

From Living for Giving: A Wesleyan View of Stewardship,
by Bishop Kenneth L. Carder

“Stewardship is a way of living in the world as God intends and as God in Christ through the Holy Spirit makes possible.”

Stewardship is “a way of living in the world in response to God’s grace. . .”

“A steward is one who is entrusted with receiving, cultivating, managing, using, preserving and distributing that which belongs to another.”

“Christian stewardship is nothing less than gratefully receiving and generously sharing Grace, God’s loving and transforming presence in Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.”

“Stewardship is a way of being in the world that reflects God’s love and purpose.”

“Stewardship, then, involves all that we are and all that we have. It is openness to receiving God’s mysterious presence and transforming power. It is **being** all that we were created to be; and giving ourselves, all that we are and all that we have, to God’s present and coming reign in Jesus Christ: a reign of compassion, justice, generosity and joy.”

“Living in response to grace is to see everything as a generous gift from God and treating all resources – money, abilities, time, relationships, education, life and the world itself – as a sacred trust to be humbly and gratefully received and generously used in accordance with God’s good purposes.”

“For Wesley, stewardship is an indispensable component of holiness of heart and life and a key to Methodism being a vital faith, having the power of authentic faith. Stewardship is, therefore, an expression and means of the manifold grace of God!”

“This is truly astounding! God is the Giver! God is the Gift! And God empowers us to be givers and gifts to others! Being ‘a good steward of the manifold grace of God’ is our calling as human beings, and God’s grace enables us to fulfill that calling.”