

# Stewardship of Leadership

Lead by Example

Volume 3 ~ Number 3

Leading in Troubled Times  
.....  
Tough Decisions/Tough Actions  
.....  
Influence and Impact

The purpose of  
our life is to:  
**Know God,  
Love God,  
and Serve God**  
so that we may live  
with Him forever  
in Heaven

**Leaders building Leaders**  
on the foundation of Christ

# Stewardship of Leadership

## we believe:

In one God, eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; each of Whom is wholly present in the Other.

That God is the author of Sacred Scripture: Penned by human authors and inspired by the Holy Spirit, both Old and New Testaments firmly, faithfully and without error teach us the Truth, for the sake of our salvation, by which we are to lead our lives at home, in the workplace, and within our community.

That we are created in the image of God, and that we are separated from Him by Sin.

That Jesus Christ, true God and true man, is God's only begotten Son. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered and died for our sins, was resurrected from the dead, and ascended into Heaven.

In the forgiveness of our sins through Jesus Christ and that He will come again to judge all.

In the bodily resurrection of the dead and life everlasting; either united with Christ eternally in Heaven or eternally separated from Him in Hell.

Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

*John 14:5-6*

# mission:

Leaders building leaders on the foundation of Christ.

# vision:

By applying Biblical virtues through the intercession of the Holy Spirit, we will:

Build spiritual leaders in the HOME who shepherd their families to the Throne of Christ.

Build spiritual leaders in the WORKPLACE who model the Example of Christ.

Build spiritual leaders in the COMMUNITY who demonstrate the Integrity of Christ.

# core values:

Love • Joy • Peace • Patience

Kindness • Generosity • Faithfulness

Gentleness • Self-Control

*Galatians 5: 22 – 23*

The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him:

a spirit of wisdom and of understanding,

A spirit of counsel and of strength,

a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD.

*Isaiah 11: 2*



# Stewardship of Leadership

## monthly topics:

### Volume 3 Number 1

The Textbook of Leadership

The Gift of Leadership

Setting the Compass

### Volume 3 Number 2

Balance in Life

Servant Leadership

Stewardship

### Volume 3 Number 3

Leading in Troubled Times

Tough Decisions/Tough Actions

Influence and Impact

### Volume 3 Number 4

Character and Integrity

Conflict in the Home, Workplace and the Community

Taming the Tongue

### Volume 3 Number 5

Leading with Purpose

Measuring Success

Pass it On (Living a Legacy)

## meeting format *(steps 1 ~ 5 should be completed within 1 hour)*

1. **Opening Prayer** – Volunteer needed to offer a spontaneous prayer.
2. **Prayer's for:** Unity, the intercession of the Holy Spirit, Litany of Humility and others are encouraged. *(From the Stewardship of Leadership Prayer booklet and spontaneous)*
3. **Scripture Reading** – Volunteer needed to read. All members are invited to write down all inspirations they receive from the Scripture reading on the provided worksheet.
4. **1–3 Minutes of Silence** – A short period of quiet reflection is requested after the reading allowing the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and spirits to the reading.
5. **Group Contribution** – All members are invited to contribute what impacted them in this Scripture reading, sharing inspirations, personal stories and how they relate to their lives.
6. **Group Accountability Session (up to 20 minutes)** – The group could break out into groups of 3 to 4 if they choose, or remain as a group. This will be a time for each participant to delve into specific areas of self-growth related to the topic being discussed. Each participant is invited to document, on the provided worksheet, specific Action Items they plan to accomplish over the next week. These Action Items could be reviewed at the following week's break-out session.
7. **Prayer Requests/Praise Items** – All members are welcome to share prayer requests and/or praise items to be offered up in prayer by the group. Please feel free to write these down on the provided worksheet.
8. **Closing Prayers**
  - Volunteer needed to pray for the requests/intentions.
  - Prayers for a peaceful spirit *(from the Stewardship of Leadership Prayer booklet)*
  - Spontaneous Thanksgiving prayer for our time together

# Stewardship of Leadership: week one

monthly topic: Leading in Troubled Times

suggested reading: Romans 13:1–3

## week one reflection

### Nehemiah 2:1–8

In the month Nisan of the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when the wine was in my charge, I took some and offered it to the king. Because I had never before been sad in his presence, the king asked me, “Why do you look sad? If you are not sick, you must be sad at heart.” Though I was seized with great fear, I answered the king: “May the king live forever! How could I not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates consumed by fire?” The king asked me, “What is it, then, that you wish?” I prayed to the God of heaven and then answered the king: “If it please the king, and if your servant is deserving of your favor, send me to Judah, to the city where my ancestors are buried, that I may rebuild it.” Then the king, with the queen seated beside him, asked me, “How long will your journey take and when will you return?” My answer was acceptable to the king and he agreed to let me go; I set a date for my return.

I asked the king further: “If it please the king, let letters be given to me for the governors of West-of-Euphrates, that they may give me safe-conduct till I arrive in Judah; also a letter for Asaph, the keeper of the royal woods, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the temple citadel, for the city wall and the house that I will occupy.” Since I enjoyed the good favor of my God, the king granted my requests.

### The Word of the Lord — **Thanks be to God**

## suggested talking points

1. Nehemiah’s distress was due to his concern for his Jewish brethren. How deeply are we concerned for the well-being of our brothers and sisters in Christ? Are we laying our lives down for our brothers?
2. Nehemiah was afraid of the king’s wrath because he was asking the king to reverse a previous decision (Ezra 4:21). What was Nehemiah’s prescription to overcome the fear? Nehemiah respected the king and submitted to his leadership. How hard is it for you to respect those in authority over you?
3. Nehemiah asked for two letters to help smooth the way on a difficult journey. The king granted his request. How has our Heavenly King’s “love letter” to you helped smooth the way through difficult times on your journey?



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# Stewardship of Leadership: week two

monthly topic: Leading in Troubled Times

suggested reading: Psalm 118:25

## week two reflection

### Nehemiah 2:17–20

Afterward I said to them: “You see the trouble we are in: how Jerusalem lies in ruins and its gates have been gutted by fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, so that we may no longer be a reproach!” Then I explained to them how God had shown his gracious favor to me, and what the king had said to me. They replied, “Let us begin building!” And they undertook the work with vigor.

When they heard about this, Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab mocked and ridiculed us. “What are you doing?” they asked. “Are you rebelling against the king?” My answer to them was this: “It is the God of heaven who will grant us success. We, his servants, shall set about the rebuilding; but you have neither share nor claim nor memorial in Jerusalem.”

### The Word of the Lord — **Thanks be to God**

## suggested talking points

1. The city had lain in ruin for almost 150 years. An earlier attempt a rebuilding the city had been stopped. Nehemiah’s presence would change all that. How does your presence change a situation? Does it make a difference at all?
2. When the people heard “how God had shown His gracious favor”, they responded. When you see evidence of God’s hand at work, what should your response be if not “Let us rise up and begin building!”?
3. Nehemiah is pictured as virtually surrounded by his enemies - Sanballat to the north, Tobiah to the east, and Geshem to the south. Yet Nehemiah claims the victory to be already won. How could he do this? Is this the eye of faith and the confession of Hebrews 11:1?





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# Stewardship of Leadership: week three

monthly topic: Leading in Troubled Times

suggested reading: 2 Samuel 24:22-24a

## week three reflection

Nehemiah 5:14-19

Moreover, from the time that King Artaxerxes appointed me governor in the land of Judah, from his twentieth to his thirty-second year—during these twelve years neither I nor my kindred lived off the governor's food allowance. The earlier governors, my predecessors, had laid a heavy burden on the people, taking from them each day forty silver shekels for their food; then, too, their attendants oppressed the people. But I, because I feared God, did not do this. In addition, though I had acquired no land of my own, I did my part in this work on the wall, and all my attendants were gathered there for the work. Though I set my table for a hundred and fifty persons, Jews and magistrates, as well as the neighboring Gentiles who came to us, and though the daily preparations were made at my expense—one ox, six choice sheep, poultry—besides all kinds of wine in abundance every ten days, despite this I did not claim the governor's allowance, for the labor lay heavy upon this people. Keep in mind, my God, to my credit all that I did for this people.

**The Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God**

## suggested talking points

1. The governor had the right to tax the people for his personal support. Nehemiah waived this right in order to benefit the people. What was the underlying reason?
2. Nehemiah's reason for being governor was service, not personal advancement. Should we consider whether we are in the right place if our priority is not that of servant leadership?
3. Nehemiah's strongest motivations were reverence for God and concern for the welfare of the people. How does fearing and respecting God lead to action?



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# Stewardship of Leadership: week four

monthly topic: Leading in Troubled Times

suggested reading: 2 Corinthians 7:9–11

week four reflection

Nehemiah 8:5–12

Ezra opened the scroll so that all the people might see it, for he was standing higher than any of the people. When he opened it, all the people stood. Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people, their hands raised high, answered, “Amen, amen!” Then they knelt down and bowed before the LORD, their faces to the ground. The Levites Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, and Pelaiah explained the law to the people, who remained in their places. Ezra read clearly from the book of the law of God, interpreting it so that all could understand what was read. Then Nehemiah, that is, the governor, and Ezra the priest-scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to all the people: “Today is holy to the LORD your God. Do not lament, do not weep!”—for all the people were weeping as they heard the words of the law. He continued: “Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared; for today is holy to our LORD. Do not be saddened this day, for rejoicing in the LORD is your strength!” And the Levites quieted all the people, saying, “Silence! Today is holy, do not be saddened.” Then all the people began to eat and drink, to distribute portions, and to celebrate with great joy, for they understood the words that had been explained to them.

**The Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God**

## suggested talking points

1. When Ezra opened the scripture, he blessed the Lord and the people agreed (Amen, Amen) and lifted their hands in praise and expectation. They then bowed in worship and reverence. How solemnly (or lightly) do we handle the Living Word of the Most High God? What does the word “Amen” mean? How did they act upon it?
2. All the people were weeping when they heard the words of God to think how they had offended Him by their many violations of the law. When was the last time the Word of God brought conviction to you? Are you really listening? Read James 4:9-10
3. The people were to celebrate and be joyous because they now understood the words of the Lord. The joy of the Lord is your strength. They were to share their joy with those less fortunate. What can it mean to make the joy of the Lord our strength?



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# Stewardship of Leadership: week one

monthly topic: Tough Decisions/Tough Actions

suggested reading: Job 23:10

week one reflection

Matthew 4:1–11

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. The tempter approached and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread.” He said in reply, “It is written: ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.’” Then the devil took him to the holy city, and made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: ‘He will command his angels concerning you’ and ‘with their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus answered him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.’” Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, “All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me.” At this, Jesus said to him, “Get away, Satan! It is written: ‘The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.’” Then the devil left him and, behold, angels came and ministered to him.

**The Gospel of the Lord — Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

suggested talking points

1. Satan challenged Jesus to the core of His integrity. He said, “If you are the Son of God...” How has the enemy of your soul questioned or used people to question your integrity?
2. In each of the three instances, Jesus’ response began the same way – with truth and the Word of God. Do you answer your temptations with “It is written...”?
3. After we are buffeted and tried, the devil leaves us “for a season”. Can we expect the same comfort as Jesus received?



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# Stewardship of Leadership: week two

monthly topic: Tough Decisions/Tough Actions

suggested reading: Matthew 19:23-25

## week two reflection

Matthew 7:13–14

“Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the road broad that leads to destruction, and those who enter through it are many. How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life. And those who find it are few.

**The Gospel of the Lord — Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

## suggested talking points

1. The narrowness of the gate should not be an issue if we are living as disciples. Why is the gate narrow?
2. What does it mean “the gate is wide and the road is broad”?
3. Why are those who find this road few?



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# Stewardship of Leadership: week three

monthly topic: Tough Decisions/Tough Actions

suggested reading: John 15:2

## week three reflection

Matthew 7:15–20

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but underneath are ravenous wolves. By their fruits you will know them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Just so, every good tree bears good fruit, and a rotten tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a rotten tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. So by their fruits you will know them.

**The Gospel of the Lord — Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ**

## suggested talking points

1. How can we “examine fruit” without being judgmental?
2. How can people call Him “Lord, Lord” and not do the things He says? The fruit is obedience. Discuss “good fruit” and how it relates to obedience.
3. Fruit and growth depend on the root system or foundation that is built. How does one establish a good, solid foundation?





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# Stewardship of Leadership: week four

monthly topic: Tough Decisions/Tough Actions

suggested reading: Matthew 16:25-26

## week four reflection

Matthew 10:34–39

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace upon the earth. I have come to bring not peace but the sword. For I have come to set a man ‘against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one’s enemies will be those of his household.’ “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it

**The Gospel of the Lord — Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ**

## suggested talking points

1. This sounds severe. Explain what this passage means.
2. How is this the Gospel?
3. What does it mean to lose your life to find it?



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# Stewardship of Leadership: week one

monthly topic: Influence and Impact

suggested reading: James 1:23

## week one reflection

### James 2:14–26

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,” but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. Indeed someone might say, “You have faith and I have works.” Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works. You believe that God is one. You do well. Even the demons believe that and tremble. Do you want proof, you ignoramus, that faith without works is useless? Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered his son Isaac upon the altar? You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by the works. Thus the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called “the friend of God.” See how a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. And in the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she welcomed the messengers and sent them out by a different route? For just as a body without a spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

### The Word of the Lord — **Thanks be to God**

## suggested talking points

1. The definition of faith is found in Hebrews 11:1-2. It is the evidence of things not seen. Is this “blind faith”?
2. True faith will be accompanied by “works”. What are considered to be “works”?
3. Faith is supported by something being done or acted upon. When did you last see someone support their profession/confession of faith with an act of faith?



## Lead by Example: Volume 3 ~ Number 3

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# Stewardship of Leadership: week two

monthly topic: Influence and Impact

suggested reading: Proverbs 10:31–32

## week two reflection

James 3:1–4

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you realize that we will be judged more strictly, for we all fall short in many respects. If anyone does not fall short in speech, he is a perfect man, able to bridle his whole body also. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we also guide their whole bodies. It is the same with ships: even though they are so large and driven by fierce winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot's inclination wishes. In the same way the tongue is a small member and yet has great pretensions.

**The Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God**

## suggested talking points

1. Teachers are judged both by God and Man with a different standard. Why?
2. The mature person can bridle and control his tongue. How do we learn this discipline?
3. The tongue, though small, can bless or curse, direct or destroy, bring life or death. Why must we master this “tiny muscle”?



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# Stewardship of Leadership: week three

monthly topic: Influence and Impact

suggested reading: 3 John 1:2

## week three reflection

James 5:13–15

Is anyone among you suffering? He should pray. Is anyone in good spirits? He should sing praise. Is anyone among you sick?\* He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint [him] with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven.

**The Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God**

## suggested talking points

1. These are specific “prescriptions” to the flock: Pray, Praise, Call and Anoint. Do you carry out these directives?
2. Have you ever called for the elders, been anointed with oil and prayed for healing? What was the result?
3. Will standing on faith make a difference? If so, how?



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# Stewardship of Leadership: week four

monthly topic: Influence and Impact

suggested reading: 1 John 5:14–15

## week four reflection

### James 5:16–20

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The fervent prayer of a righteous person is very powerful. Elijah was a human being like us; yet he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain upon the land. Then he prayed again, and the sky gave rain and the earth produced its fruit. My brothers, if anyone among you should stray from the truth and someone bring him back, he should know that whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

### **The Word of the Lord — Thanks be to God**

## suggested talking points

1. Name one of the qualifiers for receiving answers to your prayers.
2. What does it mean to pray fervently?
3. Just how important is it to restore a brother or sister to their faith?





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# Stewardship of Leadership the benefits of participation

- Gives purpose and meaning to our daily lives.
- Spiritual growth, at home, at work and within our communities.
- A life of spiritual peace, joy and charity.
- Learn more, so we can give more.
- Group support and encouragement.
- An ever deepening relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Individual growth (from self-centered to God-centered).
- Become a better person, spouse, parent, leader, follower and friend.
- Counsel of Godly men and women.
- Build life-long relationships.
- Life balance

## Balance In Life

1. Relationship with God
2. Spouse
3. Children/Grandchildren
4. Mission Opportunities (*workplace, community & church*)
5. Yourself

*From your relationship with God, flows His love into others.  
God Must be first in our lives.*



A Family of Ministries with a Global Reach, Planting Seeds of Faith Around the World.

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## Who we Are

Stewardship: A Mission of Faith is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that was founded in 2010, with the mission to be an instrument of unity in the one body of Christ by feeding the hungry hearts of God's children.

We started with producing and distributing booklets and posters at no charge to churches throughout the United States. These resources were created to spread the Gospel message of stewardship which is: everything we have is a gift from God that we are to use to help others.

Today, Stewardship: A Mission of Faith is a family of ministries with a global reach, planting seeds of faith around the world through the ministries of Down To Earth, The Fathers of St. Joseph, Integrity Restored and Spirit Power, as well as continuing to serve in our initial mission initiatives.

## Who and How We Serve

The answer is simple—everyone and in multiple ways! Because we are a “family” of ministries, we are able to plant the seeds of faith in many ways. Whether someone is beginning their faith journey or further down the path, we are able to offer a multitude of resources: books, booklets, Bibles, rosaries, audio CDs, DVD series, speaker presentations, and many other tools and initiatives. Our offerings are targeted to serve:

Teens, Young Adults, Adults, Parents, Educators, Parishes/Churches, Men's & Women's Groups, Engaged & Married Couples, Clergy, Lay Leaders, Youth Ministries, Dioceses, Apostolates and Business Leaders

We invite you to join our mission, through your prayers and financial support. Visit our website today at [StewardshipMission.org](http://StewardshipMission.org)



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