

The Steward's Heart

Be Found Faithful

Icebreaker Question: *What is one way you tend to “lose track of time” during the week?*

HEAD — Understanding God's Word

1. Read Psalm 24:1.

How does recognizing God's ownership change the way we think about “my” time?

2. In 1 Corinthians 4:1–2, Paul says stewards must be found faithful.

What is the difference between being faithful and simply being busy?

3. In Ephesians 5:15–17, what contrasts does Paul make between wise and foolish living?

How does this connect to intentional stewardship?

4. According to Epistle to the Romans 12:1–2, how do surrender and renewal help us discern God's will?

HEART — Personal Reflection

1. Where are you most tempted to assume your time belongs to you instead of God?

2. What recurring habit currently drains your time without producing spiritual fruit?

3. The sermon said, “Our problem is not too little time but making better use of the time we have.”

Where does that statement challenge you personally?

4. Read Psalm 86:11.

In what areas of your life do you sense a “divided heart”?

HANDS — Application / Obedience

1. What is one habit you will intentionally surrender this week in order to walk more carefully?

2. Where might the enemy be distracting, draining, or numbing you right now (see also 1 Peter 5:8)?

What practical step can you take to resist that distraction?

3. Identify one opportunity God has placed in front of you (encouragement, reconciliation, discipleship, witness).

What specific action will you take this week?

4. Each morning, ask: “Lord, how do You want me to steward today?”

Share one concrete step of obedience you will act on before your next meeting.

BASIC GROUP GUIDELINES

Though we call these Basic Group Guidelines, these are also essential in all relationships and environments. These should be observed whether in 1-on-1 conversation or in a group discussion.

- Guidelines give boundaries for people to operate within.
- They help with the flow and pace of the discussions.
- They help us value one another.
- They help people to be more comfortable sharing deep and meaningful things.

Safe Group – This is a safe group. Confidentiality is key, what is said in the group stays in the group. Be aware how you are affecting the environment: words, actions, non-verbal communication. This needs to be a place where people feel comfortable opening up and sharing.

No Crosstalk – Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations, checking phone, responding to text or email, etc.

Listen – Let’s value one another by listening to what is being shared. Allow a pause after someone has shares to allow them to finish and others to consider what was said. Eye contact and body posture play key roles in creating a positive or negative group environment.

No Rescuing or Fixing – We are not here to fix each other; Jesus does that part. Avoid the tendency to rescue when someone is struggling to get the words out or share struggles or conviction.

Use “I” Statements – It’s easy to talk about the issues of others or respond with “we”, “us”, “the church”. But for us to grow as disciples, and build relationship, we want to use “I” statements.

Don’t Overtalk – We want to create time for all members of the group to participate in the discussion. Be careful not to always be the first responder or regularly give long responses.

Fight for Relationship – It’s not ‘if’ conflict or hurt feeling will happen, but ‘when’. We commit to fight for relationship with each other. Go to that person and share your struggle or seek wise advice if you are not sure how to handle the conflict.

