

Stewardship — Excerpts from a Restoration Classic: “The Quiet Miracle” by Jo Montgomery

Page 316:

“Stewardship over time, talents, and material possessions . . . **We’ve left out the most important one of all. We’re stewards over the gospel, Christ’s Church.** If we don’t share it, if we don’t take it to other people who need it as much as we do, then we’re falling down on the biggest part of our job. We don’t deserve to have the fullness of the gospel if we don’t carry it to the rest of the world.”



Page 313:

“Whenever Jesus talked about the **kingdom of God** [in the scriptures] he was indirectly referring to the subject of **stewardship**. But probably the best known place where he discussed it is in the parable of the talents . . . If we really acknowledge God as creator and owner of the universe, then we must also acknowledge that we own nothing, that we merely possess the things that God gives us. In the largest possible sense, then, **we are stewards over everything.**”

Pages 314-316:

“**Parents are stewards over their children**, then. We care for their bodies and we care for their minds. And we must bring them up in God’s ways.”

“**A wife is a steward to her husband’s well-being . . . and a husband to his wife’s.**”

“All of us are stewards over **love** . . . stewards over all our personal relationships, friendship for example, and the trust people place in us.”

“The stewardship of the **home** . . . seeing to it that we build a good one.”

“And over our **jobs**. Doing our best for the guy who pays the bills.”

“Over our **health**, too.”

“**Conservation** is a kind of stewardship then . . . like soil conservation in farming and the way we use our natural resources of forests and minerals and water power. It all ties into the package. Wise development and careful management of our natural resources so we don’t fritter them away uselessly.”

“How about stewardship in **politics**? It’s up to all of us to make sure we get good government at all levels.”

“Don’t forget **education** . . . we have to consider ourselves stewards over our own minds and whatever natural talents we happen to have. We should improve ourselves all we can and help others to do the same.”

“And **money**. How we earn it and what we do with it after we get it.”

“**Full compliance with the financial law.** Sometimes we overemphasize the importance of the financial law in the plan of stewardship...it is really only one part of the over-all plan. If we are really dedicated stewards we will want to obey it. If we aren’t good stewards in all the other things we’ve named, mere obedience to the financial law won’t help much. It would simply be lip service to the ideal of stewardship.”

“. . . and **time** . . . we must learn to budget our time and energy so that we can do all the other things . . . it doesn’t do much good if we talk about all the things we should do and then goof off and never have time to do them.”

“There’s another aspect of stewardship that we should consider. There’s the matter of **agency**. We can be good or bad stewards. Even after we know the extent and importance of stewardship we have the power to choose what we want to do with it.”

Page 324:

“**What does it really mean to be Zion? How do you get that way?**” “**Through stewardship** . . . how else?”

“Complete surrender to God and His way of life. In the Bible John says, ‘*Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.*’ Individually, we must be reborn, become new men in Christ. This means stewardship in everything . . . not just in some things but in everything. **Only people who are truly consecrated stewards can be called Zion.**”

Page 326:

“. . . more than just an intellectual decision that we should be good stewards and obey God’s laws. **It’s a condition of the heart.**”

“But we don’t have to do it alone. When we get to the end of our rope we always find ourselves at the foot of the cross.”

**“I am with you always . . .
Love one another,
as I have loved you.”**