Stewardship Bible Study #2

Stewardship in the God’s People; Israel

Last Study Re-Cap:

* In our previous study we began by exploring the distinction between God’s Law and the Gospel as well as the three uses of the Law. Take a minute and review these concepts as a group.
* For the remainder of the time we looked at the story of God’s people Israel. What were some of the key points to remember in the process of God calling His people, saving His people, and showing them how to respond to His love?
1. God Calls and Promises

Read: Ephesians 1:3-7, I Peter 2:9-10, 2 Timothy 1:8-14, 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

1. When and why did God choose us to be members of His people, the church?
2. For what purpose were we called? Why does the church exist?
3. Abraham heard God’s call directly. By what means are we called?
4. God Saves

Read: Romans 3:21-25, Ephesians 2:1-10, Titus 3:3-7

1. What was our state and our destiny before salvation?
2. What did we contribute to our salvation?
3. How are we saved?
4. By what means does God choose to accomplish this?

Article V of the Augsburg Confessions summarizes the means of salvation with these words: “*Through the Word and Sacraments, as through instruments, the Holy Spirit is given [John 20:22]. He works faith, when and where it pleases God [John 3:8], in those who believe that they are received into grace for Christ’s sake. This happens not through our own merits, but for Christ’s sake.”*

1. God’s People Respond

Read: Matthew 28:19-20, Hebrews 10:19-25, John 13:34-35, I John 3:16-18, Matthew 20:25-28,

1. What are we called to do in response to God’s action toward us?
2. Is this law? If so, which use or uses of the law would characterize these commands?
3. Can we follow these commands? If so, how? (John 14:15-17)
4. Will we always follow our Lord’s commands without fail? What is our hope? (Rom. 7:21-8:4)

What we do as stewards is always a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to God \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us, to God \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us, and to the many gifts he has given us; material and otherwise.

Discuss the verses below in light of the priorities of *Together in Christ*. How will the specific goals of this stewardship plan be in service to God’s goals?

Goals of Together in Christ: “For Such a Time as This”:

* Commit at least $500,000 to the Dague Fund to reduce the debt remaining on the Community Life Center
* Commit $250,000 to support a church plant in Spring Branch, Texas
* Supply $100,000 training future pastors from out congregation.
1. Matthew 28:19-20 3. Ephesians 4: 7-16

 2. Matthew 5:14-16 4. Acts 2:42

At Crown of Life we have been put in charge of a small portion of God’s household. We are called to be good managers. It is important that His priorities are our priorities. What should we be careful to avoid and how can avoid getting “off track” and begin following our own desires? II Timothy 4:3-4, Acts 17: 10-11, Romans 12:2

Next Week: Stewardship: God’s People at Crown of Life