

Why is stewardship key to living in the "Sweet Spot of Life?"

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*Haggai 1:2-9*

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1. Proper stewardship enables God's will for mankind

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*"Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."* *Matthew 6:10*

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*"... 'My food (nourishment) is to do the will (pleasure) of Him Who sent Me and to accomplish and completely finish His work.'"* *John 4:34 (AMP)*

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*"...Entrusted with God's work..."* *Titus 1:7 (NIV)*

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2. Proper stewardship releases the blessings of God

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*"Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."*

*Luke 6:38*

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*"He who has a generous eye will be blessed, for he gives of his bread to the poor."* *Proverbs 22:9*

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3. Proper stewardship strengthens my faith

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*"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."* *Malachi 3:10 (NIV)*

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4. Proper stewardship helps me focus on the eternal, not the temporal

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*"Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and should give happily to those in need, always being ready to share with others whatever God has given them. By doing this they will be storing up real treasure for themselves in heaven-it is the only safe investment for eternity! And they will be living a fruitful Christian life down here as well."*  
1 Timothy 6:18-19 (TLB)

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*"If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth."*  
Colossians 3:1-2

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5. Proper stewardship gives me victory over materialism

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*"... 'Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.' And he told them this parable: 'The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, "What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I'll say to myself, 'You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'"* But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.'"

Luke 12:15-21 (NIV)

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6. Proper stewardship prepares me for my eternal future

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*"'And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven?'"*  
Luke 16:11 (NLT)