

## day 2

Am I A Good Steward?

"Every good and perfect gift is from above."

James 1:17 (NIV)

Several years ago, I was surprised to discover two large dust-covered bins filled with quilts and blankets in our attic. But these weren't just run-of-the-mill linens. They had been lovingly handmade by my husband's mother and grandmothers to celebrate special occasions.

I'm ashamed to confess I had forgotten them.

Brushing my fingers across each one, I thought about the hours spent planning, choosing materials, and sewing. How could I have let these beautiful pieces of art be consigned to years of oblivion in a gloomy attic?

To honor them, I made the conscious decision to either use them or let them go. I set to work, determined that each treasure would serve a purpose. While a few were donated, I was able to use several as bedspreads and displayed the others. Finally, they were all being enjoyed.

When we consider the possessions we own, we need to remember they aren't really ours. They are all God-given. We are His stewards of them.

Steward is an uncommon word but a familiar concept. In biblical times, a steward acted like a manager, who was responsible for

overseeing a home. Since stewards didn't own the home or its contents, they acted in the best interest of their master.

Understanding this principle can help us apply a new standard to our possessions. Are we treating our belongings with care so they will last? Are we using them in a way that glorifies God and serves others?

Armed with this knowledge, how would you judge your stewardship of all that God has blessed you with? Could items currently stored in your attic, basement, and closets be used, displayed, or donated?

Just as my mother-in-law would beam with pleasure at the thought of her quilts being used, when you make the changes required to be a better steward, you can be content knowing your belongings are utilized as God intended.

Angie

### prayer

Day 2

Father, thank You for Your good gifts, including my physical belongings.

You've given me all I need and more.

I recognize that all I have is from You and belongs to You.

Show me how I can best care for my belongings.

Give me a spirit of stewardship with the wisdom to use them in a way that glorifies You.



#### stewardship home tour

As Christians, we know that everything we have is from God, and we are simply stewards, tasked with the responsibility of using our belongings in a way that glorifies Him. With that principle in mind, it's time for a brief home tour.

- 1. Grab some paper and a pen or pencil, and take 5-10 minutes to walk around your home. You don't have to tour your entire home. Just visit a few places where a lot of items are stored, such as a basement, garage, attic, or a large closet. Without taking the time to open containers and sort through individual items, write down some categories of items you see. Examples might include seasonal decor, craft supplies, collectibles, clothing, sports equipment, or dishes.
- 2. Read the following Scriptures and jot down a few notes about the verses.
  - a. Psalm 24:1
  - b. Proverbs 3:9
  - c. 1 Timothy 6:17-19
- 3. Consider what you saw on your tour in light of the above Scriptures. Ask God to show you how to honor Him with the belongings He has entrusted to you.

Liana George & Angie Hyche

4. Write down any insights from your prayer and study time.



#### reflection:

How have you used your home to serve God? How might you be able to do so more or in a new way once you've decluttered?

# Reflections

_	 		_	_	 			_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	 			 				_	_	_	_	_				_	_	_	_	 		_	_		
-	 	-	-	-	 		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	 			 		-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	 		-	-		
-	 	-	-	-	 		-	-	-	-	-	-	_		-	 			 			-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-		 		-	-		
_	 	_	_	_	 			_	_	_	_					 			 			_	_	_	_	_	_				_	_	_		 		_	_		
-	 -	-	-	-	 		-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	 			 		-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-		 		-	-		
-	 -	_	-	-	 			-	-	-	_					 			 			_	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	_		 		-	-		
_	 		_	_	 			_	_	_	_					 			 			_	_	_	_	_	_				_	_	_		 		_	_		
-	 -	-	-	-	 		-	-	-	-	-					 			 	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-		 	-	-	-		
-	 	_	_	_	 			_	_	_	_	_	_		_	 			 			_	_	_	_	_	_				_	_	_		 		-	_		
	 	_	_	_	 			_	_	_	_				_	 			 		_	_	_	_	_	_	_			_	_	_	_		 		_	_		
-	 	-	-	-	 		-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	 			 		-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-		 	-	-	-		
-	 	-	-	-	 		-	-	-	-	-					 			 		-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-		 		-	-		
_	 	_	_	_	 			_	_	_	_					 			 			_	_	_	_	_	_				_	_	_		 		_	_		
	 _	_	_	-	 	_	_	-	_	_	_							_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_		-	_	-	_	_		 	_	-	-		
-	 	-	-	-	 		-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	 			 			-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-		 		-	-		
_	 	_	_	_	 			_	_	_	_					 			 			_	_	_	_	_	_				_	-	_		 		_	_		 ,
_		_	_	_	 			_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	 			 	_		_	_	_	_	_	_	_		_	_	_	_	_	 		_	_	_	
							_																													_				
-	 	-	-	-	 		-	-	-	-	-		-		-	 			 		-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-		 		-	-		
_	 		_	_	 			_	_	_	_	_	_		_	 			 				_	_	_	_	_				_	_	_		 		_	_		
_	 _	_	-	_	 	_	-	-	_	_	_	_	_		_	 	•				-	_	_	_	-	-	_			_	-	-	-		 	. –	-	-		
-	 	-	-	-	 		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	 			 		-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-		 		-	-		
_	 	_	_	_	 			_	_	_	_					 			 			_	_	_	_	_	_				_	_			 		_	_		