

Southern Asia Division 1

Stewardship Certification *Handout*



Created and Redeemed as Stewards
Rediscovering our true identity

Aim:

- To present stewardship as the way of life designed by God for humanity.
- To discuss about the implication of living in harmony with the original identity and vocation of humanity.

Opening Illustration: The Young Male Black Elephants

Lesson: They had to live according to their identity otherwise they cannot enjoy their existence and even become a threat to their environment.

Introduction

Everything that exists has finality and purpose. What are the original life purposes behind the existence of human beings? What is it to be a human? This presentation is a quest to rediscover true humanity and its implication for the life of the believer.

Part 1: The Relationship between humanity and God Activity

Find out the five basic affiliations that exist between God and Humanity:

- i. Humanity has a **CREATOR**

“So God created mankind...” (Gen. 1:27a).
- ii. Humanity has a _____

“In the image of God he created them...” (Gen. 1:27b).
- iii. Humanity has a _____ (Gen 1:29).
- iv. Humanity has a _____ (Gen. 1:28)
- v. Humanity has a _____ (Gen 2:1-3).

Affiliation with God	Life Purposes for Humanity
One Creator	Act as _____
God provided for all.	Be dependent upon God.
God created humans in His image.	Behave as _____
God visited the garden and gave the Sabbath.	Prioritize relationship.
God asked humans to take care of the garden.	Accept and fulfil _____

The faithful steward is the one who manages life in harmony with the original life purposes set by God.

When Jesus was questioned about issues of lifestyle, he pointed back his audience to the original intention of God, Matthew 19:8b.

Part 2: Sin and Salvation regarding the original life purposes Sin

The core of the first temptation “You shall be as gods” (Gen. 3: 5) is an invitation to put aside the life purposes established at creation. Sin is to disregard and to deviate from the original life purposes.

Life Purposes	“You shall be as gods”
Act as creatures.	Behave as your _____ creator.
Be dependent upon God.	No need of _____
Behave as representatives.	Represent yourself
Maintain relationship.	Enter in conflict with God
Accept and fulfil responsibilities/Mission.	No _____ to receive.

The first Adam failed in his role to live according to the original life purposes. Genesis 3 shares about the consequences of putting aside the original life purposes. Since that time humanity has gone through an escalating identity crisis.

Salvation

Ephesians 1:22

“And God placed all things _____ his feet and appointed him to be _____ over everything for the church...”

Jesus was established as the new steward

The second Adam empowered humanity to live the five original life purposes.

Original Life Purposes	In Christ
Act as creatures.	We are a _____ creature (2 Cor 5:17)
Be Dependent upon God.	We are the branches (John 15:5)
Behave as Representatives.	We acquire the image of the son (Rom. 8:29) who is the image of the father (Col 1:15).
Maintain Relationship.	We are _____ with heaven (2 Cor 5:19).
Accept and fulfil responsibilities/mission.	We have received a mission (Acts 1:8b)

Participants’ Involvement

Read the story of the demon possessed man (Luke 8:26-38). What are the elements that testify that he has gone through an identity reconstruction process? Refer to the 5 original life purposes.

Original Life Purposes	Illustrations
Act as creatures.	_____
Be Dependent upon God.	_____
Behave as Representatives.	_____
Maintain Relationship.	_____
Accept and fulfil responsibilities/mission.	_____

Part 3: Original Life Purposes and the Steward's Lifestyle

The original life purposes have a direct bearing on our stewardship of wealth.

Original Life Purposes	Guidelines for Stewardship of Wealth
Act as creatures	_____ God with all resources (Mat. 2:1-2,11)
Be dependent upon God	Acknowledge God as Owner and Provider.*
Represent God	Show the _____ of God in the use of resources (1 John 4:8; James 1:27).
Prioritize Relationship	Relationships with God and others have _____ over acquiring possessions (Luke 19:5,8).
Assume Responsibilities	Using our _____ to minister to others (Luke 8:3).

*Acknowledge God as owner and provider

He asks us to acknowledge Him as the Giver of all things; and for this reason He says, of all your possessions I reserve a tenth for Myself, besides gifts and offerings, which are to be brought into My storehouse.

Counsel to Stewardship, pp. 80-81

Conclusion

The Stewardship Ministries brings humanity back to _____; the one that is lost and the one to come, through _____ the true Steward.