



DISCIPLESHIP 1

SESSION 4

*THE DISCIPLINE OF
STEWARDSHIP*



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ONLY ONE LIFE

By C. T. Studd

*Two little lines I heard one day,
Traveling along life's busy way;
Bringing conviction to my heart,
And from my mind would not depart;
Only one life, will soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.*

*Only one life, yes only one,
Soon will its fleeting hours be done;
Then, in 'that day' my Lord to meet,
And stand before His Judgement seat;
Only one life, will soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.*

*Only one life, yes, only one,
Now let me say, "Thy will be done";
And when at last I'll hear the call,
I know I'll say, "It was worth it all";
Only one life, will soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.*

"God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Genesis 1:28 (NIV)

THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey." Matthew 25:14-15 (NIV)

- The bags of gold represent OPPORTUNITIES to make an ETERNAL DIFFERENCE.
- We've all been given a DIFFERENT AMOUNT of opportunities.
- God won't hold us accountable for the opportunities HE DIDN'T GIVE US.
He'll hold us accountable for the opportunities He did give us.

"The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them." Matthew 25:16-19 (NIV)

- God expects a return on HIS INVESTMENT in you.

GOD'S BIG QUESTION: WHAT DID YOU DO WITH WHAT I GAVE YOU ?

"The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.' His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'" Matthew 25:20-21 (NIV)

"Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'" Matthew 25:24-25 (NIV)

"So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'" Matthew 25:28-30 (NIV)

- If you don't USE it, you LOSE it!

THE IMPORTANCE OF FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

"So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?" Luke 16:11 (NIV)

1. The Principle of PRAYER

"Until now you have not asked for anything in My name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy will be the fullest possible joy." John 16:24 (NCV)

2. The Principle of DEBT REDUCTION

"Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law." Romans 13:8 (NIV)

3. The Principle of BUDGETING

"Plan carefully and you will have plenty; if you act too quickly, you will never have enough." Proverbs 21:5 (GNT)

"...stupid people spend their money as fast as they get it." Proverbs 21:20b (GNT)

4. The Principle of SAVING

"The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets." Proverbs 21:20 (TLB)

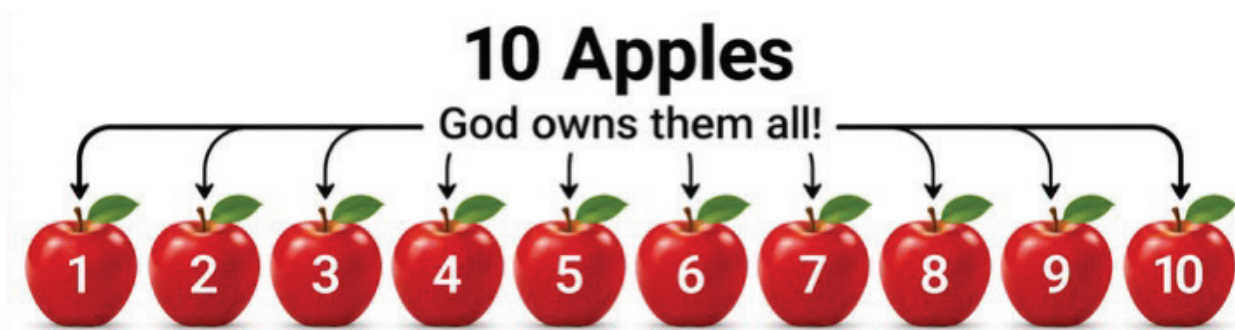
"Wealth gained hastily will dwindle, but whoever gathers little by little will increase it." Proverbs 13:11 (ESV)

START SAVING: \$500.00 a month at 30 years of age; \$6,000,000 by 70 years of age.

5. The Principle of TITHING

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so that there will be food enough in My Temple; if you do, I will open up the windows of heaven for you and pour out a blessing so great you won't have room enough to take it in! "Try it! Let Me prove it to you!" Malachi 3:10 (TLB)

10 / 10 / 80 Principle



Give GOD the first apple.

Give YOURSELF the second apple.

THE NORMAL WAY	GOD'S WAY
1. <u>SPEND IT</u>	1. <u>DEDICATE IT</u>
2. <u>WORRY ABOUT IT</u>	2. <u>GIVE IT</u>
3. <u>REPAY IT</u>	3. <u>SAVE IT</u>
4. <u>SAVE IT</u>	4. <u>REPAY IT</u>
5. <u>GIVE IT</u>	5. <u>ENJOY IT</u>

3 KINDS OF BUILDERS

1. DEBT Builders

2. WEALTH Builders

"Money is like manure. If you let it pile up, it just smells. But if you spread it around, you can encourage things to grow." Gun Denhart

"Who cares if you're the richest man in the cemetery!" Peter Drucker

3. KINGDOM Builders

"For the love of money is the first step toward all kinds of sin. Some people have even turned away from God because of their love for it, and as a result have pierced themselves with many sorrows." 1 Timothy 6:10 (TLB)

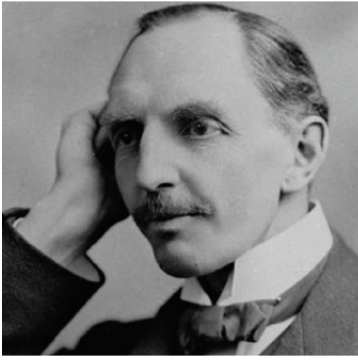
"Earn as much money as you can and give as much money as you can." John Wesley

THE BLESSINGS OF TITHING

"You will experience all these blessings if you obey the LORD your God: Your towns and your fields will be blessed. Your children and your crops will be blessed. The offspring of your herds and flocks will be blessed. Your fruit baskets and breadboards will be blessed. Wherever you go and whatever you do, you will be blessed. "The LORD will conquer your enemies when they attack you. They will attack you from one direction, but they will scatter from you in seven! The LORD will guarantee a blessing on everything you do and will fill your storehouses with grain. The LORD your God will bless you in the land He is giving you." Deuteronomy 28:2-8 (NLT)

BLESSED = Divine power, provision, and purpose working for you.

- The Principle of **FIRSTFRUITS**
"Bring the best of the firstfruits of your soil to the house of the LORD your God..." Exodus 23:19a (NIV)
"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!'" John 1:29 (NIV)
"For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Me will find it." Matthew 16:25 (NIV)
"Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine." Proverbs 3:9-10 (NIV)
"Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob Me. But you ask, 'How are we robbing You?' In tithes and offerings. You are under a curse—your whole nation—because you are robbing Me." Malachi 3:8-9 (NIV)
- The Power of the **HEART TEST**
"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21 (NIV)
- The Purpose of **GOD'S EARTHLY PROVISION**
"And this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you." Genesis 28:22 (ESV)
"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." James 1:17 (ESV)
- The Peace of **GOD'S ETERNAL REWARDS**
"Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal." Matthew 6:19-20 (NLT)
"For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work. If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward." 1 Corinthians 3:11-14 (NIV)



C. T. STUDD GAVE HUGE INHERITANCE AWAY

*"Some wish to live within the sound of Church or Chapel bell;
I want to run a Rescue Shop within a yard of hell."*

That saying was characteristic of C. T. Studd. When Studd knelt and thanked God for salvation, peace and joy flooded his soul. Unfortunately, he did not share his faith with others. As a consequence, he became spiritually cold. For six years he lived a life he described as "backslidden." The love of the world crept in.

In 1883, Studd went to hear Dwight L. Moody speak. His soul was stirred afresh. Immediately, he began to tell others about Christ. Studd would later say that he had tasted all the pleasures of the world, but none gave him so much pleasure as bringing his first soul to trust in Jesus.

Two years later, C. T. Studd sailed for China to join Hudson Taylor as a missionary. He dressed in Chinese attire, ate Chinese food, and learned the Chinese language. While in China, he turned twenty-five. Under his father's will, he was to inherit a large sum of money. Reading the Bible and praying, he felt convinced he should give his fortune away to show the world that he relied not on money but on a living Lord. The Lord, he was sure, would bless him a hundred-fold in non-monetary ways and provide him sufficient money to live on. "If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for Him," he argued.

On January 13, 1887, before he even knew the amount he was to inherit, he wrote several large checks for George Müller's orphan work and for missions. It turned out there was still some money left. Studd gave it away. He gave the final £3,400 to the woman he was about to marry as a wedding gift. But Priscilla Livingstone Stewart was as sure of God as her husband. She determined to "start clear" at her wedding and gave that sum away, too.

Naturally, they ran short of money often after that. Yet they found God faithfully supplied them. "Funds are low again, hallelujah! That means God trusts us and is willing to leave His reputation in our hands," said C. T. Studd on one such occasion.

C. T. Studd's answer to critics who said he went overboard in his zeal was simple: "How could I spend the best years of my life in living for the honors of this world, when thousands of souls are perishing every day?"

Excerpt from

"C. T. Studd Gave Huge Inheritance Away." *Rhemalogy*, rhemalogy.com/2022/01/13/c-t-studd-gave-huge-inheritance-away

Your Notes:

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