

ALL TO THE GLORY: TREASURE

PEACE
LUTHERAN

Whatever you do, do it all to the glory
of God. *1 Corinthians 10:31*

DECEMBER 17, 2023



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURES

My mom always says, “You can’t out-give God.” My dad always says, “How ‘bout them Vikings?” My dad would rather talk about anything other than money. Literally. And for hours. Yet despite raising seven kids on one pastor’s salary, they always had an envelope ready for church.

When we talk about the feeding of the five thousand, we’re usually marveling at Jesus’s miracle (which was, of course, amazing). The attitude of the boy who gave his lunch is also incredible. Did he wonder if he would eat at all that day? Did he hesitate to volunteer what he had out of concern for his own stomach? Did he look at his small contribution and think, What difference could this possibly make? All we know is that he gave it. He trusted that God would not only use what he gave well (multiplying it thousands of times over, in fact), but also meet the needs of the giver.

HOW DO WE TRUST GOD WITH OUR TREASURES?

The obvious answer is by giving back to God what he has given us. Sometimes that’s easier than it is at other times. Like the apostle Paul, we know what it is to have plenty and we know what it is to be in want. Regardless of the amounts and percentages that we give, what God is most interested in is the heart behind our gifts. Are we showing that we trust God to use what we are giving to advance his kingdom, according to his perfect will and his timetable? Or are we giving begrudgingly or as a talisman against misfortune? Are we trusting that he will provide for our

physical needs, even as we give money we would like to use for something else? Stewardship is using gifts from God wisely, trustingly, and to the best of our ability. That will look different for everyone, but we hope our hearts are all in the same place: trusting our God.

OUR PRAYER for this ministry:

Father, help us to trust you with the gifts you have given us, including our earthly wealth. You alone are able to satisfy our wants and needs. Amen.

Next up:

Making Music in Worship

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