

Steward Builders

A newsletter to help you grow as a steward.

The purpose of this newsletter is to share God's Word so that our members will better understand who we are to be and what we are to do in the light of the Scriptures. It is our hope that this monthly publication will help you grow in your relationship with the Lord and as a Christian steward.

God's Blessings on your Lenten Journey!

God's Grace at Work

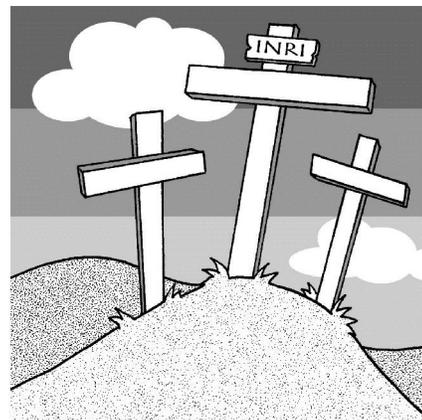
Throughout the forty days of Lent, we face head-on the destructive nature of sin in our lives and our need for a Savior. As we repent of our sinful ways, we place our sins at the foot of the cross knowing that Jesus has already paid the penalty for our disobedience. Because of God's love and grace, we receive forgiveness of our sins and victory over death. *"The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ"* (1 Corinthians 15:56).

God showed us His love and grace by what He was willing to give us. *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16). By grace, we understand the tremendous love that Christ poured out on us on the cross. God opens our eyes and minds so we can see Who God is and what He does for us.

The wonderful news for us is that God's grace is given to us without any merit on our

part. Grace is not something we've earned. It is a free gift to us, but it comes at a high cost to our Lord. Grace has been defined as "God's Riches at Christ's Expense."

God, Who first loved us, enables our faithful response to His love and grace. Because He fills us with His love, we are compelled to share that love with others (2 Corinthians 5:14). Love motivates us to be givers rather than takers. It is often said, "Love made me do it." As forgiven and grateful people, we demonstrate our love and thanks for what God has done and continues to do for us through the faithful use of our lives and resources. Living out our faith in gratitude and obedience is stewardship. As God's stewards, we recognize that our stewardship flows out of God's love for us in Christ, which empowers us, in turn, to show love to others by acts of Christ-like love.



It is only by God's grace that we become faithful stewards. The grace that was given to us through Christ's work on the cross also changes us into people willing to use our time, talents, and treasures for God's purpose. The grace that has appeared to all

people teaches or instructs us to say “no” to worldliness and then it teaches us to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives. By grace, we are “zealous for good works” (Titus 2:11-14).



God’s grace reconciles us with Him. It is also by His grace that we are able to live lives of service to Him and others. It is by His grace that we can be God-pleasing stewards. Because of grace we can say “no” to worldly interests and focus instead on living godly lives. God’s supply of grace is our power supply. The wonderful thing is that God’s grace has not been given to a few of us, or half of us, but to each one of us.

Interesting Church Signs:

“GOD DOESN’T WANT SHARES OF YOUR LIFE. HE WANTS CONTROLLING INTEREST.”

“MAKE A FRIEND IN HIGH PLACES.”

“YOU GIVE GOD THE CREDIT. NOW GIVE GOD THE CASH.”

“PRAYER + FAITH = CHANGE”

Positive Changes:

History textbooks reveal General Sam

Houston, the great American general who fought at the Battle of Alamo, to be a coarse and belligerent man. It was reported that when he came to know Christ, he became a changed person. Witnesses who knew of his previous life style and attitude couldn’t believe the change they observed in him. General Houston stated, after his baptism, that he would pay half the local minister’s salary. When someone asked him why, his simple response was, “My pocketbook was baptized too.”

It is often said that the last thing Satan lets go of is our pocketbooks. What we do with our money is a visible indicator of where our hearts are. As Thomas Jefferson once said, “When the heart is right, the feet are swift.” May our prayer be that our hearts will always be filled with the love of Christ and that He will hold power over our lives and pocketbooks.

False Riches

Gambling is becoming commonplace in cities and states all over America. Men and women are attracted to betting and playing the lottery because of the hope of hitting it big. The desire to be rich has adverse consequences for many people. Greed has torn apart families and destroyed friendships and nearly precludes any kind of relationship with God at all. The promise of easy money is very tempting to individuals, and the entities providing the opportunity have become very successful. Unfortunately, those who can least afford to lose money playing the lottery, etc., most often lose the most money. To believe that any form of gambling will solve one’s monetary problem is, for the most part, foolish. Gambling won’t fulfill our needs, but God can. True riches are only found in God.

**Blessings on your
Stewardship Journey!**

