

Stewardship Definition Expanded

Pastor Robert Green of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Parma included some thought on stewardship in a letter to the congregation. Using key phrases from the LCMS definition of stewardship, he commented and expanded on the concepts.

“Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God’s family – the church – in managing all of life and life’s resources for God’s purposes.”

This definition contains many key words for our further consideration:

Christian:	A follower of Jesus Christ!
Stewardship:	The action of being a steward!
Free:	Not coerced by the law, punishment, etc.
Joyous:	Something desirable and enjoyable!
Activity:	Stewardship in action!
Child of God:	Through faith in the death and resurrection of Christ!
God’s Family:	All who trust in Jesus Christ alone!
The Church:	Not a building of brick, rather all children of God!
Managing:	God owns all. We simply manage what God has given us.
All of Life:	“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body.” (1 Cor 6:19-20). Jesus bought us with His precious blood!
Life’s Resources:	God has given us life, breath, strength, and ability to earn all that we have!
For God’s purposes:	God created the universe and all things in order that He might create mankind as the pinnacle of His creation. God has given us life, eternal salvation, and all that we have. God has done everything for us, therefore, we are called to live for Him!

“ ... He died for all, that they who live should no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.” (2 Cor 5:15)

