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SPECIAL EDITION



STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS WEEK • 2026

SANCTIFIED STEWARDSHIP

Life Management and Much More

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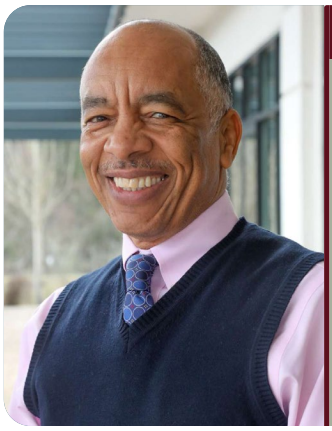
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Life Management and Much More

LISTEN TO THE SERMONS

Stewardship is not a common word in everyday language today. The meaning can be obscure for many. Hence, several attempts have been made to find a more contemporary term that might appeal better to a younger generation. Many stewardship educators, including myself, as well as pastors, have often used the expression "life management." After all, stewards are those who *manage* what has been entrusted to them by an owner.

The emphasis on life management is popular today. Many self-help books, reels, and podcasts highlight the necessity of mastering the soft skills to manage life well, with the goal of improving quality of life, productivity, and effectiveness. This approach connects naturally with the promise of Jesus: "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10). Emphasizing "life management" enhances our understanding of stewardship and gives stewardship an attractive and practical purpose. Yet, in doing so, we may be uncovering only part of the more profound concept underlying biblical stewardship.

The ultimate purpose of stewardship is not simply to do or manage life better, but to become better.

In his reflections for the 2026 Stewardship Emphasis Week, entitled ***Sanctified Stewardship***, Dr. Bob Moore emphasizes that biblical stewardship goes far beyond life management. For him, the ultimate purpose of stewardship is not simply to do or manage life better, but to become better. He connects faithful stewardship with the life purpose formulated by God for His children: "For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son" (Romans 8:29).

Stewardship, then, is ultimately about formation—cultivating the image of the Son in us. As Ellen G. White puts it: ""Every Christian, as a wise steward, is to preserve Christlikeness of character by sanctified obedience to all the words of Holy Writ, which are spirit and life to the receiver" (Ellen G. White, *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 21, p. 337 (Ms 85, 1906). This perspective shifts the focus from personal performance to alignment with our God-designed identity. Stewardship is not merely about managing our time, talents, bodies, relationships, or financial resources more effectively; it is allowing God to shape who we are becoming.

For this Stewardship Emphasis Week, we would love to see God's children reflecting and praying about how we manage what God has entrusted to us—and how our stewardship can help us become more like Jesus. We encourage everyone to take advantage of this well-written and challenging resource by studying it together at church, in a small group, during family worship, or simply as part of your personal devotional time. Do not miss this opportunity to pause, reflect, and reset before stepping into the new year.

Stewardship Ministries
General Conference



DAY 1

Sanctified Stewardship

2 Peter 3:18; Philippians 2:12, 13

BECOMING WHAT WE MANAGE

LISTEN TO THE SERMON

What if stewardship is not merely about managing money, time, and talents, but about becoming? What if, at its heart, stewardship is the process by which God shapes us into the image of Christ?

This is the premise of sanctified stewardship: God calls us to partner with Him in the lifelong work of becoming more like Christ. Stewardship is not merely management—it is formation. And sanctification is not merely God's responsibility or ours alone. It is a cooperative journey.

Sanctification: A Shared Work

Ellen G. White reminds us, "All our good works are dependent on a power outside of ourselves."[1] Stewardship is our partnership with God in the work of our sanctification. It is not merely about handling resources; it is one of God's primary tools for transformation.

The apostle Paul expresses this clearly: "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure" (Philippians 2:12, 13, NKJV).

God works in; we work out. He empowers; we respond. This is the mystery of the Christian life, the divine-human partnership at the center of the sanctified life. God does not force transformation upon us—He invites it. He supplies the power, desire, and grace. Our role is to yield and walk with His Spirit. The will becomes the hinge on which transformation turns.

God's Part and Our Part

Sanctified stewardship lives in this sacred tension. Some believers shrink from the word "stewardship," assuming it is only about giving or guilt. Others resist the word "sanctification," imagining it implies perfectionism. But Scripture offers a deeper, more gracious picture: both stewardship and sanctification are about trust—and transformation.

God's part in sanctification is foundational. Jesus says: "Without Me you can do nothing" (John 15:5, NKJV). As promised in Ezekiel 11:19 and 36:25, 26, He provides the new heart, the Spirit, the grace, the power, the prompting, and the pattern. But He also calls us to respond. In Ezekiel 18:31, God urges, "Make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit!" (ESV). Our part is to surrender, obey, trust, and remain consistent. We are not changed by willpower alone, nor are we passive recipients. We are called to show up, yield, and walk with God.

Consider a garden. God sends the rain and sun, provides the seed, and grants the mystery of growth. The steward still tends the soil, pulls the weeds, and guards the gates.

The Stewardship of Becoming

If stewardship is about becoming, then every part of life matters. Our time, thoughts, habits, relationships, resources, and responses become tools in God's hands. Every decision becomes a thread in the fabric of our formation.

Jesus illustrated this in the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14–30). The issue was not merely what the servants possessed, but what they did with what they had—and what their choices revealed about their hearts.

Sanctified stewardship asks a deeper question: Not just, What do I have? but, What is God forming in me through what I have?

Even failure becomes formative. Peter's denial was not the end of his story—it was the breaking of self-reliance and the beginning of deeper grace. God used it to shape him. Nothing is wasted in the life of a surrendered steward.

A Lifetime Work

Ellen G. White reminds us, "The work of sanctification is the work of a lifetime."[2] Growth is gradual. It cannot be rushed, but it can be cultivated. There is no arrival in this life—but there is progress. And that progress is measured not in perfection, but in surrender.

To steward your life well is to place it continually in the hands of the One who is both Author and Finisher. As Scripture reminds us: "May the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely" (1 Thessalonians 5:23, NKJV). God is faithful to complete what He begins.The Increase God Expects

God is not only a Giver—He is a Seeker of growth. In the parable of the talents (Matthew 25), the master expected increase. Not just preservation, but multiplication. This principle extends beyond resources to character. God expects growth in faith, love, patience, and spiritual maturity. His grace is never meant to be buried—it is meant to be cultivated.

This is not about performance—it is about transformation.

In 2 Peter 1:5–8, Scripture describes this growth in practical terms:

- ◊ Putting off the old self.
- ◊ Putting on the new.
- ◊ Adding to our faith virtue, knowledge, self-control, and perseverance.

This is not about performance—it is about transformation. God is not measuring activity alone; He is shaping identity.

Ellen G. White affirms this divine expectation: "The development of all our powers is the first duty we owe to God and to our fellow men. . . . And we should cultivate every faculty to the highest degree of perfection, that we may do the greatest amount of good of which we are capable."[3]

This isn't about performance—it's about potential. God longs to see every gift and opportunity grow and bear fruit.

Even Jesus Grew

Perhaps the most humbling truth is this: "Jesus increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man" (Luke 2:52, ESV). If the sinless Son of God submitted to a process of growth, how much more should we?

Growth requires participation. You do not drift into godliness; you pursue it. You choose it. You cooperate with grace.

Inner Before Outer

Too often, stewardship is measured by what we do—how much we give, serve, or produce. But true stewardship begins within. Before we can steward resources well, we must learn to steward the heart: "Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life" (Proverbs 4:23, NKJV). And before service comes surrender.

Inner formation precedes and sustains outer formation. Without it, activity becomes noise and stewardship becomes performance. Ellen G. White reminds us, "Character building is the most important work ever entrusted to human beings."[4] God is not primarily after what you do—He is after who you are becoming.

Practicing What Opens the Soul

The spiritual disciplines explored during this week of revival are not ways to earn grace, but ways to make space for it. They are like the tree Zacchaeus climbed—not magic, but positioning. Zacchaeus couldn't guarantee Jesus would stop, but he knew where Jesus would pass by, and he placed himself in the path of grace (Luke 19:1–10). That is what disciplines do. They position us for encounter.

Jesus saw Zacchaeus' hunger and responded. And He still does.

Spiritual disciplines are acts of stewardship over the soul—intentional practices that keep us open to God's transforming grace. We do not earn sanctification through them; we cooperate with it. As Jonathan Bailey observed, "We don't practice the spiritual disciplines to prove we love Jesus or to manufacture our own holiness, but rather to set in motion the total transformation of our souls."[5]

The Daily Invitation:

Every day, God places before us opportunities for formation—often quiet, subtle, and easily overlooked, yet powerful. The question is not, Is God working? He is. The question is, Am I cooperating?

This is the daily invitation: to grow, to surrender, to walk with the Spirit in daily formation. We do this not to earn God's favor, but to embody His image.

Where is all of this leading? Paul tells us in Romans 8:29: "To be conformed to the image of His Son" (NKJV). This is the destination—Christlikeness. Stewardship is not about what we manage; it is about who we become. God is not merely producing managers. He is forming Christlike lives.

[1]Ellen G. White, *Christ's Object Lessons* (Review Herald Pub. Assn., 1900), 159.
[2]Ellen G. White, *Selected Messages*, Book 1 (Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 1958), 317.
[3]Ellen G. White, *Christ's Object Lessons*, 329.
[4]Ellen G. White, *Education* (Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1903), 225.
[5]Jonathan Bailey, *The Eternal Journey: Daily Meditations on the Stages of Transformation* (Renovaré, 2020), 8.



Reflection Questions:

1. In what areas of your life do you tend to think of stewardship as management rather than transformation?
2. What would it look like for you to more intentionally cooperate with God's work in your life this week?
3. When you consider your daily routines (time, habits, conversations), what do they reveal about who you are becoming?

Appeal:

There comes a moment when truth must become a decision. And that moment is now.

Will you move beyond merely managing your life and join God in transforming it?

Will you become more intentional about cooperating with the Holy Spirit—open to His presence, responsive to His leading, and willing to participate in His work?

Stewardship is not ultimately about what you manage. It is about who you are becoming. God supplies the grace, the power, and the presence. We respond with surrender, trust, and faithful participation.

Will you join God in that work?

Commitment

I choose, by God's grace, to learn to be a faithful steward in my daily life.



DAY 2

The Discipline of Feeding the Soul with Truth

John 17:17

REFUELING FOR LIFE'S JOURNEY

LISTEN TO THE SERMON

Families who regularly gather around the dinner table tend to develop stronger bonds, healthier communication, and greater resilience. But the power of the family meal is not merely nutritional: stories are shared, values are reinforced, and identity is shaped. Over time, what repeatedly nourishes us begins to shape us.

The same is true spiritually. Every soul feeds on something, and what feeds us ultimately forms us. But not all growth is healthy growth. The question is not whether we are being formed, but what is forming us. Some feed constantly on media, noise, entertainment, fear, and distraction. Others learn to feed on truth.

And here is the great reality of spiritual formation: What we feed grows, and what grows shapes who we become.

Scripture as Nourishment

Scripture is not merely information—it is sustenance. Jesus declared, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" (Matthew 4:4, NKJV). The Word of God is food for the spirit, a lamp for the path, and a sword for the battle. As sanctified stewards, we are called not only to believe Scripture, but to build our lives upon it.

Yet many believers consume hours of noise and give God moments of attention. We are often overfed digitally and underfed spiritually.

The discipline of engaging Scripture is more than reading words—it is opening the heart to the voice of God. It is the practice of positioning ourselves beneath divine truth so that it can shape, renew, and direct us. The prophet Jeremiah exclaimed, "Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart" (Jeremiah 15:16, KJV). Through His Word, God reveals His character, corrects our course, and restores our souls.

Here is the beautiful paradox of spiritual formation: While God speaks through His Word, He also gives us the desire and discipline to receive it. Scripture calls us to meditate, memorize, study, and obey, but we do not do these things in our own strength.

God empowers the discipline; we choose to participate. We bring our hunger; He supplies the bread. We bring our questions; He gives light. The Spirit awakens hunger, grants understanding, and supplies the power; we bring our presence and intention.

To be a faithful steward of Scripture is not to master the text, but to be mastered by it. As we open the page, God opens our hearts: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly"—not occasionally, not hurriedly, but richly (Colossians 3:16, NKJV). Scripture is not a check mark in a spiritual routine. It is where formation begins, and transformation continues.

This is the stewardship of Scripture: to hold it, hear it, and be shaped by it until Christ is formed in us. The Bible is not just information—it is revelation. It doesn't merely inform; it forms. It is not information to accumulate, but truth that transforms.

From Restraint to Renewal

Reading Scripture is not a chore. It is the table where God nourishes, confronts, convicts, and comforts His people. Ellen G. White offers this practical counsel: "If you neglect the reading of the Bible, you will lose your love for it."[1]

Before Scripture ever becomes delight, it often begins as discipline. And discipline, like good parenting, may feel limiting at first, but it is always rooted in love.

Think of a small child. You don't let them play in the street, not because you're trying to control them, but because you care deeply about their safety and flourishing. You set boundaries. You say "no" when what they want would harm them. But your goal is not to restrain forever. You desire that, as they grow, those boundaries will move from *external enforcement* to *internal wisdom*. One day, you hope, the child won't need to be told not to run into traffic—they'll simply know and choose rightly.

We train our appetites and redirect our instincts. We open the Word when we don't feel like it, and resist distractions when we would rather give in. But something begins to change. Over time, what felt like discipline becomes delight. Our desires begin to align with God's. What once required effort gradually becomes instinct, and our habits begin to shape our hearts.

Ellen G. White reminds us, "It is not natural for the heart to love the Bible; but when it is renewed by grace, then the mind will feast upon the rich truths and promises contained in the word of God."[2]

By Beholding We Become Changed

Transformation begins with attention. What captures our gaze eventually shapes our soul. What we consistently behold begins to shape what we love, and what we love inevitably shapes what we do. Paul describes this process: "But we all, . . . beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image" (2 Corinthians 3:18, NKJV). Indeed, by beholding we become changed.

The Word of God trains our attention. It redirects our eyes from self to Savior, from distraction to devotion, from noise to nearness. To behold Christ in Scripture is not merely to be informed, but to encounter His presence through revelation.

Sanctification doesn't come by trying harder; it comes by beholding longer. Beholding leads to becoming.

The renewal of the inner life always starts where thought meets truth.

Stewarding the Mind

The renewal of the inner life always starts where thought meets truth. Every idea we entertain, every story we believe, and every image we dwell upon either draws us toward Christ or distracts us from Him. One of the most powerful domains of stewardship, therefore, is the mind. What we think about shapes who we become. And nothing renews the mind like Scripture—not only in content, but in clarity. The Word of God reorders what the world has distorted. It trains our discernment, dismantles deception, and teaches us to think God's thoughts.

That is why Paul urges us in Romans 12:2: "Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind" (KJV). Transformation begins with renewed thinking.

When we read Scripture, we aren't just gaining facts—we are aligning the mind with eternity. When the Word moves from the page into the patterns of our thinking, the Spirit begins renewing the inner life until our thoughts, desires, and responses increasingly reflect the character of Christ. Because what feeds the inner life shapes the person, feeding on Scripture matters.

How to Feed on the Word?

For many believers, reading Scripture can feel like a duty. But as we grow in grace, it becomes a delight—a place to linger, listen, and be nourished. The problem is rarely hunger; it is habit.

To feed on Scripture is to approach it expectantly—to come to the table where God nourishes the soul through His Word. The goal is not to get through the Bible, but to allow the Bible to get through us.

Here are a few practices for feeding on the Word:

- ◊ **Read Slowly.** Don't rush. The goal is not speed but communion. Ellen G. White counsels, "There is but little benefit derived from a hasty reading of the Scriptures."[3]
- ◊ **Ask Questions.** Approach Scripture with curiosity and humility. Ask, What does this reveal about God? What does it reveal about me? What invitation is God extending?
- ◊ **Meditate.** Carry a verse with you and turn it over in your thoughts.
- ◊ **Memorize.** Hidden Scripture becomes strength in temptation and comfort in difficulty.
- ◊ **Pray the Scriptures.** Let God's Word guide your conversation with Him. Read a promise and thank Him for it. Read a command and ask for strength to obey it. Allow Scripture to become the language of your prayers.
- ◊ **Listen for Application.** Every encounter with the Word invites response. Ask, What is one thing God is asking me to believe, change, surrender, or do today? The apostle James admonishes us to not only be hearers but doers of the Word (James 1:22–25).

Each of these practices is an act of cooperation with the Divine—a daily choice to place yourself where transformation happens. You bring your attention; God brings the increase. You bring your willingness; He brings His power.

Remember, spiritual growth is not produced by occasional feasts but by daily nourishment. Just as the body is strengthened through regular meals, the soul is strengthened through regular encounters with God's Word.

And over time, something remarkable happens. What begins as discipline becomes delight. The Word moves from the page into the patterns of our thinking, and we discover that Scripture is not merely something we read—it is something God uses to shape who we are becoming.

The End Goal: Becoming a People of the Word

If the church is to reflect Christ, it must first behold Him. If we are to grow in grace, we must deepen in truth. And if we are to carry the voice of God into the world, we must first learn to recognize His voice in the stillness of Scripture.

We live in a world overflowing with voices. Headlines, social media, advertisers, and culture all compete for our attention. Yet amid all the noise, God still speaks.

The discipline of reading God's Word is not merely about having devotions—it is about becoming devoted to truth, transformation, and to the One who still speaks. Each time we open Scripture, we choose what will shape our minds and direct our lives. Ellen G. White beautifully observes, "The word of God is the seed. Every seed has in itself a germinating principle."[4]

This is why Scripture must remain central in the life of every believer. Not as a religious obligation, but as a daily meeting place with God. It is through God's Word that we are sanctified (John 17:17).

The Bible is more than a book to be studied. Through it, the Holy Spirit forms the life of Christ within us. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105, NKJV). Over time, something beautiful happens: The Word begins to shape our thinking. Our thinking begins to shape our choices. Our choices begin to shape our character. And our character begins to reflect Christ.

Let us make God's Word central in our lives, for through it we fellowship with the living Word Himself. For the more we behold Him, the more we are changed. And the more we are changed, the more the world beholds Him through us.

May we become a people of the Word—not merely readers of Scripture, but people shaped by Scripture; not merely hearers of truth, but living testimonies of its transforming power.

Lord, may the Word we open each day open us to You.

[1] Ellen G. White, *An Appeal to the Youth* (Seventh-day Adventist Publishing, 1864), 79.
[2] White, 79.
[3] Ellen G. White, *Christian Education* (International Tract Society, 1894), 58.
[4] Ellen G. White, *Christ's Object Lessons* (Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 1900), 38.



Reflection Questions:

1. What voices most shape your thinking today?
2. How can you better steward time for God's Word each day?
3. What truth do you need to move from understanding to obedience?

Appeal:

Perhaps your Bible reading has become hurried. Perhaps it has become occasional. Today, God's invitation is simple. The invitation is not to try harder, but to draw nearer. Choose again to place yourself where God can shape you. Come back to the table. Feed on the Word and allow it to shape who you are becoming. May that be our prayer, our commitment, and our experience.

Amen.

Commitment

To **SET APART** the first moments of each day to commune with the Lord through **PRAYER**, the **STUDY** of the Bible, the Spirit of Prophecy, and the Sabbath School lessons, and in **FAMILY WORSHIP**.



DAY 3

The Discipline of Growing in Grace Together

Proverbs 27:17
Hebrews 10:24, 25

PRACTICING PRESENCE, RECEIVING GRACE

LISTEN TO THE SERMON

A single coal removed from a fire slowly loses its glow. Though it retains the same nature separated from the other coals, it gradually cools and darkens. Place it back into the fire, and it begins to burn brightly again.

The Christian life was never intended to be lived alone. God's plan for spiritual growth has always included community. Ellen G. White reminds us, "By mutual contact our minds should receive polish and refinement. We are dependent upon one another, closely bound together by the ties of human brotherhood."[1]

Both salvation and sanctification are rooted in a living relationship with Christ. Salvation begins when that relationship is restored; sanctification continues as it deepens both with Christ and within the community of faith.

God's Design for Connection

When God declared in Genesis 2:18, "It is not good that the man should be alone" (NKJV), He was not merely addressing Adam's solitude. He was revealing a principle of human design. We were created for relationship.

Relationship was part of God's original design. From the beginning, He intended His people to grow in community, encouraging one another, bearing one another's burdens, and stirring one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24, 25).

As Proverbs 27:17 reminds us, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." God uses relationships to refine our character and deepen our faith.

This is more than healthy living—it is a principle of sanctified stewardship. Stewarding relationships is part of stewarding the soul.

However, something within us still clings to the illusion that we can grow alone.

The Myth of Self-Sufficiency

Modern culture celebrates self-sufficiency, but Scripture teaches interdependence. After Cain asked, "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Genesis 4:9), the rest of Scripture answers that question with a resounding yes. We are called to bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2), encourage one another (Hebrews 10:24, 25), care for one another (1 Corinthians 12:25), and love one another as Christ has loved us (John 13:34). God's people were never meant to journey alone.

Writing about the church as the body of Christ, Paul declares, "The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you'" (1 Corinthians 12:21, NKJV). Every member depends upon the others. God never designed His people to function independently of one another.

Isolation protects our pride, but it hinders our growth. The enemy of spiritual formation is not merely sin; it is often the illusion that we can overcome sin alone.

To embrace support is not to confess failure; it is to embrace God's wisdom. The strongest believers are not those who need no one. They are those who have learned to depend fully upon God and humbly receive the encouragement, correction, and support He provides through others.

Spiritual maturity does not grow in isolation. It flourishes in relationships rooted in grace.

God Uses People to Shape People

Support is not merely about companionship—it is about Christ-centered companionship. Throughout Scripture, God repeatedly chooses to accomplish His work of formation through relationships.

When Moses grew weary in battle, Aaron and Hur stood beside him and held up his hands. Israel's victory was not the result of one man's strength, but of shared support. Moses needed others to uphold him.

Even Jesus, though fully divine, chose not to walk alone. He gathered disciples around Him. He shared life with the Twelve and drew Peter, James, and John into moments of particular intimacy. In Gethsemane, He asked them to watch and pray with Him. If the Son of God valued companionship on His earthly journey, how much more do we need one another?

Not all of God's instruments of formation are easy to live with. Jacob learned this through his years with Laban. The deceiver met a deceiver. The man who had manipulated his brother and father found himself repeatedly manipulated by his father-in-law. God was doing more than building Jacob's wealth—He was reshaping Jacob's character. What began as a strained relationship became a school of sanctification. Sometimes God uses encouraging relationships to strengthen

us. At other times, He uses difficult relationships to humble us, refine us, and teach us dependence upon Him.

As M. Robert Mulholland Jr., observed, "Holistic spirituality . . . takes place in the midst of our relationships with others, not apart from them."[2]

Sometimes God's grace arrives wearing the face of someone who cares enough to walk beside us. Support isn't a spiritual luxury—it's a divine strategy.

If fellowship is the context of sanctification, relationships are its practice ground. God uses everyday interactions to form Christ within us.

Support as a Spiritual Discipline

Most people associate spiritual disciplines with prayer, Bible study, fasting, worship, and solitude. But there is another discipline that is often overlooked: support.

Support is a discipline of presence. We practice prayer by praying, Scripture by reading, and support by showing up. Through encouragement, honest conversation, faithful prayer, and loving accountability, Christ uses ordinary relationships to form extraordinary character.

Ellen G. White reminds us, "Christian sociability is altogether too little cultivated by God's people. . . . By social intercourse acquaintances are formed and friendships [are] contracted which result in a unity of heart and an atmosphere of love which is pleasing in the sight of heaven."[3]

True support sharpens, sustains, and sanctifies. Often, one or two Christ-centered companions can make a profound difference in our spiritual journey. As the wise man Solomon reminds us, "Two are better than one. . . . And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken" (Ecclesiastes 4:9–12, KJV).

God supplies the grace; we faithfully practice the discipline of support through encouragement, prayer, and accountability. Its power does not come from technique or personality, but from Christ working through ordinary people. Every act of encouragement, every listening ear, every honest conversation, and every faithful prayer can become a conduit of divine compassion.

As we choose to be present for one another, ordinary moments become sacred opportunities for the Holy Spirit to form Christ within us.

The Grace of Mutual Formation

The Grace of Mutual Formation

We often say, "All I need is God." In one sense, that is true. God alone is our Savior, Sustainer, and Source of life. Throughout Scripture, God often ministers His grace through ordinary people. His truth comes through their words. His comfort comes through their presence. His strength comes through their prayers.

However, we also need the support of others. Even Job's story reminds us that God often works through relationships. After Job prayed for his friends, "the LORD turned the captivity of Job" (Job 42:10, KJV).

Dietrich Bonhoeffer captured this reality in a memorable statement: "The Christ in [my] own heart is weaker than the Christ in the word of [my] brother."[4] Sometimes we hear God's voice most clearly through another believer. Paul admonished the Galatians, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2, NKJV).

A trusted friend may lovingly confront a blind spot. A mentor may provide wisdom at a critical moment. A pastor may speak truth that redirects a wandering heart. A small group may offer encouragement when faith grows weak. As Isaiah wrote, God gives "the tongue of the learned" to sustain the weary with a word (Isaiah 50:4).

This is the grace of mutual formation. We are not merely helping one another survive life's challenges. We are participating in one another's sanctification.

The church is far more than a gathering of believers. As we receive grace from others and extend grace to them, we become instruments in God's hands, participating in one another's growth into the likeness of Christ.

Practicing the Discipline

Like every spiritual discipline, support requires intentional practice. Healthy relationships must be cultivated.

Three simple practices can help us grow in grace together:

1. **Show Up.** Join a small group. Meet with a trusted friend. Make time for meaningful connection. Spiritual growth often happens simply because we consistently place ourselves where encouragement and accountability can flourish.
2. **Open Up.** Choose honesty over image management. Share your struggles, your questions, and your victories. Transformation begins when we stop pretending and allow trusted believers to walk with us in truth and grace.
3. **Build Up.** Encourage and strengthen others. Pray with people and speak words that give life. "Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do" (1 Thessalonians 5:11, KJV).

You do not need a crowd. You need connection. One or two Christ-centered relationships can become powerful instruments of God's transforming grace.

A Community of Stewards

A healthy church is a community where grace flows freely, encouragement is intentional, and Christ is formed in His people.

Imagine a church where people gather not merely to attend, but to grow. A church where encouragement is abundant, accountability is safe, grace is freely given, and spiritual growth is expected.

We are not merely stewards of our own spiritual growth. We are stewards of one another's encouragement, faith, and formation. As Paul reminds us, "Speaking the truth in love, [we] may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ" (Ephesians 4:15, 16, NKJV). God places people in our lives not only to bless us, but to shape us—and He places us in their lives for the same purpose.

By His grace, we do not walk this journey alone.

A healthy church is a community where grace flows freely, encouragement is intentional, and Christ is formed in His people. And when that happens, encouragement becomes normal, accountability becomes safe, grace becomes abundant, and Christ becomes visible among His people.

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[1] Ellen G. White, *Ministry of Healing*, (Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1905), 495.
[2] M. Robert Mulholland Jr., Invitation to a Journey: A Road Map for Spiritual Formation. InterVarsity Press, 1993), 145.
[3] Ellen G. White, *Message to Young People* (Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 1930), 405.
[4] Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together* (Harper & Row, 1954), 23.



Reflection Questions:

1. Who are the people God is using to shape your character right now?
2. Are you cultivating relationships that encourage spiritual growth or merely provide companionship?
3. How might God be calling you to support someone else's journey this week?

Appeal:

There comes a moment when truth must become a decision. And that moment is now.

Perhaps God is calling you to stop trying to grow alone. Perhaps He is inviting you to move beyond independence and embrace the gift of Christian community.

Reach out. Reconnect. Become both a recipient and a channel of God's grace through Christian community.

For God's plan has never been merely to save us individually. His plan is to form us together into the likeness of Christ.

Will you accept that invitation today?

Commitment

I choose, by God's grace, to **IMPROVE** my **RELATIONSHIPS** by growing in faithfulness, forgiveness, and loving by principle.



DAY 4

The Discipline of Healthy Living

1 Corinthians 6:19, 20

STEWARDING THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

LISTEN TO THE SERMON

If a friend entrusted you with their vehicle for a year, you would likely treat it with care. You would maintain it, protect it, and use it responsibly—not because it belonged to you, but because it belonged to someone else. The greater the value of the gift, the greater the responsibility of the steward.

Scripture presents our bodies in much the same way. The apostle Paul reminds us, "You are not your own; you were bought at a price" (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20). These words challenge one of the most common assumptions of modern culture—the belief that our bodies belong exclusively to us and that we may do with them whatever we please.

The Bible presents a different perspective. Our bodies are gifts entrusted to us by God—sacred trusts to be stewarded. Healthy living begins with an acknowledgment of proper ownership. Because our bodies belong to God, we are called to care for them wisely. Ellen G. White reinforces this principle: "If we weaken these powers of mind or body by wrong habits or indulgence of perverted appetite, it will be impossible for us to honor God as we should."[1]

How we care for our body shapes our character and capacity to serve God and others.

This truth lies at the heart of biblical stewardship. Healthy living is not primarily about appearance, longevity, or self-improvement. It is about honoring God with the life He has entrusted to us and preserving our capacity to serve Him faithfully.

For the sanctified steward, health is not an end in itself. It is a means to a greater end: loving God, serving others, and participating more fully in the mission of Christ. We steward our bodies not merely to live longer, but to serve better.

The Body as a Sacred Trust

Paul calls the body "the temple of the Holy Spirit" (1 Corinthians 6:19, NKJV). Just as the temple belonged to God, our bodies belong to Him and are entrusted to our care. This does not mean we worship the body. Christianity rejects both neglect of the body and obsession with it. The goal is not physical perfection, appearance, or self-exaltation. The body is neither an idol nor an afterthought. It is a sacred trust.

Ellen G. White writes, "The body is the only medium through which the mind and the soul are developed for the upbuilding of character."[2] This perspective transforms the way we think about health. The question is no longer, "What do I want to do with my body?" The better question is, "How can I honor God with what He has entrusted to me?" Every choice we make regarding our physical well-being becomes an act of stewardship because it involves something that belongs to God.

The stewardship of the body is not separate from sanctification; it is part of it. God has entrusted us with our bodies, and how we steward that gift shapes both our character and our capacity for service. Through healthy habits, we learn discipline, self-control, balance, and responsibility. These are not merely health principles; they are character principles.

When we care for the body God has given us, we are not merely preserving health. We are cooperating with Him in the work of becoming faithful stewards of every gift He has entrusted to our care.

Health as a Spiritual Matter

Many Christians separate physical health from spiritual life. We tend to think of prayer, Bible study, worship, and service as spiritual matters, while viewing nutrition, exercise, rest, and lifestyle as merely physical concerns.

Scripture does not make that distinction. God created us as integrated beings. What affects the body influences the mind, and what influences the mind affects the spirit. God has always shown concern for the whole person.

When Elijah collapsed exhausted beneath the juniper tree, God first gave him rest, food, and water before renewing his ministry (1 Kings 19:5–8).

Daniel's decision to honor God in matters of diet was not merely a health choice; it was a spiritual choice. The result was not only physical well-being, but mental clarity, spiritual discernment, and usefulness in God's service.

Jesus preached to the crowds, but He also fed them. He forgave sins, but He also healed disease. Christ cared for the whole person because He created the whole person. Healthy living, therefore, is not merely a physical matter—it is a spiritual matter.

The Purpose of Health Reform

Seventh-day Adventists have long understood that health is a spiritual stewardship. The purpose of health reform has never been merely to help people live longer, but to help God's people live more fully for Him.

Health reform was never primarily about avoiding disease. God desires that His people possess clear minds, healthy bodies, and balanced lives so they can more effectively fulfill His calling. A healthy body supports a clear mind, and a clear mind is better able to understand truth, discern God's leading, and respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Healthy living is not about earning salvation or attaining perfection. It is about cooperating with God's design so that our bodies, minds, and lives remain available for His service.

Discipline Before Delight

What begins as discipline often becomes freedom. A child learns healthy habits through structure and repetition. Likewise, nutrition, exercise, rest, and temperance often begin as discipline but eventually become part of who we are. God uses these habits to shape Christlike character and prepare us for service.

Every disciplined choice teaches us to live intentionally rather than impulsively, as God uses ordinary habits to cultivate perseverance, self-control, and readiness for service.

Caring for the Temple

Our bodies are gifts entrusted to us by God. While no single habit guarantees health, Scripture encourages us to live wisely and responsibly with what God has given. Healthy stewardship often begins with a few simple practices:

1. **Feed Well.** The goal is not merely to satisfy appetite, but to nourish life. Whenever possible, choose foods that strengthen rather than weaken, nourish rather than merely gratify.
2. **Move Often.** Whether through formal exercise or simply maintaining an active lifestyle, movement is one of God's gifts for preserving health.
3. **Rest Deeply.** When we receive and practice rest as a gift from God, we acknowledge our dependence upon Him rather than our own strength.
4. **Avoid Harm.** Stewardship includes avoiding practices that damage the body, cloud the mind, or diminish our capacity for service.

Ordinary habits become holy habits when they are practiced as acts of worship.

Healthy Living and Mission

The ultimate purpose of healthy living is not merely feeling better. It is serving better. Jesus lived with a clear sense of purpose: "I must be about My Father's business" (Luke 2:49, NKJV). As His followers, we are called to live with that same focus.

We care for the body not because it is the center of life, but because it is the instrument through which we live it. Every act of service, every conversation, every ministry opportunity, and every expression of compassion is carried out through our physical bodies, which God has entrusted to our care.

While perfect health is never guaranteed, faithful stewardship often increases our ability to think clearly, work diligently, endure challenges, and serve others effectively. Ellen G. White reinforces this connection between physical stewardship and Christian service: "The apostle understood the importance of the healthful condition of the body for the successful perfection of Christian character. He says, 'I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection.'"[3]

Healthy living also bears witness to those around us. When people see lives marked by balance, self-control, and joy, they often become more open to the principles that produced those qualities. In this way, healthy living becomes a witness, not to our discipline, but to God's wisdom.

For the sanctified steward, health is one more way of loving God, serving others, and advancing the mission of Christ.

Honoring God in Seasons of Weakness

While Scripture calls us to care for our bodies, faithful stewardship does not guarantee perfect health. We live in a fallen world where sickness, suffering, disability, and aging touch every life.

Some honor God through strength and health; others through patient endurance and steadfast trust. As James reminds us, "You have heard of the perseverance of Job" (James 5:11, NKJV). The apostle Paul likewise learned that God's answer to his "thorn in the flesh" (2 Corinthians 12:7, NKJV) was not immediate healing but sustaining grace: "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9, NKJV).

Even in sickness, the steward asks, "How can I honor God with the body I have today?" We glorify Him not only by caring for our health when we are strong, but also by trusting Him when we are weak. Refusing bitterness, resisting self-pity, and choosing gratitude in difficult circumstances are acts of stewardship as surely as exercise, rest, and wise nutrition. As Paul wrote, "We show that we are true ministers of God. We patiently endure troubles and hardships and calamities of every kind" (2 Corinthians 6:4, NLT).

Becoming Through Stewardship

Healthy living is often reduced to behavior modification. Yet God's purpose reaches much deeper. God uses the disciplines of stewardship not merely to change our habits, but to transform our character. Every healthy choice presents an opportunity for growth. Through the stewardship of the body, God cultivates self-control, discipline, patience, gratitude, and responsibility.

The habits that strengthen the body can also strengthen the will. The choices that improve physical health can also deepen spiritual maturity and shape us into the likeness of Christ.

A Temple Filled With Purpose

Imagine a church where healthy living is not ultimately about adding years to our lives, but about offering our lives more fully to Christ. A church where healthy living is motivated not by fear, pride, or appearance, but by a desire to honor God and serve others more faithfully.

Ellen G. White beautifully captures this spirit: "Our bodies are to be regarded as His purchased possession. The members of the body are to become the instruments of righteousness."[4]

The sanctified life is formed through ordinary practices offered to God. Every meal, every walk, every night's rest, and every act of self-control becomes an opportunity to honor Him. For the sanctified steward, even ordinary habits become acts of worship through which God shapes Christlike character. As Paul concludes, "Therefore glorify God in your body" (1 Corinthians 6:20, NKJV).

[1] Ellen G. White, *Christian Temperance and Bible Hygiene* (Good Health Publishing Co., 1890), 15.z
[2] Ellen G. White, *Ministry of Healing* (Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1905), 130.
[3] Ellen G. White, *Temperance* (Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1949), 148.
[4] Ellen G. White, *Adventist Home* (Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 1952), 127.



Reflection Questions:

1. In what ways does your current lifestyle support—or hinder—your ability to participate more fully in God's work?
2. Which area of physical stewardship most needs attention right now: nutrition, exercise, rest, or temperance?
3. How might caring for your body become an act of worship and cooperation with God?

Appeal:

There comes a moment when truth must become a decision. And that moment is now.

Perhaps God is inviting you to see your health differently. Will you allow Him to use even the ordinary habits of daily life to shape your character, strengthen your service, and prepare you for His mission?

Will you place your body fully in God's hands today and cooperate with Him in caring for the temple He has entrusted to you? The One who redeemed you desires to strengthen you for His service.

How we care for our body shapes our character and our capacity to serve God and others.

Commitment

I choose, by God's grace, to **ESTABLISH** one new **HEALTHY HABIT**, in order to better serve the Lord with my mind.

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DAY 5

The Discipline of Participating in the Mission of Christ

Matthew 20:28

The Towel and the Basin

LISTEN TO THE SERMON

On the night before the cross, Jesus did something no one expected. As the disciples argued about who was greatest, Jesus rose from the table, wrapped a towel around His waist, and began washing their feet. The Creator washed the feet of His creation. The Master served His servants.

In that moment, Jesus revealed the heart of God. The world measures greatness by power, position, and recognition. Jesus measured greatness by service: "The greatest among you will be your servant" (Matthew 23:11).

Service was not merely something Jesus did. It was who He was. And if Christ came not to be served but to serve, then those who follow Him are called to do the same. After washing His disciples' feet, Jesus explained, "For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you" (John 13:15, NKJV).

This is one of the great truths of sanctified stewardship: God has entrusted us with time, abilities, spiritual gifts, and resources not merely for ourselves, but for the blessing of others. More than that, service is not merely the result of spiritual growth—it is one of God's primary means of producing it. Ellen G. White beautifully expresses this truth: "[Christ] gives to us that we may minister to others and thus become like Himself."[1]

We become more like Christ by serving as Christ served. For this reason, participating in Christ's mission is not an optional activity for a few committed believers. It is a discipline for every disciple and one of God's chosen pathways for sanctification.

The Stewardship of Our Lives

Stewardship is not simply about preserving what God has entrusted to us—it is about placing it at His disposal for the blessing of others and the advancement of His kingdom. As Paul reminds us, "We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10, NKJV).

When many people hear the word "stewardship," they think immediately of money. Yet Scripture presents a much larger vision. Every believer has been entrusted with resources that extend far beyond finances: time, strength, talents, spiritual gifts, and influence. These are not possessions to be consumed, but trusts to be invested in God's mission.

Some teach, organize, lead, or quietly serve behind the scenes. God distributes gifts according to His wisdom so every believer may contribute to His mission. Are you using what God has entrusted to you for His mission?

Service is where stewardship becomes visible. When we offer our time, strength, abilities, spiritual gifts, and influence for the good of others, stewardship moves from theory to practice. What God has placed in our hands begins to flow through our lives. And as it does, something remarkable happens. We not only bless others—we ourselves are changed.

Created to Give, Not Merely Receive

The apostle Paul exhorts believers, "Through love serve one another" (Galatians 5:13, NKJV). Christian service is not driven by guilt or obligation, but by love flowing from a heart transformed by Christ.

Trees provide one of God's most beautiful illustrations of the Christian life. A healthy tree receives nourishment and bears fruit for others. Likewise, Christians receive God's blessings not merely for themselves, but so those blessings may flow outward in service. Healthy disciples naturally bear fruit because God's blessings were never meant to stop with them. This is why Jesus frequently used the language of fruitfulness. A healthy tree naturally bears fruit, and a healthy disciple naturally serves.

Service as a Means of Grace

Jesus declared, "He who believes in Me, . . . out of his heart will flow rivers of living water" (John 7:38, NKJV).

God's grace was never intended to terminate with us but to flow through us into the lives of others.

Most Christians understand that prayer changes us, Scripture changes us, and worship changes us. But service changes us too.

Harry Emerson Fosdick once wrote, "Electricity may not come in where it cannot flow through."[2] God's grace is not given merely to be accumulated, but to be shared. Ellen G. White suggests, "In working to bless others we shall be gathering strength and courage to our own souls."[3] God pours into those who pour out.

This truth is beautifully illustrated by the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea. Both receive water from the Jordan River, yet only one is full of life. The difference is simple: The Sea of Galilee gives what it receives, while the Dead Sea keeps it.

The lesson is more than geography. It is a parable of the spiritual life. When grace flows outward through acts of service, faith becomes active, love deepens, and Christ becomes more real.

One of the quiet surprises of Christian service is joy. As we pour ourselves out for others, we discover God filling us at the same time. Grace stagnates when hoarded and grows when shared. As grace flows through us, the Holy Spirit forms the character of Christ. Service does not merely change the lives of those we serve. It changes the one who serves. Grace grows as it flows.

The Samaritan Way

In Luke 10:29, a lawyer asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" Beneath the question was an attempt to define the limits of responsibility. How far does love have to go? Who deserves my concern? Where does my obligation end?

Jesus answered with a story. A man was beaten and left beside the road. A priest and a Levite passed him by, but a Samaritan stopped, cared for him, and met his needs. The Samaritan did not ask whether the wounded man deserved help. He did not calculate the inconvenience. He simply responded to the need before him. This is the heart of Christlike service.

The question is not merely, "Who is my neighbor?" The better question is: "Who is God placing in front of me?" Service often arrives disguised as interruption.

The Samaritan teaches us two enduring truths: love acts and compassion moves.

Jesus ended the parable with a simple command: "Go and do likewise" (Luke 10:37). The lesson remains unchanged. Service is measured by a willingness to enter another person's need with the love of Christ.

This truth becomes even clearer in Matthew 25:35, 36, where Jesus identifies Himself with those in need: "I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me a drink; I was a stranger and you took me in; . . . I was sick and you visited Me." Then He declares, "Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me" (Matthew 25:40, NKJV). Every act of kindness becomes an act of service to Christ Himself.

True spirituality is not measured only by what happens in worship, but by what happens when worship is over.

Service Forms the Servant

Paul urges believers, "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 2:5, NKJV). As we humble ourselves in service, the Holy Spirit forms within us the character of Christ.

Many believers assume they must become mature before serving. They wait until they feel prepared, gifted, or spiritually developed. Yet Scripture presents a different picture: Service itself is one of God's chosen means of producing that growth.

The path to spiritual maturity is not found only in learning, praying, or worshiping. It is also found in serving. This is one of the great insights of sanctified stewardship: Service is not merely doing good. It is becoming good. As we participate in the mission of Christ, God is doing more than blessing those we serve. He is shaping the one who serves.

Service has a way of exposing what remains hidden within us. It humbles pride, disrupts selfishness, softens judgment, and develops humility, compassion, generosity, patience, and love through the transforming work of the Holy Spirit. Service does not merely change the world around us; it changes the person within us.

Service will cost something.

Practicing the Discipline

Participating in the mission of Christ does not require a title, a position, or a public platform. Service begins wherever we are and with whatever God has placed in our hands. Some key aspects of serving are:

1. **Notice.** Service begins by seeing. Many needs remain unmet because they remain unnoticed. Jesus consistently saw people others overlooked—the blind, the lonely, the poor, the grieving, and the forgotten.
2. **Enter In.** Seeing a need is not enough. The Samaritan did more than notice the wounded traveler; he entered his situation. Compassion moved him toward the need rather than away from it.
3. **Serve.** Do something. The size of the act matters far less than the willingness of the heart.

Service will cost something. It requires time, attention, empathy, and inconvenience. Yet it also brings unexpected joy. Time and again, those who serve discover that they often receive more than they give.

A Serving Church

Imagine a church where needs are noticed, gifts are used, compassion is normal, and service is expected. Such a church becomes a powerful witness because the character of Christ is visible among its people. A church that serves becomes a church that grows—not merely numerically, but spiritually.

Service is not just something Christians do. It is one of God's primary ways of shaping who we become. We become Christlike by serving as Christ served.

[1] Ellen G. White, *Christ's Object Lessons* (Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 1900), 140.
[2] Harry Emerson Fosdick, *The Meaning of Service* (Associated Press, 1920), 18.
[3] Ellen G. White, *Daughters of God* (Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 1998), 116.
[4] Ellen G. White, *Ministry of Healing* (Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1905), 470.



Reflection Questions:

1. In what area is God inviting you to move from receiving to serving?
2. What gifts, abilities, or experiences has God entrusted to you for the benefit of others?
3. Who might God be calling you to notice, encourage, or help this week?

Appeal:

Perhaps you have been waiting until you feel ready to serve. But service is often the place where God prepares us.

The invitation today is simple: Pick up the towel and participate in the mission of Christ.

As Ellen G. White reminds us, "The strongest argument in favor of the gospel is a loving and lovable Christian."[4]

Will you place your time, strength, gifts, and influence in God's hands and allow Him to use you in His mission?

Commitment

I choose, by God's grace, to **DEVOTE** regular time each week to **WORK** for God, spreading the good news to others through Bible studies, small groups, etc.



Day 6

The Discipline of Restoring the Rhythm of Worship and Rest

Mark 2:27; Hebrews 4:9

A Gift Before the Fall

LISTEN TO THE SERMON

Before there was sin, there was Sabbath. Before it was a commandment carved in stone, the Sabbath was a gift woven into Creation—an invitation to live in rhythm with the Creator.

Humanity's first full day was not a day of labor, but a day of rest in fellowship with God. Before they worked, they worshiped. Before they produced, they received. Before they labored, they were loved. "Then God blessed the seventh day and *sanctified it*" (Genesis 2:3, NKJV, emphasis added).

Week after week, God invites us to step out of a world driven by performance and productivity and enter a sacred space where our identity is no longer defined by what we accomplish, but by whose we are.

Sabbath remains one of God's greatest gifts for spiritual formation. It teaches us to trust rather than strive, to receive rather than perform, and to rest in our identity as God's children rather than prove our worth.

Stewarding Time by Stopping

Of all the gifts God has entrusted to us, time may be the easiest to waste and the hardest to steward. Unlike money or possessions, time cannot be saved or stored. Once spent, it is gone forever. Every day arrives as a gift from God, entrusted to us for a season and then surrendered to eternity.

We live in a culture that celebrates busyness. Full calendars are worn as badges of importance, and productivity often becomes a measure of worth. Over time, achievement becomes identity and performance becomes a way of proving our value.

But the Sabbath interrupts that lie.

Every seventh day, God invites us to step away from our work and remember a truth that the world constantly tempts us to forget: Our value is not found in what we produce. For twenty-four hours, we cease from our ordinary labor and cares. We declare by our actions that the world continues without our striving.

The Sabbath reminds us that we are more than workers or producers. We are God's beloved children. Because we belong to Him, we are free to rest. The rhythm of worship and rest teaches us that our worth is rooted not in performance but in God's love.

Rest as an Act of Trust

Many people think the Sabbath is primarily about stopping work. Biblically, it is something deeper. The Sabbath is about trusting God enough to stop.

When Israel journeyed through the wilderness, God provided manna from heaven each morning. The people were instructed to gather only enough for each day. If they attempted to store it, it spoiled. They were to trust that God would provide again tomorrow. On the sixth day, God provided a double portion and instructed His people to rest on the seventh day, trusting that He had already provided what they needed.

The lesson was never merely about food. It was about faith. Would they trust God's provision enough to stop working and rest in His faithfulness? The same question confronts us today. Yet every Sabbath, God gently asks: "Do you trust Me enough to stop?"

Rest is not merely a physical experience; it is a spiritual posture—the quiet confidence that God is faithful, God is present, and God can be trusted. The psalmist captures this posture with God's invitation: "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10, NKJV). As we practice Sabbath, anxious striving gives way to peaceful dependence, and the soul learns to rest in God.

Remembering Who We Are

The fourth commandment begins with a single word: remember. "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8, NKJV). That command is significant because remembering has always been central to spiritual formation. We become what we repeatedly remember, and we drift from what we repeatedly forget.

Throughout Scripture, God repeatedly calls His people to remember who He is, what He has done, and who they are in relationship to Him. The Sabbath serves exactly that purpose. Every week it invites us to step out of the noise of life and remember realities that are easily forgotten.

The Sabbath calls us to remember that God is our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Life is His gift, salvation is His work, and our future is secure in His hands. The Sabbath teaches us to remember who God is, whose we are, and who we are becoming through His grace.

Jesus Reveals the Heart of Sabbath

If the Sabbath reminds us who God is and whose we are, Jesus shows us what that relationship looks like in practice. Throughout His ministry, Jesus repeatedly taught, worshiped, healed, and served on the Sabbath. In doing so, He revealed not only how the Sabbath should be kept, but why it was given.

When questioned about His actions, Jesus declared, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath" (Mark 2:27, 28, NKJV). These words remind us that the Sabbath is both Christ's gift and Christ's domain. It is ultimately about a relationship with the LORD of the Sabbath Himself. It was designed for human flourishing and delight in God.

Jesus also revealed the Sabbath as a day of restoration. Time and again, He healed on the Sabbath, showing that God's desire is wholeness, freedom, and life. The Sabbath points beyond itself to His ongoing work of restoration in human lives.

At its deepest level, the Sabbath is about relationship. Jesus consistently used the Sabbath to draw people closer to God. He revealed that the heart of true Sabbath keeping is entering into communion with the One who gives life. His invitation still stands today: "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28, NKJV). The deepest rest of the Sabbath is found not merely in ceasing from labor, but in coming to Christ Himself.

Sabbath invites us to set aside distractions and return our focus to God. He revealed that Sabbath is an ongoing opportunity to enter more deeply into the life of God. And as we enter that relationship, the Spirit continues His work of shaping us into the likeness of Christ.

Preparation is not about perfection but about creating space to receive God's gift.

Preparing for Rest

The rhythm of worship and rest requires intentional preparation. Throughout Scripture, God's people were encouraged to prepare for the sacred hours of Sabbath so they could enter them with greater freedom and delight.

Preparation is not about perfection but about creating space to receive God's gift.

Three simple practices can help us enter more fully into the rhythm of worship and rest:

1. **Lay Down.** Before we can enter God's rest, we must lay down both our work and our worries.
2. **Look Up.** The Sabbath creates space for worship. It lifts our eyes from the demands of life and redirects our attention to the One who gives life. Through worship, we remember who God is and what He has done.
3. **Lean In.** Sabbath strengthens our relationship with God and deepens our connection with others. We worship together, encourage one another, share meals, serve, and enjoy the gift of Christian fellowship.

These simple practices help us enter more fully into God's gift of worship and rest.

The Sabbath as a Means of Grace

God describes the Sabbath as more than a memorial of creation. It is also a sign of His sanctifying work. He declared, "Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, . . . that you may know that I am the LORD who sanctifies you" (Exodus 31:13, NKJV). Centuries later, He repeated the same promise through Ezekiel: "Moreover I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and Me, that they might know that I am the LORD who sanctifies them" (Ezekiel 20:12, NKJV). The Sabbath reminds us that the God who created us is still at work within us.

Ellen G. White captures this beautifully when she writes that the Sabbath is a sign that "points to [God] as both the Creator and the Sanctifier.*

God does not say the Sabbath is a sign of our superiority or merit. It is "a sign between them and Me"—a sign of relationship, belonging, and dependence. Each Sabbath we step away from our labor and quietly confess a truth that is easy to forget: We are deeply dependent upon God.

Every Sabbath is an act of humility. We stop. We surrender. We acknowledge: I am not self-sustaining. I am not self-saving. I am not self-sanctifying. We enter these holy hours anticipating His grace and participating in His transforming work. This is one of the great insights of sanctified stewardship.

Stewardship is our partnership with God in the work of our sanctification. The Sabbath becomes one of the primary places where that partnership is practiced. It is not merely about remembering the Creator; it is about cooperating with the Sanctifier.

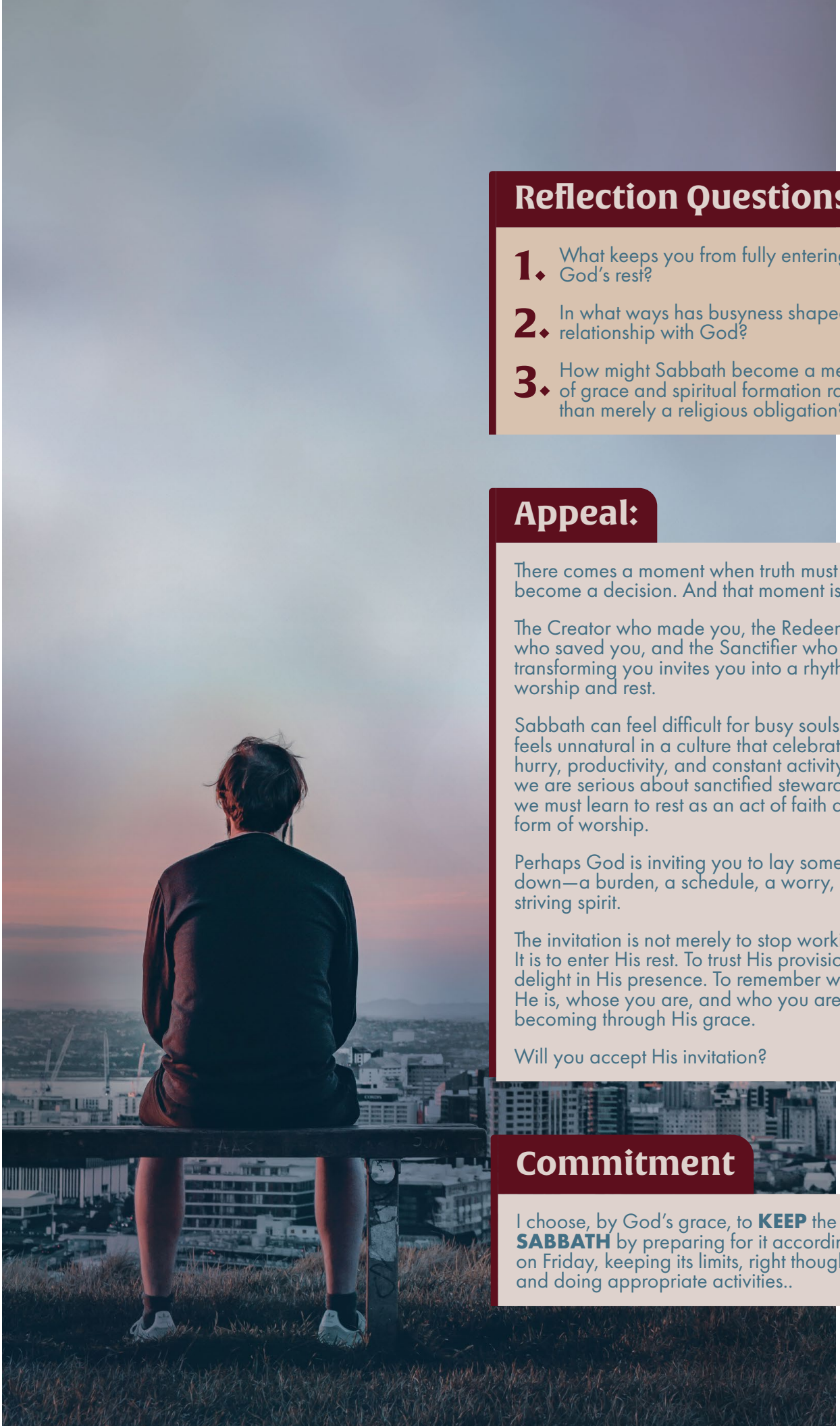
Week after week, God uses this holy rhythm to remind us of His abundant grace and our continual need of His sanctifying presence. It calls us back to grace, trust, identity, and relationship with Him. The Sabbath is not merely a day we keep; it is a sacred space where the Beloved invites us into partnership with the Sanctifier. And through that sacred rhythm, God continues His work of forming Christ within us.

A People Who Know How to Rest

The author of Hebrews speaks of a future Sabbath "rest for the people of God" (Hebrews 4:9, NKJV). Each weekly Sabbath is a glimpse of that coming rest—a foretaste of the wholeness, peace, and communion with God for which we were created.

We live in a restless world, yet every Sabbath whispers eternity into the present, calling us back to the assurance that we belong to God. The rhythm of worship and rest forms the soul as we learn to rest in God.

*Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages* (Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1898), 288.



Reflection Questions:

1. What keeps you from fully entering God's rest?
2. In what ways has busyness shaped your relationship with God?
3. How might Sabbath become a means of grace and spiritual formation rather than merely a religious obligation?

Appeal:

There comes a moment when truth must become a decision. And that moment is now.

The Creator who made you, the Redeemer who saved you, and the Sanctifier who is transforming you invites you into a rhythm of worship and rest.

Sabbath can feel difficult for busy souls. It feels unnatural in a culture that celebrates hurry, productivity, and constant activity. Yet if we are serious about sanctified stewardship, we must learn to rest as an act of faith and a form of worship.

Perhaps God is inviting you to lay something down—a burden, a schedule, a worry, or a striving spirit.

The invitation is not merely to stop working. It is to enter His rest. To trust His provision. To delight in His presence. To remember who He is, whose you are, and who you are becoming through His grace.

Will you accept His invitation?

Commitment

I choose, by God's grace, to **KEEP** the **SABBATH** by preparing for it accordingly on Friday, keeping its limits, right thoughts, and doing appropriate activities..



DAY 7

The Discipline of Tithing

Malachi 3:10

LEARNING TO PUT GOD FIRST

LISTEN TO THE SERMON

Years ago, a young couple sat at their kitchen table. Bills were stacked in one pile. Pay stubs rested in another. As they reviewed their finances, a tithe envelope sat quietly between them.

The husband looked at the numbers and said, "If we return this tithe, I don't know how we'll cover everything else."

His wife paused for a moment and replied, "I'd rather trust God and be short than keep it and be out of sync with Him."

Together they sealed the envelope.

The decision did not change their circumstances overnight. But it began changing them. Over time, their faith grew, their fear diminished, and their priorities shifted. Returning the tithe became more than a financial habit—it became a spiritual discipline that reminded them, again and again, that God came first.

That is the deeper purpose of tithing. Jesus said, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33, NKJV). Every disciple must eventually answer the question: "What comes first in my life?" That question reaches into every area of life—our relationships, our ambitions, our schedules, and yes, even our finances. Biblical tithing is one practical way we answer that question.

Many people think tithing is primarily a financial issue. Scripture presents it as something much deeper. Tithing is not primarily about money: It is about worship. It is about trust. It is about Lordship. Above all, it is about learning to put God first.

Throughout this series, we have discovered that stewardship is far more than managing resources. It is our partnership with God in the work of sanctification. Tithing belongs within that same work of spiritual formation.

The call to tithe is not rooted in God's need for money, but in His desire for our hearts, because where the heart goes, the life follows. God is not interested merely in changing our financial habits; He is forming our hearts.

Money has a unique way of revealing what we value, where we place our trust, and where we find security. Because of this, God uses the discipline of tithing to shape the inner life. Every return of the tithe becomes an opportunity to trust Him, honor Him, and place Him first.

The real question was never about ten percent. The real question is: Who comes first? Every act of returning the tithe asks the same question: Do I trust God enough to put Him first? How we answer those questions shapes far more than our finances. I shapes who we are becoming.

God Owns Everything

The psalmist declares: "The earth is the LORD's, and all its fullness, the world and those who dwell therein" (Psalm 24:1, NKJV).

Solomon expressed the practical response to that truth: "Honor the LORD with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your increase" (Proverbs 3:9, NKJV). Recognizing God's ownership naturally leads us to place Him first.

We live in a culture that prizes ownership and autonomy. Scripture tells a different story: God owns everything, and we are stewards of what He has entrusted to us. Tithe reminds us of that reality.

By returning the first portion to God, we acknowledge His rightful place in our lives. Each return reinforces a truth that shapes the soul: God is the Owner. We are His stewards. As David acknowledged, "All things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee" (1 Chronicles 29:14, KJV).

God's ownership rests not only upon creation but also upon redemption. Everything we possess—even life itself—comes to us through His gracious provision. Ellen G. White beautifully observes, "To the death of Christ we owe even this earthly life. . . . The cross of Calvary is stamped on every loaf."[1] Every blessing we enjoy bears the imprint of Calvary. Our response is not repayment—for that is impossible—but grateful worship expressed through faithful stewardship.

Tithing Is an Act of Trust

Once ownership is settled, the next question becomes obvious: Do I trust the Owner enough to return what belongs to Him? This is where tithing moves beyond stewardship and into the realm of faith.

Money often represents security and control. It is easy to trust what we can count and manage. Yet God invites His people to place their confidence not in their resources but in His faithfulness.

Then, through the prophet Malachi, God issued an extraordinary invitation: "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, . . . and try Me now in this, . . . if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing" (Malachi 3:10, NKJV). Few passages contain such a direct invitation to trust God—not merely with words, but with something tangible and deeply personal.

The story of the widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:8–16) illustrates this beautifully. During a famine, she had only enough flour and oil for one final meal. Yet when Elijah asked her to provide for him first, she chose faith over fear. The miracle did not begin when the barrel was full. The miracle began when she trusted God enough to let go of what she was holding.

The same principle remains true today. Tithing is not ultimately about percentages. It is about priorities. It is about believing that God can do more with what remains in His hands than we can do with everything held in our own. Every tithe returned is a declaration that God is my Provider. Over time, faith grows, fear loosens its grip, and the heart learns to trust God more deeply.

What we invest in, we value. What we value, we think about. What we think about, we pursue.

Tithing Reorders the Heart

Money has a remarkable ability to attach itself to the human heart. What we invest in, we value. What we value, we think about. What we think about, we pursue. For this reason, Jesus connected treasure and the heart so closely: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21, NKJV).

Notice the direction of Jesus' words. He says, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Our giving not only reveals our affections; it helps shape them. This is why tithing is such a powerful spiritual discipline. Tithing is not merely revealing the heart. It is training the heart.

Every time we return the first tenth, we make a deliberate decision about what matters most. We declare that God deserves the first place in our lives, not the leftovers. We place His kingdom ahead of our own desires and priorities.

Over time, what begins as discipline becomes delight as the heart learns to treasure what God treasures. Therefore, Jesus invites us: "Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven" (Matthew 6:20, NKJV). This is why Jesus spoke so often about money. The issue was never primarily economics. It was worship.

Money promises security, significance, and control, yet only God can satisfy the deepest needs of the human heart. Tithing pushes back against the illusion that life is found in possessions. It reminds us that our hope is not found in what we own but in the One who owns us.

In this way, tithing becomes a regular exercise in reordering our loves. It trains us to seek first the kingdom of God and align our priorities with His purposes. As we repeatedly put God first, He continues His work of forming Christ within us.

Tithing Forms the Steward

Ellen G. White beautifully captures God's purpose: "God planned the system of beneficence in order that man might become like his Creator, benevolent and unselfish in character."[2] Tithing is a spiritual discipline through which God forms the heart of those who faithfully return it.

What we repeatedly do, we eventually become. This is why stewardship belongs within the work of sanctification. As we faithfully return the tithe, we cooperate with God's ongoing work of shaping Christlike character.

Each time we return the tithe, we declare that God's purposes matter more than our preferences and His promises more than our fears. Over time, these repeated acts of faithfulness cultivate discipline and weaken self-sufficiency.

Through this simple discipline, the Holy Spirit reshapes priorities, reforms desires, and deepens dependence upon God. The heart gradually learns that security is not found in possessions but in the God who provides.

God often uses ordinary acts of obedience to accomplish extraordinary work in the soul. The discipline of returning the first tenth repeatedly reminds us that life is received, not possessed; stewarded, not owned.

Tithing forms as well as funds. It is not merely about resourcing the church. It is about reshaping the steward. As the steward is reshaped, the Holy Spirit forms more fully the character of Christ within us.

Practicing the Discipline

Like every spiritual discipline, tithing is not mastered by understanding alone. It is learned through faithful practice. The practice of returning the first tenth includes:

1. **Return First.** Throughout Scripture, the first portion belongs to God. Returning the first tenth is a practical way of declaring, "Lord, You are first in my life."
2. **Return Faithfully.** Tithing is not an occasional act of generosity but a consistent act of stewardship. Each return of the tithe strengthens our trust in God and deepens our commitment to His kingdom.
3. **Return Worshipfully.** Tithing should never become a cold financial transaction. It is an act of worship. The apostle Paul reminds us, "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). When we return the tithe, we acknowledge God's provision with joyful gratitude and loving obedience.

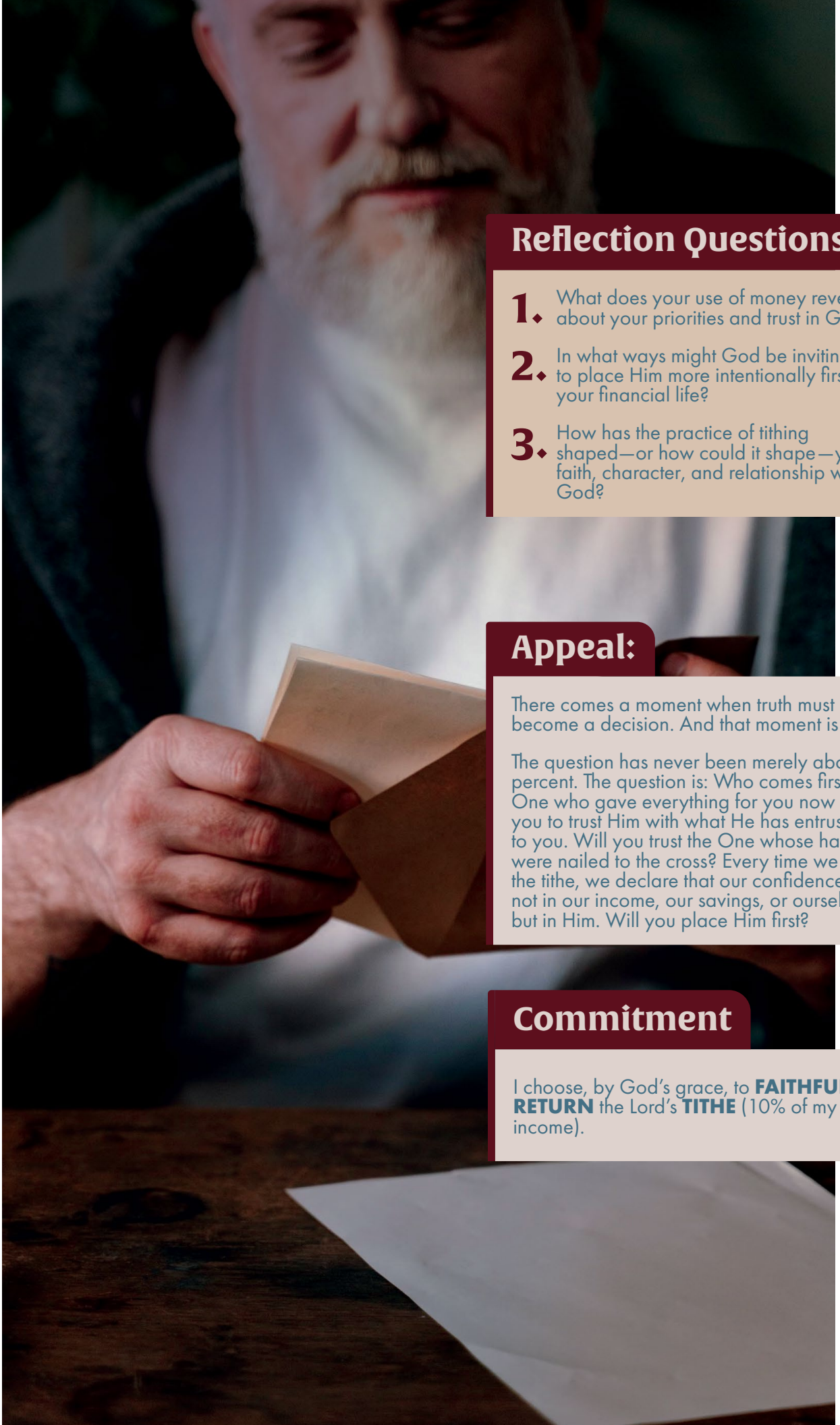
Through this repeated rhythm, God shapes the heart. What begins as stewardship becomes a lifelong practice of trusting, worshiping, and putting God first.

A People Who Put God First

Whenever God's people put Him first, their priorities begin to reflect His kingdom, and their lives begin to reflect His character.

Tithing is not the ceiling of generosity but the floor of faithfulness. Through this discipline, God teaches us to put Him first. The discipline of tithing forms the heart by teaching us to put God first. And as we repeatedly place Him first, the Holy Spirit forms within us the character of Christ.

[1] 1 Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages* (Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1898), 660.
[2] 2 Ellen G. White, *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 9 (Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1909), 255.



Reflection Questions:

1. What does your use of money reveal about your priorities and trust in God?
2. In what ways might God be inviting you to place Him more intentionally first in your financial life?
3. How has the practice of tithing shaped—or how could it shape—your faith, character, and relationship with God?

Appeal:

There comes a moment when truth must become a decision. And that moment is now.

The question has never been merely about ten percent. The question is: Who comes first? The One who gave everything for you now asks you to trust Him with what He has entrusted to you. Will you trust the One whose hands were nailed to the cross? Every time we return the tithe, we declare that our confidence is not in our income, our savings, or ourselves, but in Him. Will you place Him first?

Commitment

I choose, by God's grace, to **FAITHFULLY RETURN** the Lord's **TITHE** (10% of my income).



DAY 8

The Discipline of Offering

Exodus 25:2

Aligning Our Hearts with God's Mission

LISTEN TO THE SERMON

When God instructed Moses to build the sanctuary, He could have simply commanded the people to bring their gifts. Instead, He added an unexpected condition: The offering was to come only from those whose hearts were willing. From the beginning, God desired more than gold and silver. He desired willing hearts.

This is one of Scripture's first great lessons about offering. God never desired gifts separated from the giver. The offering was to be the outward expression of an inward surrender. Before God received what was in their hands, He desired what was in their hearts.

Throughout Scripture, this pattern remains unchanged. The Macedonian believers "first gave themselves to the Lord" before giving their material gifts (2 Corinthians 8:5, NKJV). Their generosity flowed from hearts already surrendered to God. As Paul later reminds us, "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Ultimately, this willing spirit reflects the very heart of God: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son" (John 3:16). Long before we ever brought an offering to Him, He gave Himself for us. Ellen G. White beautifully captures this truth: "To the death of Christ we owe even this earthly life. . . . The cross of Calvary is stamped on every loaf."[1] Every blessing bears the imprint of Calvary. Our offerings are never attempts to repay God—that is impossible—but grateful responses to His immeasurable grace. This reveals the unique role of offerings in the Christian life. Tithing teaches us to put God first. Offering teaches us to reflect the character of the God who gives.

Stewardship is our partnership with God in the work of sanctification. One way He accomplishes that work is by inviting us to participate in His mission through willing, grateful, and generous giving. As we repeatedly offer ourselves—and our resources—to Him, the Holy Spirit reshapes our hearts into the likeness of Christ.

Offering is never merely about meeting a need. It is about becoming people whose hearts reflect the heart of God.

A Willing Heart Joins God's Mission

The offering God desires has always begun with a surrendered heart. Once we have given ourselves to God, our offerings become joyful expressions of lives already placed in His hands.

The apostle Paul writes: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7, ESV). Notice that Paul's emphasis is not first on the amount given, but on the spirit in which it is given. God is not seeking reluctant gifts extracted through pressure or guilt. He delights in hearts that freely and joyfully participate in His work.

Every offering tells a story—not merely about what we support, but about what we value. It declares that God's work has become our work. Offering connects our lives and resources to God's redemptive work. Though we may never personally reach every community or nation, our offerings allow us to participate in ministries that extend far beyond our individual influence.

As our resources become connected to God's work, our hearts become increasingly connected to it as well. Giving is no longer merely money leaving our hands. It is love flowing through surrendered hearts into the lives of others.

Offering Reorders the Heart

When it comes to offering, the most important question is not, "How much am I giving?" but "What am I investing in?"

Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). Notice the direction of His words. He does not say that our treasure follows our heart. He says that our heart follows our treasure. What we invest in, we come to value.

This is one of the reasons offering is such a powerful spiritual discipline. As we invest in God's work, our hearts become increasingly connected to what matters to Him. The gospel becomes more precious, His kingdom more personal, and the lives of others more significant.

Giving changes what we notice. We begin to see needs and opportunities to bless that we once overlooked. What we repeatedly invest in gradually becomes what we genuinely value. Over time, our hearts become increasingly aligned

with God's heart. What begins as an offering becomes an investment in eternity.

Offering reshapes our loves. As we faithfully practice this discipline, the Holy Spirit teaches us to see our resources not merely as tools for our own comfort, but as instruments through which God's generosity flows to others. In learning to give, we gradually learn to love what God loves.

Offering Forms the Giver

The Macedonian believers beautifully illustrate the transforming power of generous giving. Though experiencing severe trials and deep poverty, "they first gave themselves to the Lord" (2 Corinthians 8:5, NKJV) before giving their material gifts. Their generosity flowed from hearts already surrendered to Christ.

Ellen G. White expresses this same principle clearly: "The heart belongs to Jesus. . . . All that you are, all the ability you possess, comes from God a sacred trust, to be rendered back to Him again in a willing, holy offering."[2] The greatest offering God ultimately desires is not merely what we place in His hands, but Christlike lives shaped by His transforming grace.

Every spiritual discipline invites us to participate more deeply in the life of Christ—and in doing so, it shapes the person we are becoming. Prayer forms dependence. Scripture forms the mind. Service forms the servant. Tithing forms the steward. Offering forms the giver.

What begins as an offering becomes a way of life. Generosity ceases to be something we do and becomes who we are. While offerings advance God's work, they also shape the one who gives. God uses regular acts of generous giving to form Christlike character within us. Over time, open hearts produce open hands. Each act of giving loosens the grip of self-interest and teaches us the freedom of self-giving love.

Jesus came not to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many. The Father gave His Son, and the Son gave His life. The kingdom advances through self-giving love.

As we practice offering, we are drawn into that same pattern. We discover that giving is not merely something God asks of us, but something He desires for us. In giving, we become more like Him. Resources become less like possessions to protect and more like sacred trusts through which God blesses others. Our relationship with money begins to change.

Those who practice this discipline discover the truth of Jesus' words: "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). The joy of giving is found not merely in what leaves our hands, but in what God does within our hearts.

Through regular and systematic giving, God trains the heart to move from ownership to stewardship, from accumulation to blessing, and from self-interest to self-giving love. Offering forms the giver. As the giver is formed, the generous character of Christ becomes increasingly visible in His disciple.

Through this repeated rhythm of giving willingly, proportionally, sacrificially, and joyfully, God continues His work of shaping the heart.

Practicing the Discipline

Like every spiritual discipline, offering is not learned merely by understanding it. It is learned through faithful practice. This can be done through the following:

1. **Give Willingly.** True generosity grows from hearts surrendered to God. Every offering becomes an opportunity to express grateful love through willing obedience. King David beautifully exemplified this spirit when he prayed, "In the uprightness of my heart I have willingly offered all these things" (1 Chronicles 29:17, NKJV).
2. **Give Proportionally.** Scripture teaches that our offerings should reflect God's blessings in our lives: "Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God" (Deuteronomy 16:17, NKJV). Proportional giving reminds us that every blessing comes from God and every offering responds with gratitude.
3. **Give Sacrificially.** Biblical giving is measured not by the size of the gift but by the spirit in which it is given. Jesus commended the widow whose offering was small in amount but great in sacrifice (Luke 21:1–4). True generosity asks not, "What can I spare?" but, "How can I honor God with what He has entrusted to me?"
4. **Give Joyfully.** Giving becomes more than an obligation—it becomes a joy. "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). As we participate in God's work, we discover the joy of joining Him in blessing others.

Through this repeated rhythm of giving willingly, proportionally, sacrificially, and joyfully, God continues His work of shaping the heart. What begins as an offering becomes an expression of worship, a partnership in God's work, and a pathway of spiritual formation.

A Generous People

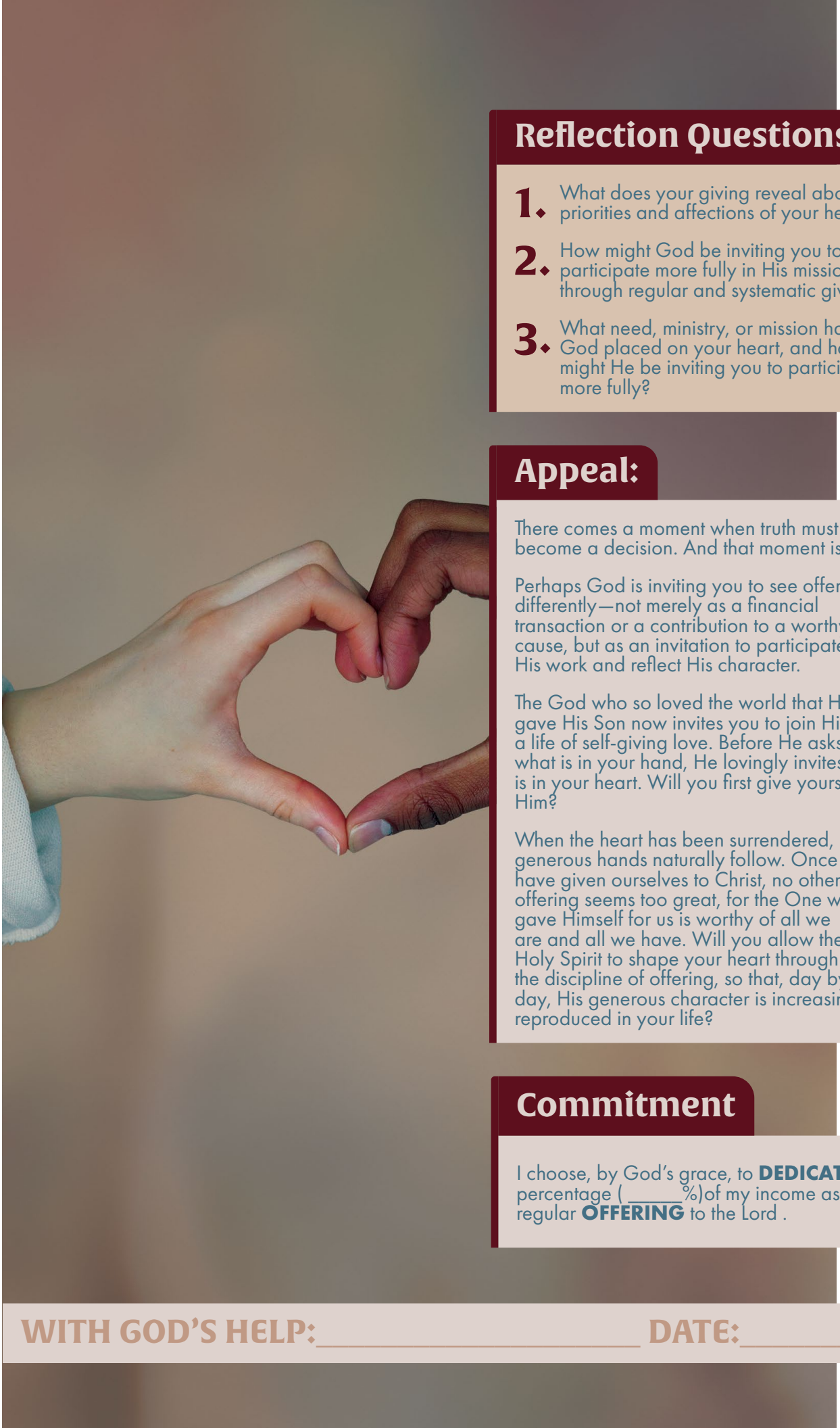
Imagine a people whose hearts are increasingly aligned with the heart of God. A people who willingly give themselves to Christ and, therefore, joyfully give their resources to His work. A people who no longer see their possessions merely as things to accumulate, but as sacred trusts through which God blesses others and advances His kingdom.

Throughout Scripture, whenever God's people clearly saw God's grace and embraced His purposes, generosity overflowed. Under Moses, they gave until they had to be told to stop. Under David, they rejoiced because they had offered willingly with loyal hearts. Their generosity did not arise from pressure but from hearts captivated by God's presence and purpose.

Perhaps our greatest challenge today is not that we have less to give, but that our hearts have become distracted by competing loves and disconnected from the greatness of God's work. When our hearts are recaptured by His grace, generosity ceases to feel like loss and becomes joyful participation in His purposes. Such people become a powerful witness.

Offering does more than support God's work. It aligns our hearts with His heart, our lives with His purposes, and our character with the character of Christ. We become Christlike as we learn to give like Christ.

[1] Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages* (Pacific Press Pub. Assn., 1898), 660.
[2] Ellen G. White, *Messages to Young People* (Review and Herald Pub. Assn., 1930), 407.



Reflection Questions:

1. What does your giving reveal about the priorities and affections of your heart?
2. How might God be inviting you to participate more fully in His mission through regular and systematic giving?
3. What need, ministry, or mission has God placed on your heart, and how might He be inviting you to participate more fully?

Appeal:

There comes a moment when truth must become a decision. And that moment is now.

Perhaps God is inviting you to see offering differently—not merely as a financial transaction or a contribution to a worthy cause, but as an invitation to participate in His work and reflect His character.

The God who so loved the world that He gave His Son now invites you to join Him in a life of self-giving love. Before He asks for what is in your hand, He lovingly invites what is in your heart. Will you first give yourself to Him?

When the heart has been surrendered, generous hands naturally follow. Once we have given ourselves to Christ, no other offering seems too great, for the One who gave Himself for us is worthy of all we are and all we have. Will you allow the Holy Spirit to shape your heart through the discipline of offering, so that, day by day, His generous character is increasingly reproduced in your life?

Commitment

I choose, by God's grace, to **DEDICATE** a percentage (_____%)of my income as a regular **OFFERING** to the Lord .

WITH GOD'S HELP:_____ **DATE:**_____

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