



MIND: Organization



"Most of us spend too much time on what is urgent and not enough time on what is important."

- Stephen Covey

Definition: Organizational wellness is the ability to keep track of and make good use of possessions, money, and time.

Verse: *"The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."*
- Psalm 24:1

1. INTRODUCTION

Everyone struggles with organization from time to time. Disorganization, however, can sometimes create stress and impact our physical, emotional, and spiritual health. It can prevent us from living intentionally and in alignment with our values and priorities. (See Handout #1)

Becoming better organized -- not perfect! -- can lead to improving focus, creativity and overall well-being. It can allow us to make time for the people and things that matter in our lives.

Scriptural Foundations:

- **Genesis 2:15:** After making order out of *"formless and empty"* chaos (Genesis 1:2), *"The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."*
- **1 Corinthians 14:33, 40:** *"God is not a God of disorder but of peace... everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way."*
- **Psalms 90:12:** *"Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."*
- **Ecclesiastes 4:6:** *"Better one handful with tranquility than two handfuls with toil and chasing after the wind."*

Organizational wellness is the practice of arranging your life so that the most important things have the most space. When you act as a steward, getting organized isn't about being perfect - it's about being available to do God's work in the world.

2. WE ARE CALLED TO BE STEWARDS

The Bible teaches that God owns everything, and we are His "asset managers." Everything—from the earth itself to our very breath—belongs to the Creator.

- **Psalms 24:1:** *"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."*
- **1 Chronicles 29:14:** *"Everything comes from You, and we have given You only what comes from Your hand."*
- **1 Corinthians 6:19-20:** *"You are not your own; you were bought at a price."*

Stewardship is managing someone else's property. We are caretakers who must use God's resources according to His instructions. We need to take good care of what we've been given: our time, energy, possessions, relationships, and opportunities.

- **Genesis 2:15:** *"The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."*
- **1 Corinthians 4:2:** *"Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful."*
- **Luke 16:11:** *"So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?"*

Being organized helps us to be good stewards by making the most of these valuable resources.

Ownership vs Stewardship Mindset

	Ownership Mindset "Control"	Stewardship Mindset "Management"
Perspective	<i>"It's mine; I can do what I want."</i> Views time, energy, and space as personal possessions. Organization is a way to prove worth, achieve "perfection," or minimize personal failure.	<i>"It's God's; I manage it for Him."</i> Views resources as a trust from God. Resources must be managed wisely for a greater purpose or the benefit of others, as well as for their own well-being.
Burden of Responsibility	Feels the weight of the world. If things go wrong, it's a personal failure.	Recognizes that the resources (time, body, money, talents) belong to God. You are a manager, not the source.
Emotional Impact	Worry, fear, anxiety over losing "my" stuff. Decision fatigue. Constant need to micromanage outcomes.	Reduced anxiety and clear priorities. Freedom and joy in trusting God with the results.
Priority and Focus	Driven by self-preservation or accumulation. "How do I get more?" or "How do I keep what's mine?" This creates a cluttered life filled with things that don't actually satisfy.	Asks, "What does the Master want me to do with this?" Organization becomes a spiritual discipline; you declutter your schedule and your home because you want the "estate" to run efficiently for its true purpose.
Goal	Building my own kingdom.	Building God's kingdom.
Accountability	Responsible to self or society.	Accountable to the Creator.

3. ORGANIZING TO BECOME AVAILABLE

Wholeness isn't having a perfectly labeled pantry; it's having a pantry that is organized enough that you can quickly find what you need to feed a hungry neighbor. **We organize to be available.**

In a steward's world, **organization is an act of hospitality.** You clear the deck of your life so there is actually room for God and other people to show up.

WEEKLY CHALLENGE (3-5 things to try out this week)

- **Pick One:** Pick one "disorganized" area of your life this week as an act of worship, reclaiming it for God's service. (Could be a drawer, a calendar, a budget, etc.)
- **The "No" Experiment:** Practice saying "no" to one request this week that doesn't align with your core priorities.
- **Needs vs. Wants:** Jesus promised to meet our *needs*, but not necessarily our *wants*. Spend 15 minutes reviewing where your money went last week. Can you identify one "want" this week that you've been treating as a "need"?
- **Setting the Margin:** Try one of the margin-creating practices suggested in Handout 3 and reflect. Did you experience becoming a little more available for where God needed you to be as a result?
- **Tending Your Garden:** Read Handout 4 to learn about the four quadrants of time management and how shifting into a Stewardship perspective can change your mindset and align you better with God's priorities. Does shifting from "tasks" to "tending" help you see your upcoming week with more peace?