

Faithful & Wise Managers
The values of a Biblical Manager.

FAITHFUL & WISE MANAGERS

6 Week series about learning to manage the inheritance or responsibility that God has given you.

KEY TEXT:

Luke 12:42 (NIV)⁴² The Lord answered, "Who then is the <u>faithful</u> and wise **manager**, whom the master puts in charge of his servants to give them their food allowance at the proper time?

So 'managing' is about being a good steward - effectively **governing** a household for order & growth

LESSONS SO FAR:

- Management is stewardship which is a crucial Kingdom skill of leadership - future leadership is determined by current management.
- 2. The management of our responsibilities is always being held to account and determines our future inheritance.
- 3. We manage the call of God in our lives by managing expectations, obedience and motives.

PART 4: THE VALUES OF A BIBLICAL MANAGER

BIG IDEA: The VALUES of a Biblical Manager must reflect the heart of the one they are managing for

Galatians 4:2 (NIV) "The heir is subject to guardians and trustees [managers] until the time set by his father."

Here a manager is given authority from a father to prepare his son until he is ready for his inheritance

 The manager's job is not to impart his own values but the values of the Father he represents When we manage the call of God in our lives, or the responsibilities God has given us, we do it recognising that we are REPRESENTING the Father.

1 Peter 4:11 (NIV) "If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God."

There is a real sense that as a manager you REPRESENT the One you are managing on behalf of.

When we manage our responsibilities in the Kingdom they should be done in a way that reflects the values of the one who gave us the responsibility

Colossians 3:23 (NIV) "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters"

So as Biblical Managers it is not just the OUTCOME that is important but the WAY that we manage.

PRACTICAL MANAGEMENT

Illust: When Peter teaches us how to shepherd people well he emphasizes the WAY (or VALUES) and not just the outcome:

1 Peter 5:2-4 (NIV)² Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; ³ not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

The OUTCOME of shepherding is people well cared for, well fed and safe. But that is not what Peter emphasizes.

WHAT ARE THOSE VALUES OF PASTORS WHO MANAGE A FLOCK ON JESUS' BEHALF?

- Willingness of heart NOT duty bound
- Eagerness to serve NOT eager for financial gain
- Examples to the flock NOT controlling the flock

He finishes off by reminding them that the Chief Shepherd will return to whom we must give an account.

1 Peter 5:4 (NIV) And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

In other words we shepherd in a way that is shaped by the knowledge that the Chief Shepherd is returning to whom we must give an account

THE VALUES OF MANAGEMENT MUST BE SHAPED BY THE ONE WHO HAS GIVEN THE AUTHORITY TO MANAGE

SO MANAGE IN A WAY THAT REPRESENTS GOD'S HEART

THE WAY OF MANAGEMENT IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE WHAT OF MANAGEMENT

ONE QUESTION TO PONDER:

Consider your areas of responsibility and focus not just on what is expected but how you are expected to do it:

 Does your management style reflect the heart of God?

For more notes visit:

<u>https://outlookchurch.co.za/mustardseedleadershi</u>
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