

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**Give willingly**

as moved by the Holy Spirit. We have been prepared to give ourselves. We give our time, talents, and resources freely.

**“For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave ...”**  
2 Corinthians 8:3

Focal Verse: “Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it.”” Luke 22:7-8

Reflection:

Perhaps the best known stewardship verse in the Bible comes from 2 Corinthians 9:7: “God loves a cheerful giver.”

The clue to being a cheerful giver is found in the words that surround Paul’s statement that God loves a cheerful giver.

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.

**2 Corinthians 9:6-8**

In the words that surround Paul’s appeal for cheerful giving, Paul talks about generous giving, intentional giving, and regular giving. The key to a being cheerful giver is to practice the other stewardship values.<sup>69</sup>

What do you hear?

How does it make you feel?

Toward what are you being drawn?

What do you sense you should do?

<sup>68</sup> *Saint Benedict*

<sup>69</sup> Charles Lane, *Ask, Thank, Tell*, © 2006, Augsburg Fortress, p. 52-53.