

# What? Not Again..?!?

**There. We've said it for you, so you don't have to say it.  
"How many times does the Church have to talk about  
money? Because Stewardship is about money, right?"**

- Wrong! Stewardship is about our Spiritual Life
- Right! Money is *one* of the things stewardship is about.
- And Right! We get tired of being challenged about money

So Let's Review:

**STEWARDSHIP =**

**WHAT WE DO WITH WHAT WE HAVE**

**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP =**

**WHAT WE DO WITH WHAT WE HAVE**

**AS FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST!**

The Bible teaches us that the earth, the cosmos, and all that we have, comes from God our Creator.

The Hebrew theologians' consistent view was that our soul, our *Nephesh*, includes everything we can do, everyone in our family and household, and everything we own.

***In other words, it is all gift!*** 

**The First Gift:** The Creation, the Earth, and all that is in it

*We are stewards of the earth, "to till and keep it"*

- From de-forestation to carbon emissions to plastic in the oceans,
- From resource extraction to species extinction to habitat protection,  
We are accountable for the effects of our activities on the planet, and as Stewards struggle to act as responsibly

**The Second Gift:** Human Life, and every capability we possess

*We are stewards of our health, human powers and intelligence*

- From nuclear fission to digital technology to health care,
- From agricultural and industrial practices to the manipulation of the beginnings and endings of human life,  
We are accountable for how we use our knowledge and abilities. The Call for wisdom sounds clear in many quarters, as we become better Stewards of our know-how

**The Third Gift:** Our personal circumstances

*We are stewards of our own responses to life*

- From our place of birth to our current life
- From our education to our value systems
- From our skills and talents to our career or livelihood
- From our family situations to our neighbourhoods and workplaces  
We are accountable for our treatment of our selves and others, and as stewards strive for respect, and justice for all

**The Fourth and most Valuable Gift:** Our walk with Christ, our Faith

*We are stewards of our spiritual gifts and our Church*

- From our baptismal covenant to our personal prayer life
- From God's love for us, to our love for others
- From our faith to our actions, from our worship to our mission  
We are accountable for the ways we "put skin on God's love", when we see a brother or sister in need; as Stewards of God's love, we express our love for God in our Giving

*Next week: the Joy of Giving*