

# 5 Day Devotional

## Day 1: You Are a Steward, Not an Owner

### Devotional

It is easy to think of what we have as ours. Our money, our time, our talents. We earned them, we manage them, and we decide what to do with them. But Scripture tells a different story.

God is the owner of everything. We are stewards, managers entrusted with resources that ultimately belong to Him. This is not a small theological footnote. It changes everything about how we live.

The Greek word *oikonomos*, often translated as manager or steward, carries this truth at its core. A steward does not own the estate. He manages it on behalf of the one who does. That is exactly the role we play with everything God has placed in our hands.

This is actually freeing news. You are not the final word on what you have. God is. And because He is a good and generous Father, He entrusts us with real responsibility and real opportunity to do something meaningful with what He has given.

You do not have to carry the weight of ownership. You are called to the joy of faithful stewardship. That is a lighter and more purposeful way to live.

### Bible Verse

"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised." - 1 Timothy 6:7-8 (New International Version (NIV))

### Reflection Question

If you genuinely believed everything you have belongs to God, what is one area of your life where that belief would change how you make decisions?

### Quote

Everything you have is on loan anyway. All that lasts is what you pass on.

### Prayer

Lord, shift my heart from the posture of an owner to the posture of a faithful steward. Help me to hold loosely what You have entrusted to me and to manage it in a way that honors You. Amen.

## Day 2: Blessed to Be a Blessing

### Devotional

There is a pattern woven throughout Scripture that is easy to miss when life gets busy. God blesses His people with a purpose beyond themselves.

In Deuteronomy 8, God warned Israel not to forget Him when they entered the land of abundance. The danger was not prosperity itself. The danger was forgetting where it came from and why it was given. God blessed them so they could reflect His generosity to the world around them.

That same pattern runs through your life. Every good thing you have, your income, your health, your relationships, your skills, has been given to you by a generous God who intends for that goodness to flow outward.

This is not a guilt trip. It is an invitation. You get to participate in something far bigger than your own comfort. When you give generously, when you invest in people and kingdom causes, you are joining God in His work in the world.

You are not just a recipient of grace. You are a carrier of it. That is one of the most encouraging truths in all of Scripture.

### Bible Verse

"You may say to yourself, 'My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms His covenant, which He swore to your ancestors, as it is today." - Deuteronomy 8:17-18 (New International Version (NIV))

### Reflection Question

In what area of your life has God blessed you abundantly, and how might that blessing be an invitation to bless someone else this week?

### Quote

He also blesses us in order to be that blessing.

### Prayer

Father, thank You for Your generosity toward me. Open my eyes to see the people around me who need what You have already placed in my hands, and give me the courage to give it freely. Amen.

## Day 3: Shrewd for the Kingdom

### Devotional

Jesus made a striking observation in Luke 16. People of the world are often more strategic and intentional about temporary things than followers of Christ are about eternal ones.

That is a challenging word. The worldly manager in the parable used every resource available to secure his future. He thought ahead. He acted with purpose. Jesus did not commend His dishonesty. He commended his shrewdness, and then He turned to His disciples and said, in effect, why are you not that intentional about things that actually last?

This is a call to wake up. Not to be anxious, but to be purposeful. The resources God has placed in your hands, your money, your time, your relationships, are tools for kingdom investment. They can build something that outlasts you.

You do not need to have a lot to be intentional. You just need to be willing. One conversation, one act of generosity, one relationship invested in with care can ripple further than you will ever see this side of eternity.

Be shrewd for the right things. Think strategically about what lasts.

### Bible Verse

"Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much." - Luke 16:10 (New International Version (NIV))

### Reflection Question

Where in your life are you being more strategic about temporary things than about eternal ones, and what would it look like to reorder that?

### Quote

The people of the world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than the people of the light.

### Prayer

Lord, make me intentional about the things that matter most. Help me to use what You have given me with wisdom and purpose, investing in people and causes that point to Your kingdom. Amen.

## **Day 4: It Is Not How Much, But How**

### **Devotional**

One of the most countercultural moments in the Gospels is found in Luke 21. Jesus watched wealthy people drop large gifts into the temple treasury. Then He watched a poor widow drop in two small coins. And He said she gave more than all of them.

By any financial measure, that makes no sense. But Jesus was not measuring dollars. He was measuring devotion. The wealthy gave out of their surplus. She gave out of her poverty. She gave everything she had.

This is not a passage designed to make you feel guilty for having resources. It is a passage designed to reframe what faithfulness actually looks like. Faithfulness is not about the size of the gift. It is about the posture of the heart behind it.

All of life falls under the lordship of Jesus Christ. That includes how we give, how we spend, and how we hold what we have. When Jesus is truly at the center, generosity becomes less of a transaction and more of a way of life.

You do not have to wait until you have more to live generously. You can start right where you are, with exactly what you have.

### **Bible Verse**

"Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others.'" - Mark 12:43 (New International Version (NIV))

### **Reflection Question**

What would it look like for your giving, whether of money, time, or energy, to reflect genuine devotion rather than comfortable convenience?

### **Quote**

It's not how much you have but how you use it.

### **Prayer**

Jesus, center my heart on You. Help me to give not out of obligation or surplus alone, but out of a deep trust that You are Lord over everything I have. Amen.

# Day 5: Investing in What Lasts

## Devotional

At the end of the day, every one of us is investing in something. The question is not whether you are investing. The question is what you are investing in.

Jesus drew a clear and uncompromising line. You cannot serve both God and money. Not because money is evil, but because divided loyalty produces a divided life. When money becomes the center, everything else gets pulled out of orbit.

But here is the encouraging truth at the heart of all of this. Jesus has already invested in you. He gave His life because He believes in you and in what God is doing through you. That investment calls for a response.

We are called to love God and love our neighbor, and to invest in them so that they too might know eternal life. That is the summary of a life well lived. Not how much you accumulated, but how faithfully you loved and gave and pointed others toward Christ.

You brought nothing into this world and you will take nothing out of it. But what you pour into people, that echoes into eternity. Make your life a gift. Start today.

## Bible Verse

"Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all His benefits, who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion." - Psalm 103:2-4 (New International Version (NIV))

## Reflection Question

When you look back on your life, what do you want to have invested in most deeply, and does how you are living today reflect that?

## Quote

The way you invest your love is the way you're going to invest your life.

## Prayer

Lord, thank You for investing Your very life in me through Jesus Christ. Help me to respond by pouring my life into others, so that Your love and grace might reach further than I can imagine. Amen.