Stewardship – Partners in the Gospel

Intro Question

When you hear the word ‘stewardship’, what comes to mind?

Exploring the passage

Read Luke 12:13–21

1. What was the rich fool's mistake? What do you think Jesus means by being “rich towards God”?

2. What are the similarities and differences between the greed and anxiety of Jesus' day and the attitudes towards wealth and security we see in our society today?

Read Luke 12:22–30.

3. Why do you think Jesus moves from warning against greed to addressing anxiety? How might these two things be connected?

4. What is Jesus teaching us through the examples of the ravens and lilies? How might this challenge the way we think about our possessions and God's provision?

Read Luke 12:30-34

5. What does it mean to “seek his kingdom” in everyday life, and how might that reshape our priorities?

6. Jesus reminds his disciples of their Father's generosity before calling them to give generously. How should our experience of God's generosity shape the way we steward what we have?

7. Jesus says, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” What does this reveal about the relationship between our possessions and our hearts?

8. How might practising generosity be an act of resistance against the pressures of our consumer culture? What might this look like practically?

Stewardship – Partners in the Gospel

Philippians 1:1-14; Philippians 4:15-18

Intro Question

When has someone been particularly generous towards you? What did they give you and what difference did it make?

Exploring the passage

Read Philippians 1:1-8

1. What do you notice about Paul's relationship with the believers in Philippi?

2. What brings Paul joy?

3. What do you think their partnership in the gospel involved (See Philippians 4:15-18 also)?

4. What does Paul express confidence in (v6)? How might this encourage us as we participate in God's mission?

5. What might Paul mean that the Philippians "share in God's grace with me"? Does this bring new light on your understanding of Christian partnership?

Read Philippians 1:9-14

6. What stands out to you in Paul's prayer (v9-11)?

7. How have Paul's chains advanced the gospel? What might God be able to do in your situation?

Read Philippians 4:15-18

8. Paul uses the language of accounting in v17. What do you think he means by saying their generosity is credited to their account? What does this tell us about how God views our generosity?

9. Where do you see opportunities to actively partner in the gospel through financial giving, prayer, or proclamation this week?