

Sunday Sermons – CSI Church, Toronto  
Sunday, July 6, 2014

## Stewardship – Responsible Resource Management

**Exodus 18:13-27**

**Psalms 147:1-11**

**II Corinthians 8:1-15**

**Matthew 25:14-40**

Matthew 25: 23 & 40

*23. His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.*

*40. And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.*

Matt. 25: 14 – 30:- The Parable of the Talents

Matt. 25: 31 – 46:- The Judgment of the Nations

Reward – Jesus speaks these words very close to the end of His earthly life.

Here, in both the cases, the lives were evaluated based on their everyday lives/ living pattern.

Stewardship is related to the way of life.

### **God: The Provider of Resources**

Matt. 25: 14 – 28 pictures God as the provider or authority of resources. (Ps. 147: 4, 5, 8, 9, 13, 14 – 18)

God fills in us talents and resources.

God fills in accordingly.

Matt. 25: 15, 5, 2 and 1 – God has created us and has given talents according to the ability, and that differs from person to person.

“Recognizing the talents is very important. We’re not to complain for what we don’t have.”

No need of a comparison and a competition; no need of a sense of loss or inferiority or superiority complex.

God has filled all of us with varied talents. Diversity in talents and their meaningful use is the beauty of life.

Physically challenged/ mentally challenged with any skin color – all have talents.

Recognize the talents, understand that God is the provider.

(The story of Nick Vujicic – the man without hands and legs)

### **The faithful: The Responsible Users of Resources**

Matt. 25: 14 – 28:- three different people using the talents in two ways.

2 – Used the talents

1 – Didn’t use the talents

Matt 25: 31f – Responsible users of the talents as per the will of the Master

Responsibility and Accountability matters a lot in the walk of Christians. How do we use the talents, and for what matter in our daily life? We’re answerable to the Provider. Use the talents according to the will of the Provider.

Matt 25: 40 – commended by the Lord

Responsible use of the resources make us to receive rewards.

II Corinthians 8: 1 – 15 (for those who have less, for those in need)

Churches in Macedonia – Philippi, Thessalonica, and Berea were poor, but actively helped.

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As persons, as families, as a church, we're expected to be responsible for the use of our talents.

**Participation: The Modus Operandi of Resource Management**

Ex. 18: 13 – 27:- Getting along and working with others help us to be very fruitful in our tasks.

[JETHRO]

Moses thought of himself as the only judge. Moses's father-in-law gives some advice.

Selection and Training and making them fruitful – meaningful leadership and resource management –

Team Effort

Mission – Participation

Providing our shoulder for God's task

Participation with God's plan and fellow beings

1. God: The Provider of Resources
2. The faithful: The Responsible Users of Resources
3. Participation: The Modus Operandi of Resource Management

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