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Who Wants To Be A Faithful Steward?



Peace Lutheran Church, Wall Lake.

I won a million dollars at Wall Lake! I correctly answered a number of stewardship questions directed to me by Pastor Roger Carlisle. What is your response to some of the stewardship questions? Pick the best answer.

1. What is God the owner of? a) some things; b) nothing; c) everything; d) the things I don't want.

2. What is "stewardship" about? a) money; b) all my possessions; c) all my life; d) nothing.

3. How often did Jesus talk about money and possession? a) never—He had more important things to talk about; b) hardly ever and only to His disciples; c) sometimes—when He ran out of other things to talk about; d) many times.

4. Which is the best reason for giving to my church? a) the church budget needs the money; b) others are watching; c) to earn my eternal salvation; d) because Christ gave everything to me.

5. Which of the following are Biblical examples of stewardship? a) Abel gives the first fruits of his flock; b) the widow gives her mites; c) the Macedonians give to a special offering for the church in Jerusalem; d) all of the above.

6. Which of the following responses addresses the objection of those hesitant to make a financial commitment? a) it's nobody else's business; b) commitments are optional; c) commitments are only for temporal matters; d) commitments reflect our heart and our faith life.

7. When is stewardship demonstrated in the life of the church? a) when the offering is taken; b) when the choir sings; c) when the teacher joins the children in the Sunday school classroom; d) all of the above.

8. Mature Christians understand the importance of giving for which of the following reasons: a) we share with God's people who are in need; b) we understand

what the Lord's will is for us; c) we reach the lost and support outreach efforts; d) all of the above.

9. In what way should every child of God respond in giving? a) equally; b) sacrificially; c) occasionally; d) responsibly.

10. When we are faithful stewards of God's gifts, what is the greatest blessing we receive? a) we become an instant millionaire; b) we are proud of the work we have done; c) we are a blessing to others and enjoy an intimate fellowship with our God; d) we become cheerful givers.

Even though I didn't really win any money, it was an interactive way to teach stewardship to the members of Peace Lutheran Church. A more traditional message on the lavish love of God was part of the commitment process on the following Sunday. This is the second year that Peace Lutheran has shared a stewardship emphasis in the Easter season. Last year Peace participated in the "Consecrated Stewards" process. This year they adapted the "Excel in the Grace of Giving" materials from Stewardship Advisors.

Stewardship is not a game that is occasionally played. It is an intentional activity of the church. It is a response to God's grace in Jesus Christ. It is part of the worship life of the Christian. It is part of the life-long journey of discipleship.

Bonus question: How can we be faithful stewards together in Iowa District West? a) generously supporting the work of the local congregation; b) giving a "first fruit" percentage toward our partnerships in District and Synod; c) responding to special opportunities—church work scholarships, mission adoptions, etc.; d) all of the above.

Information on "Consecrated Stewards," "Excel in the Grace of Giving;" "Faith Aflame: 360 Degrees" and other stewardship education processes is available through the District office.



(By the way, the best answers are: 1c; 2c; 3d; 4d; 5d; 6d; 7d; 8d; 9b; 10c; bonus "d")