

Prayer Journal

"The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."

Genesis 2:15

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen."

1 Peter 4:10-11

It doesn't take God very long to reveal in scripture that stewardship is part of his divine design for creation. Just two chapters into the Bible, Adam is instructed to take care of the Garden of Eden. Humans were made to be stewards. In fact, it was man's first and only duty in the beginning.

In Peter's first letter, we see the theme of stewardship continue as he addresses early Christians who have found themselves being persecuted for following Christ. Through Peters words, we learn a lot about ourselves as we navigate life as stewards of God's gifts in our present time. We know it's not always going to be an easy walk, but we're promised blessings through and as a result of our struggles in this life as we follow Christ. As we practice stewardship of our God-given talents and treasures, may we always bear in mind that all things belong to God. We are just conduits, charged to steward His gifts and deliver His good news.

Though our lives look much different than those of Adam, Eve and the early Christians of Peter's day, our purpose remains the same: Take care of "the garden" and all things in it.

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Father, as we discern how we're best equipped to serve you through All Generations, may we remember that everything we have originates from and belongs to you. Guide us as we consider how to share the gifts of time, talent and treasure that you have blessed us with to steward your creation. May we rest easy knowing that your blessings far outweigh anything this world has to offer, and may we always keep our eyes and our hearts focused on you. Amen.

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