

# UNSTOPPABLE

## Grace Driven Generosity #2



**Erika F. Puni, PhD**

**Lead Pastor: Rockwood Church, Portland, OREGON CONFERENCE**

**Email: [erika.puni@outlook.com](mailto:erika.puni@outlook.com)**

**Cell: (971) 447-6030**

**G** God's  
**R** Righteousness  
**A** at  
**C** Christ's  
**E** Expense

**GRACE: God's undeserved favor towards sinners**

# Presentation Objectives

1. To propose that a God centered wholistic approach to Christian stewardship can produce better results beyond the bottom line.
2. To present “God’s grace” as a powerful motivation and driving force towards a lifetime of Christian generosity.
3. To show that stewardship education that is biblical can contribute to generous giving.

# Stewardship #21

We are God's stewards, entrusted by Him with time and opportunities, abilities and possessions, and the blessings of the earth and its resources. We are responsible to Him for their proper use. We acknowledge God's ownership by faithful service to Him and our fellow human beings, and by returning tithe and giving offerings for the proclamation of His gospel and the support and growth of His church. Stewardship is a privilege given to us by God for nurture in love and the victory over selfishness and covetousness. Stewards rejoice in the blessings that come to others as a result of their faithfulness.

# Adventist Stewardship

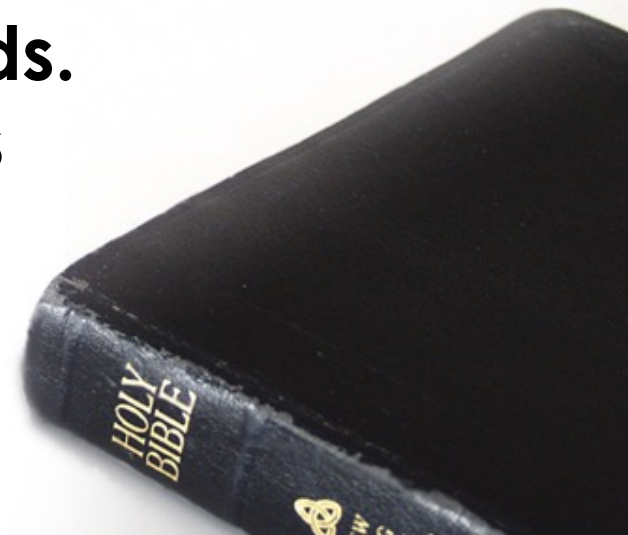
Seventh-day Adventists understand that . . . .

- 1. God is the Owner of everything in the world**  
“we acknowledge God’s ownership”
- 2. Disciples (church members) are stewards**  
“we are God’s stewards”
- 3. Stewardship is wholistic – includes all**  
“entrusted with time, opportunities, abilities, possessions, blessings, resources”
- 4. Stewardship includes Tithe & Offerings**  
“returning tithe and giving offerings”
- 5. Stewardship is missional – privilege**  
“blessings that come to others”

# Stewardship Mandate

Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” **Genesis 1:26 (NIV)**

**As humans, we were created to be God’s stewards. We’re called & mandated to manage all of God’s resources & blessings.**



# Management of Life

1. **LIFE** (human life including culture and experience) given by God (**Genesis 2:7**)
2. The **WORLD** (including flora and fauna) created by God (**Genesis 1:1**)
3. The **FAMILY** (the human family and society) established by God (**Genesis 1:27; 2:24**)
4. **MATERIAL RESOURCES** (including finances) that belong to God (**Genesis 1:1,28**)
5. **TIME** (including the Sabbath) appointed with God (**Genesis 2:1-3**)

# TOTAL LIFE MANAGEMENT



- **Worship**
- **Leadership**
- **Relationships**
- **Possessions**
- **Finances**
- **Language**
- **Rituals**





FEDERAL RESERVE NOTE

71799013 A

FW F 71

FEDERAL RESERVE NOTE

71799013 A



*Timothy F. Gaithman*  
Secretary of the Treasury.

*Rosa Gumataotao Rios*  
Treasurer of the United States.

*Gaithman*  
Secretary of the Treasury.

*Rios*

# Interesting Bible Facts

1. Cain & Abel gave offerings (**Gen 4:3,4**)
2. Abraham gave tithe of everything (**Gen 14:20**)
3. **Malachi 1** deals with unacceptable offerings
4. **Malachi 3** God calls for the returning of tithe(s)
5. **Tithe** is God's money that we return to Him
6. **Offerings** are our giving to God in gratitude
7. Jesus watched giving of offerings (**Mk 12:41,42**)

# The Tithing Principle

<sup>30</sup> “A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD. <sup>32</sup> Every tithe of the herd and flock—every tenth animal that passes under the shepherd’s rod—will be holy to the LORD. <sup>33</sup> No one may pick out the good from the bad or make any substitution.”

***Leviticus 27:30-33 (NIV)***

**Tithe: A specific QUANTITY of the Whole**



Dr. Kegalale Gasennelwe, Gaborone, Botswana

TITHE = QUANTITY




# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

<b>TITHE</b>	<b>OFFERINGS</b>
<b>Belongs to God</b>	<b>Belongs to God</b>
<b>It is holy</b>	<b>It is holy</b>
<b>God specifies it</b>	<b>Steward sets it</b>
<b>Act of worship</b>	<b>Act of worship</b>
<b>Spiritual response</b>	<b>Spiritual response</b>
<b>Express loyalty</b>	<b>Express gratitude</b>
<b>People In Ministry</b>	<b>Other Ministry Expenses</b>

# The Offering(s) Principle

<sup>18</sup> “If any of you presents a gift for a burnt offering to the LORD, either to fulfill a vow or as a freewill offering, <sup>19</sup> you must present a male without defect from the cattle, sheep or goats in order that it may be accepted on your behalf. <sup>20</sup> Do not bring anything with a defect, because it will not be accepted on your behalf.” **Lev 22:18-20 (NIV)**

**Offerings: It's the QUALITY of the Gift**

A large, muscular bull with a grey and white coat and prominent horns stands in a dry, wooded area. The ground is sandy and the trees are sparse and dry. The text "OFFERINGS = QUALITY" is overlaid on the bottom of the image.

OFFERINGS = QUALITY



# GOD EXPECTS OUR BEST

<b>Freewill Offerings</b>	<b>+ More than Tithe = Equal to Tithe - Less than Tithe</b>
---------------------------	---

1. We give in proportion to the  **blessings of God**  that comes to us freely through His grace in Jesus Christ (**Deuteronomy 16:17**)
2. Offerings is a  **personal choice**  we make, and it's a response of the heart to give God our  **BEST**  in gratitude and worship for all that He has done for us in Christ (**2 Cor 8:12; 9:7**)

# Unacceptable Offerings

“Oh, that one of you would shut the temple doors, so that you would not light useless fires on my altar! I am not pleased with you,” says the Lord Almighty, “and I will accept no offering from your hands.”

***Malachi 1:10 (NIV)***



# Unacceptable Offerings

<sup>13</sup> “When you bring injured, lame or diseased animals and offer them as sacrifices, should I accept them from your hands?” says the Lord. <sup>14</sup>“Cursed is the cheat who has an acceptable male in his flock and vows to give it, but then sacrifices a blemished animal to the Lord.” ***Malachi 1:13,14 (NIV)***



# Offerings: Expressions of Gratitude

“The Lord does not need our offerings. We cannot enrich Him by our gifts. Says the psalmist: “All things come of Thee, and of Thine own have we given Thee.” Yet God permits us to show our appreciation of His mercies by self-sacrificing efforts to extend the same to others. This is the only way in which it is possible for us to manifest our gratitude and love to God. He has provided no other.”

***Ellen G. White, R&H, Dec 6, 1887***

# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

<b>Tithe</b>	<b>10% or 1/10th</b>
<b>Freewill Offerings</b>	<b>+ More than Tithe = Equal to Tithe - Less than Tithe</b>
<b>Charity and Project Giving</b>	<b>+ More than Tithe = Equal to Tithe - Less than Tithe</b>

# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

<b>TITHE</b>	<b>OFFERINGS</b>
<b>Belongs to God</b>	<b>Belongs to God</b>
<b>It is holy</b>	<b>It is holy</b>
<b>God specifies it</b>	<b>Steward sets it</b>
<b>Act of worship</b>	<b>Act of worship</b>
<b>Spiritual response</b>	<b>Spiritual response</b>
<b>Express loyalty</b>	<b>Express gratitude</b>
<b>People In Ministry</b>	<b>Other Ministry Expenses</b>

# Acceptable Giving

1. Giving that recognizes that God is first
2. Giving of our total self to God
3. Response of love to God's saving grace
4. Expression of faith and total trust in God
5. Voluntary act from a grateful heart
6. Commitment to the mission and ministry of God
7. Outflow of right relationship with God & neighbour
8. Giving is spontaneous, systematic and sacrificial

# STEWARDSHIP AS DISCIPLESHIP

## STEWARD

Servant of Jesus  
Lives Jesus' Lordship  
Worships the Creator  
Sanctifies by God's Spirit  
Submit total life to Jesus  
Loves all people sincerely  
Cares for the planet  
Uses gifts in ministry  
Committed to God's mission

## DISCIPLE

Follower of Jesus  
Imitates the life of the Master  
Witness to Risen Savior  
Empowers by the Holy Spirit  
Gives life to Jesus  
Loves other disciples  
Cares for community  
Serves in ministries  
Make new disciples



