



What do you have that God hasn't given you? And if everything you have is from God, why boast as though it were not a gift? 1 Cor 4:7b NLT

Walt states that Jesus only taught on stewardship on 5 occasions and that each time he spoke in parables. Most likely, the Disciples heard these teachings in person, perhaps multiple times. Why do you think Jesus spent so much of His valuable time focusing the Disciples on His multi-faceted teaching on stewardship? [consider some or all of the parables listed below and discuss]

In counseling a couple distraught over a business bankruptcy, Larry Burkett once asked them *“Who owned the money before and who owned it after the bankruptcy?”* <Answer-God...his counsel continued> How does Jesus teaching on stewardship take some pressures off while creating others?

In Walt’s previous teaching on Ownership vs. Stewardship, he covered four stewardship struggles that business leaders face: 1. Controlling, 2. Worrying, 3. Bragging, 4. Abusing. <<Note: If you have not already reviewed it, this is a great group series; but not a prerequisite for this teaching>> Is there one challenge among those he lists that presents the greatest challenge to you personally? [Discuss]

Select the item above that would make the most impact or warrants immediate attention and answer the following questions:

1. Should I apply this concept or practice to my business or personal life?
2. Can I commit to a schedule to implement this application? [explain and discuss with the group, if necessary]

Comment:



For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. Proverbs 23:7a NKJV

Jesus' Stewardship Parables & audiences, 6 Parables, 5 occasions: 1) disciples--The Unjust Steward, Luk 16:1-17:10; 2) Pharisees--Rich Man and Lazarus. Luke 16:19-31; 3) disciples--The Unprofitable Servant, Lk 17:7-10; 4) the disciples and a large crowd--The Minas, Luke 18:11-27; 5) the disciples and a large crowd--The Talents, Mat 25:14-30; 6) the disciples and a large crowd--Ten Bridesmaids, Mat 25:1-13

Development Objectives:

Life, Leadership, Excellence, Kingdom



Any fool can criticize, condemn and complain. Most fools do—Benjamin Franklin

Walt begins teaching on the temptation to criticize the things we steward, referring to King Rehoboam in 1 Kings 12, son of King Solomon. He closes out this session with the quote above, by Benjamin Franklin. <<Before responding to the following question, read over I Kings 12>> What part of this chapter reveals Rehoboam’s behavior that reflected “ownership, vs. stewardship?”

Rehoboam started his 40 year reign with Israel in its glory days, yet finished with Israel as a divided kingdom and in decline. He may be one of the greatest examples of failed stewardship of all time— notwithstanding the Southern King, Jeroboam. Among other mistakes, Rehoboam refused the advice of his elder counsel. What huge stewardship mistake did he make? [Read 12:6 & following, then discuss]

Walt points out that according to FCCI’s bylaws, **a business owner should view his/her business as a gift from God—an imperative.** Review the following verses on our *stewardship and accountability* out loud as a group and summarize them in your own words below, then discuss.

Ps 24:1	
I Co 10:26	
Ja 1:17	
2 Co 5:10	
Ro 14:12	
Col 3:17&23-25	

Walt addresses the temptation to criticize what God has given us. Do any of the verses above, or others, address struggles you experience with criticizing what God gives us? [share with your group]

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Comment:

They told him, "If you will serve these people today, humble yourself, and speak gently, then they will always be your servants." 1Ki 12:7

For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. Proverbs 23:7a NKJV



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Business Leadership Group Discussion & Application Guide

Walt Wiley | Ownership vs. Stewardship—Part 2 | 3 of 4

“God called many to lead and succeed. He never called anyone to break His rules.”—Walt Wiley

In the last session, Walt pointed out a failure on the part of Rehoboam, King of Judah [southern kingdom] and alluded to a failure of Jeroboam, King of [northern] Israel. Rehoboam declined Godly counsel [1 Kings 12:6-8], took ownership of the Kingdom and provoked a civil war.

Walt refers to 1 Kings 12:26-27 as a failure of Jeroboam to appreciate what God had given him, leading to criticism of the 10 Northern tribes that he ruled and a huge failure of leadership. <His criticism was rooted in mistrust of the people and ultimately, God> How does his criticism betray his lack of trust? [Read 1 Kings 11:28-40 for context and be prepared to discuss with your group]

After **comparing** his kingdom to that of Rehoboam, Jeroboam not only **perceives threats**, he turned his back on an opportunity to trust God. This caused a downward spiral into sin, prompting God to follow through on his commitment to remove blessings on Jeroboam’s reign and kingdom. What current application can we learn from Jeroboam’s failure to trust God? [see Walt’s key scripture references below]

Select the topic above that would make the most impact or warrants immediate attention and answer the following questions:

1. Should I apply this concept or practice to my business or personal life?
2. Can I commit to a schedule to implement this application? [explain and discuss with the group, if necessary]

Comment:



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“God called many to lead and succeed. He never called anyone to break His rules.”—Walt Wiley

Walt presents the idea that we are stewards of: What I am. What I have. What I do. Jeroboam destroyed his life, leadership, family and nation by failing to appreciate and trust what God entrusted to him. The outcome of his unfaithfulness is one of the starkest examples of leadership failure in all of the scriptures. What part of his example most stands out to you, personally? [share with your group]

2 Peter 1:9 tells us that ***we have a more sure word of instruction than the Patriarchs or even the Disciples***. I Thessalonians 5:18 ***commands us to give thanks in all things—that certainly applies to all the things God has given to us***. Do you think Jeroboam would have been more faithful if he possessed these truths? Yes/No Do you think we will have a greater accountability than he did? [give consideration to two of King David’s Psalm’s most common themes—thankfulness and trust]

As you prepare to wrap up this series, write down a few things that stand out from the past few weeks, in terms of application to your own stewardship. Share with your group...

Select the topic above that would make the most impact or warrants immediate attention and answer the following questions:

3. Should I apply this concept or practice to my business or personal life?
4. Can I commit to a schedule to implement this application? [explain and discuss with the group, if necessary]

Comment:



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 Life, Leadership, Excellence, Kingdom