

CrossPoint Community Guide

Untangled: The Joy of a Generous Life | Our Calling to Steward

DINNER & DELIGHT

45 minutes

- During dinner, reflect on last week's practice: **What was one *planned act of generosity* and one *quiet act of generosity* you practiced last week?**

 **Facilitator Tip:** There's a lot to get through today so be sure to keep track of time so you don't miss out of the *practice and implement* section!

LEARN & STUDY

20 minutes

Read together: *Genesis 2v4-15, Psalm 24v1, Discipleship Priority–Sacrificial Generosity: Since God is the abundant owner of all things, we live as generous stewards to reflect His goodness and advance His kingdom.*

- **In Genesis 2v4-15, identify the verses that include, “The Lord God...”**
What do these reveal about God's initiation?
- **According to Genesis 2v15, what two responsibilities are given to the human in the garden?**
What do these words suggest about humanity's calling in God's creation?
- **Andrew highlighted the reality that we were stewards before we were sinners.**
Why is this important in understanding human identity and stewardship as an act of worship?

 **Facilitator Tip:** The next question is to transition from Learn & Study to Practice & Implement. Invite your group to share how this truth has and is changing their lives.

- Andrew articulated the take home truth as, **stewardship is part of our original calling and an act of worship. We are called by God to *steward wisely* the resources God has entrusted to us.**

PRACTICE & IMPLEMENT

40 minutes

 **Facilitator Tip:** The following questions are meant to get at the heart of stewardship. There is a lot to unpack so be sure to use your time well. I'd encourage you to copy and paste the “This Week” section in your text chat, encouraging people to share how it's going throughout the week (I'd recommend doing this even prior to when your community meets).

- Andrew shared that **generosity** emphasizes **trust, surrender, joy, and release** while **stewardship** emphasizes **responsibility, planning, and faithful execution** of God's purposes with the money he has entrusted to us over time.
 - How are your habits with money shaping you?
 - What thoughts or emotions surface when you think about releasing money to God's purposes?
 - What do these reactions reveal about your trust in God?
- **When we remember God is the owner, we live differently as managers by asking:** *What would honor the owner? How do I increase what's been entrusted? How do I reflect the owner's character?*
 - What are your thoughts to these questions?
 - How might your daily decisions change if you consistently lived as a manager of what God has entrusted to you?

THIS WEEK: Spend time with God, reflecting on these questions:

- How does my spending reflect (or not reflect) my life's purpose, mission and calling?
- Is how I'm stewarding money leading someone to go to heaven? How would my lifestyle need to change to make that happen?
- Where am I at on the stewardship journey and what next step do I need to take to 1) give generously 2) save responsibly and 3) steward wisely?
 - For those not giving → start.
 - For those drowning → seek counsel.
 - For young adults → find a mentor.
 - For families → audit your lifestyle.

REFLECT & PRAY

15 minutes

Pair up and pray

- What is one takeaway from your time in community today?
- Together, pray, "Jesus, help me be honest (with you and others) with where I'm at in my generosity and stewardship journey. Give me the courage to trust you as I take tangible steps of faith to live out my original calling as a steward. Amen."

➡ NEXT WEEK: *Matt 25v14-21*

CrossPoint Community Member Guide

Untangled: The Joy of a Generous Life | Our Calling to Steward

DINNER & DELIGHT

45 minutes

- During dinner, reflect on last week's practice: **What was one *planned act of generosity* and one *quiet act of generosity* you practiced last week?**

LEARN & STUDY

20 minutes

Read together: *Genesis 2v4-15, Psalm 24v1, Discipleship Priority–Sacrificial Generosity: Since God is the abundant owner of all things, we live as generous stewards to reflect His goodness and advance His kingdom.*

- **In Genesis 2v4-15, identify the verses that include, “The Lord God...”**
What do these reveal about God's initiation?
- **According to Genesis 2v15, what two responsibilities are given to the human in the garden?**
What do these words suggest about humanity's calling in God's creation?
- **Andrew highlighted the reality that we were stewards before we were sinners.**
Why is this important in understanding human identity and stewardship as an act of worship?

Take home truth:

- Andrew articulated the take home truth as, **stewardship is part of our original calling and an act of worship. We are called by God to *steward wisely* the resources God has entrusted to us.**

PRACTICE & IMPLEMENT

40 minutes

RIGHT NOW:

- Andrew shared that **generosity** emphasizes **trust, surrender, joy, and release** while **stewardship** emphasizes **responsibility, planning, and faithful execution** of God's purposes with the money he has entrusted to us over time.

- How are your habits with money shaping you?
 - What thoughts or emotions surface when you think about releasing money to God's purposes?
 - What do these reactions reveal about your trust in God?
- **When we remember God is the owner, we live differently as managers by asking:** *What would honor the owner? How do I increase what's been entrusted? How do I reflect the owner's character?*
 - What are your thoughts to these questions?
 - How might your daily decisions change if you consistently lived as a manager of what God has entrusted to you?

THIS WEEK: Spend time with God, reflecting on these questions:

- How does my spending reflect (or not reflect) my life's purpose, mission and calling?
- Is how I'm stewarding money leading someone to go to heaven? How would my lifestyle need to change to make that happen?
- Where am I at on the stewardship journey and what next step do I need to take to 1) give generously 2) save responsibly and 3) steward wisely?
 - For those not giving → start.
 - For those drowning → seek counsel.
 - For young adults → find a mentor.
 - For families → audit your lifestyle.

REFLECT & PRAY

15 minutes

Pair up and pray

- What is one takeaway from your time in community today?
- Together, pray, "Jesus, help me be honest (with you and others) with where I'm at in my generosity and stewardship journey. Give me the courage to trust you as I take tangible steps of faith to live out my original calling as a steward. Amen."

➡ NEXT WEEK: *Matt 25v14-21*