

FCCI CURRICULUM:

Ownership vs. Stewardship—It’s MINE!

WEEK 5: IT’S MINE! - Video Session 1 of 3 - 23 minutes

OVERVIEW: It’s difficult to find true Servant Leadership today, even among Christian leaders. True Servant Leaders lead not for their own benefit but for the benefit of others.

SCRIPTURE: Mark 10:42–45
 Matthew 20:25–28
 1 Kings 12:7

Jesus said He came to serve, not to be served.

Lead for the benefit of others, not for your own benefit.

Jesus said many things that caused people to frown. The most confusing thing He said was that we are to be stewards.

It’s MINE!

The word **parable** means *to throw along side of*. Therefore, a parable is a story to help us understand a difficult and misunderstood concept.

What you *have* really isn’t yours! *They* are not yours:

- possessions
- family
- children
- company

You are simply a steward of *your company*. God has *given* (entrusted) it to you for a period of time. You have the responsibility to oversee it.

ABOUT THE PRESENTER:

WALT WILEY has spent his adult life talking. A former Walk Thru the Bible seminar instructor and chaplain of the Atlanta Braves, Walt speaks and teaches regularly in various settings. His style is motivational, inspirational, Biblical, practical, and peppered with lots of humor. Walt and his wife, Patti, live in Charlotte, NC and have two grown sons.

Concept #1	Concept #2
It’s mine!	I’m a steward
I do what I think is best	I manage it for someone else

In pursuit of Christ’s eternal objectives, we equip and encourage Christian business leaders to operate their businesses and conduct their personal lives according to Biblical principles.



When you choose Concept #2, the whole perspective for running a business changes, as does your relationship to the company. Certain things will gradually change in your life. Your reaction to running your company will change.

Evidence of the fact you don't own the company:

1. It's not your company— stop controlling it.

Controlling people:

- Always get their way.
- Motivate by fear.
- Everything has to go through them.
- They will do anything to hold on to their position.
- They're persistent.
- They're tough.
- They're decisive.

Weakness is strength pushed to an extreme:

Controlling people will push things to an extreme.

Controlling people try to control:

1. Other people.
- 2.
- 3.

Stop controlling! Your job as the steward of God's company is to help people who have joined you feel successful and fulfilled.

Alternative Action:

Direct, give orders, BUT don't control.

CONTROL: To regulate, oversee, hold in check

Weakness is strength pushed to an extreme.

One man's toughness is another's insensitivity.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

1. How much thought have you given to the concept that God owns the business and you are simply a “steward”?

Write down a few ideas you have about this concept and be prepared to discuss it with the group.

2. Do others consider you a “control freak”?

What do you suppose employees and co-workers say about you “behind your back”?

To what extent do you try to “control” most aspects of the business? Explain:

3. What changes would be necessary for you to feel comfortable with a more “hands-off” stewardship role in the company leadership?



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WEEK 6: STOP CONTROLLING! - Video Session 2 of 3

OVERVIEW: Many Christian business leaders misunderstand their role in the leadership of their company. Trying to be responsible and organized, they end up being demanding and controlling. The result is a poor witness for Christ.

SCRIPTURE: 2 Kings 5:1
 Matthew 20:1–16
 Matthew 6:25–27

Controlling people try to control:

1. Other people.
2. Circumstances
- 3.

People think they can change particular circumstances because of their:

- Money
- Contacts
- Position
- Power
- Influence

There are certain things we can’t control, change or “fix.”

Controlling people try to control God saying, *“Lord, I know this is your company. I’m only a steward, but there are some things I think we ought to do...”*

The Bible is full of “unfair” things, as is life.

That’s Not FAIR!



The Controller...	But...
might be in charge	shouldn’t be in control.
should be responsible...	shouldn’t run roughshod over others.
is supposed to be organized...	shouldn’t be an ogre.
is supposed to direct the company...	shouldn’t be demanding.
is supposed to have a plan...	shouldn’t be a pain.

Learn to let go... Stop Controlling!



PRACTICAL APPLICATION

1. Even if you don't believe you are a "control freak", think about various aspects of your life and your leadership style where you try to control...

People: _____

Circumstances: _____

God: _____

Give one example of each of these to your group.

2. Consider the concept of "fairness." How would you define "fair?"

FCCI CURRICULUM:*Ownership vs. Stewardship—It's MINE!***WEEK 7: STOP WORRYING!** - Video Session 3 of 3 - 28 min

OVERVIEW: There seems to be no end to the number of issues for a Christian business leader to worry about. Understanding the difference between Ownership and Stewardship will help a Christian business leader realize that worry is not only unproductive, but it robs you of peace and provides a poor witness for Christ.

SCRIPTURE: Philippians 4:11–12
 Philippians 4:4–9
 Mark 4:35

Evidence of the fact that you don't own the company:

1. It's not your company — stop controlling.
2. It's not your company — stop worrying.

Dictionary definition of WORRY: To be uneasy, to be disturbed, to give way to anxiety.

Twin thieves rob us of the moment:



Regrets over yesterday

Fear of tomorrow

Nothing that causes you to worry is worth what worry costs you in peace of mind.

Two things to do in the midst of worry:

1. Adjust your heart—
 - rejoice
 - be gentle
 - don't be anxious
 - pray
 - be thankful
2. Adjust your head—
 - think about good, noble, lovely, etc. things (Philippines 4:8)
 - look at things from a Biblical perspective

**"Why should I pray
 when I can worry?"**

—Walt Wiley

EPHESIANS 4:23–24 NIV

...to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Questions to ponder...

- Are you now in the center of God's will?
- Are you working hard?
- Are you working in your area of giftedness?
- Does your conduct bring glory to God?
- Are your closest friends walking with God?
- Have objective people affirmed your work?
- Are you living before God in a way that is pleasing to Him?

If these things are true...

Stop worrying, get on with it!

Instead of worrying, try remembering His:

- Promise (remember what He promised).
- Presence (take Him along with you).
- Power (in the midst of the storms of life).

LET GOD... BE GOD!

"To worry is to insult God... it is to doubt that He is competent to do His job! When we worry, we call into question His sovereignty... how dare we?"

—R. Lyman

"Have courage for the great sorrows of life, and patience for the small ones; and when you have laboriously accomplished your daily task, go to sleep in peace because God is awake."

—Victor Hugo

WEEK 8: APPLICATION & COMMITMENT

Date Series Began: _____

Date Series Ended: _____

Participant's Name: _____

One of the Biblical Truths (Principles) I learned from these lessons was:

I intend to apply this Truth (Principle) in my business by:

With the help of the Holy Spirit, I will begin applying this Truth immediately. I ask and expect my group to hold me accountable for this, and to check with me periodically to determine if I am doing so. Please ask me: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

JAMES 1:22-25 NIV

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it — he will be blessed in what he does.



CHRIST@WORK GROUP CHECK-IN

Annual Focus Word: _____

Annual Scripture Verse: _____

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

Rate Your Last 30 Days: Scale of 1-10 (1 = worst; 10 = best)

Focus	Score 1-10	Notes:
Business		
Family		
Health		
Spiritual		

In the next 30 days, I plan to start: _____

In the next 30 days, I plan to stop: _____

Optional: Recommend a resource (book, tape or other) used in the past 30 days for personal or business enrichment _____

MOST CRITICAL ISSUE YOU FACE IN THE NEXT 30 - 60 DAYS:

DESIRED RESULT [perfect outcome]:

What would you like from the group: Counsel Prayer Referral Resource?

ACTION PLAN (Report your progress to the Group at the next meeting):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____