



# *Stewardship - A Fresh Perspective*

***Dr. Mansfield Edwards, President***

**THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S**

A hand is shown from the bottom, cupping a small globe of the Earth. The globe is surrounded by a city skyline with various skyscrapers and buildings. In the sky above the globe, there are several hot air balloons of different colors. The background is a bright, clear blue sky with some light clouds.

**and everything in it,  
the world and all who live in it”**

*Psalm 24:1*

THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S....  
Ps. 24:1

**This  
establishes  
God's  
ownership**





**C. S. Lewis' perspective on stewardship**

**“Every faculty you have your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment is given you by God.**



**If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service, you could not give Him anything that was not His own already.” C. S. Lewis – *Mere Christianity*.**

# 4 Biblical Stewardship Principles

**Ownership**



**Responsibility**



**Accountability**



**Reward**





# Ownership

1

Genesis 1:3  
God created light

*Where was man?*



**Ownership**

2

**Genesis 1:6-8**

**God created the sky**

*Where was man?*





## Ownership

3

**Genesis 1:11**  
**God created**  
**dry land,**  
**seas, plants**  
**and trees**

*Where was man?*



**Ownership**

4

**Genesis 1:14-18**  
**God created the sun,  
moon and stars.**

*Where was man?*



Ownership

5

Genesis 1:20-22

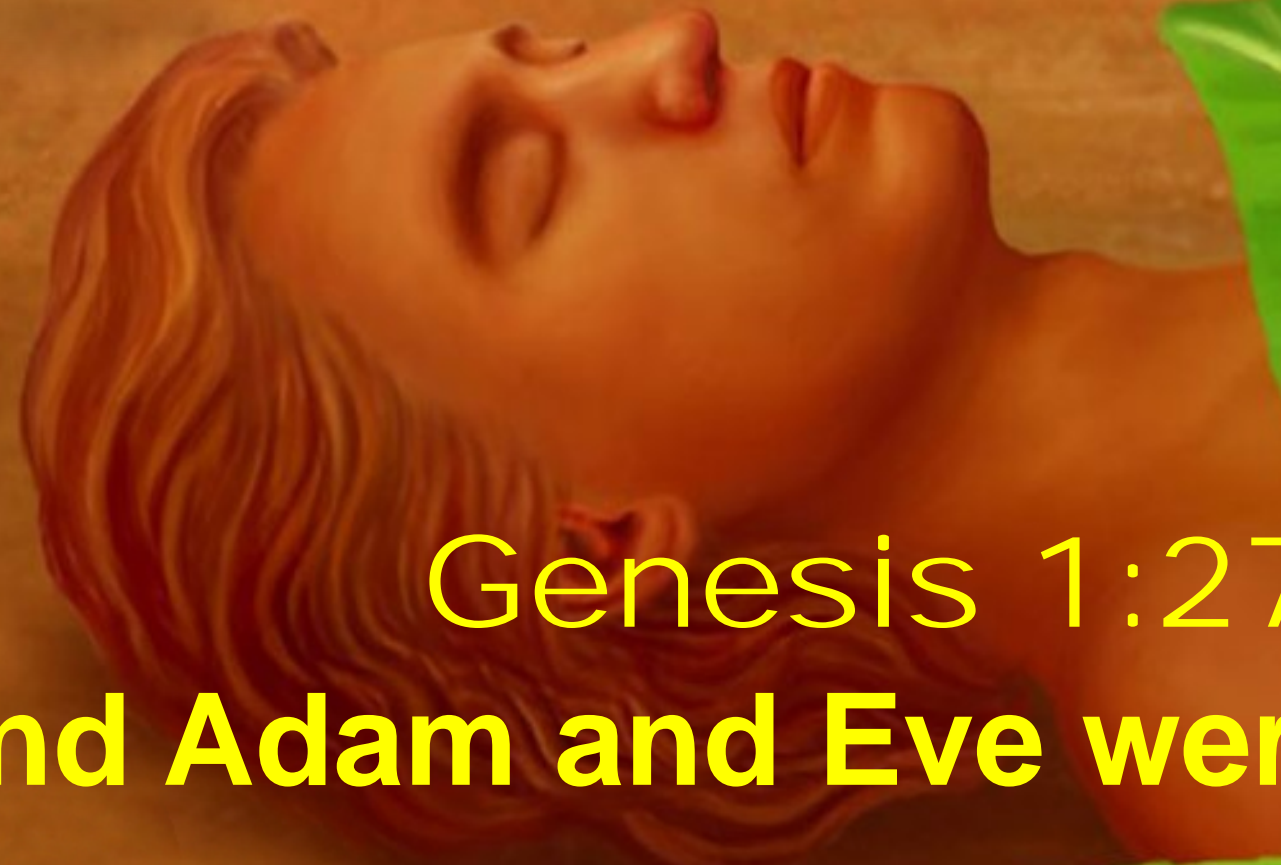
God created creatures of the sea,  
creatures that fly and animals

*Where was man?*



# Ownership

6



Genesis 1:27

**And Adam and Eve were created**





## **Ownership**

**A disturbing philosophy:**

**Deuteronomy 8:17 “My power and strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me”.**

**More appropriate philosophy:**

**Deuteronomy 8:18 “Remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth”.**



## Responsibility

**“Although God gives us all things richly to enjoy, nothing is ours. Nothing really belongs to us. God owns everything. We are responsible for how we treat it and what we do with it.**



## **Responsibility**

**While we complain about our rights here on earth, the Bible constantly asks, what about our responsibilities? Owners have rights; stewards have responsibilities”**



**Responsibility**

**As Stewardship Leaders:**

- **We are responsible to help others not to forget who is the owner**
- **Know what our responsibilities are as stewards of time, gifts, talents and possessions.**





## **Accountability**

**A steward is one who manages the possessions of another. We are stewards of the time, resources, opportunities and abilities that God has entrusted to us.**



## **Accountability**

**God holds us accountable for how we manage what He puts to our care.**

**In Matthew  
25:14-30, the  
parable of the  
talents.**

**The rightful  
owner will  
require an  
account of our  
stewardship.**



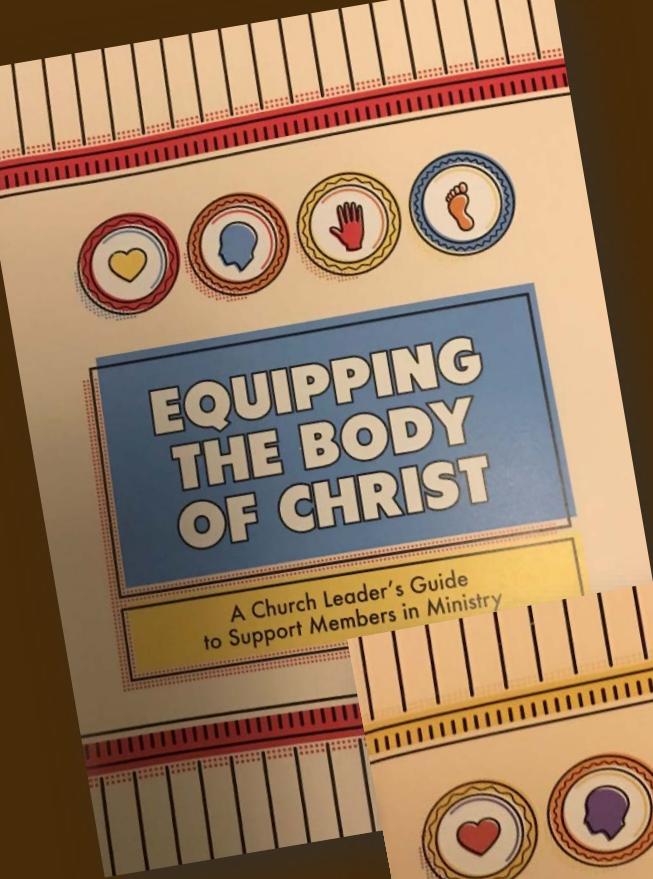


## Reward

**Colossians 3: 23-24**

**“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart as working for the Lord, not for men since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving”.**

**God’s desire is to say, “Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful...” Matthew 25:21**

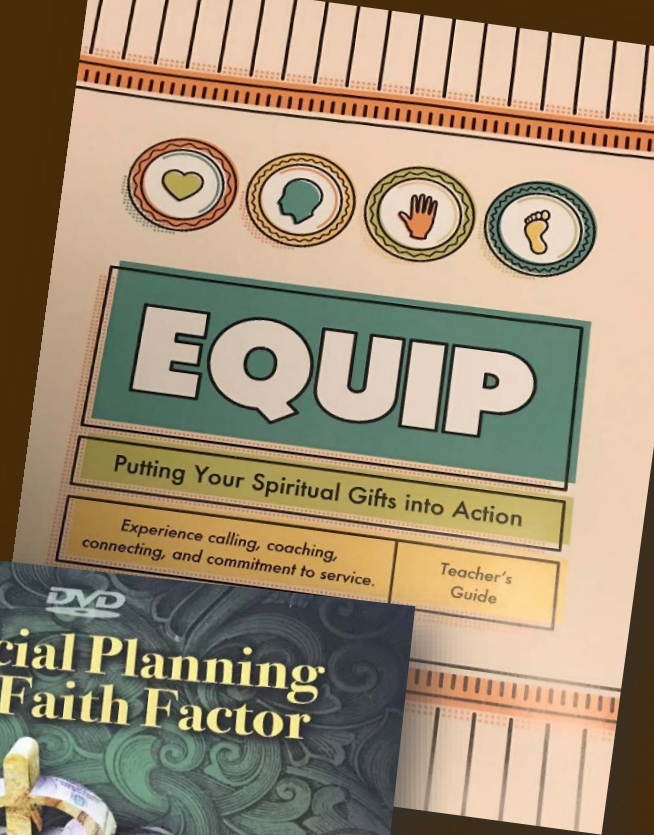


**EQUIPPING THE BODY OF CHRIST**  
A Church Leader's Guide to Support Members in Ministry

Icons: Heart, Brain, Hand, Foot

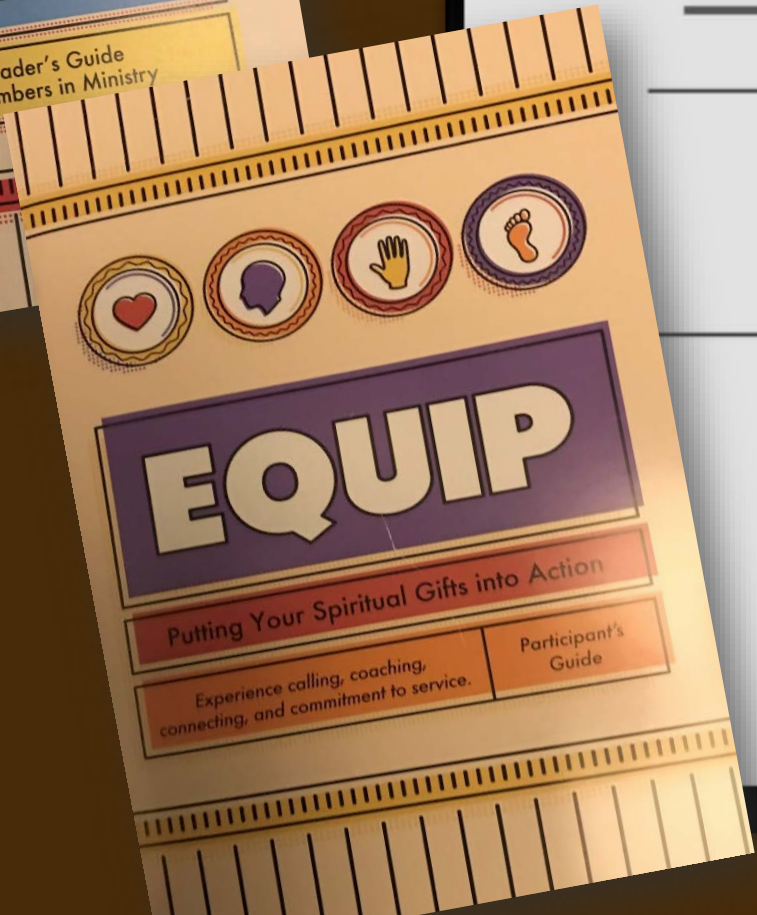


**SPIRITUAL GIFTS**  
— **EQUIP** —  
**CALLED TO SERVE**



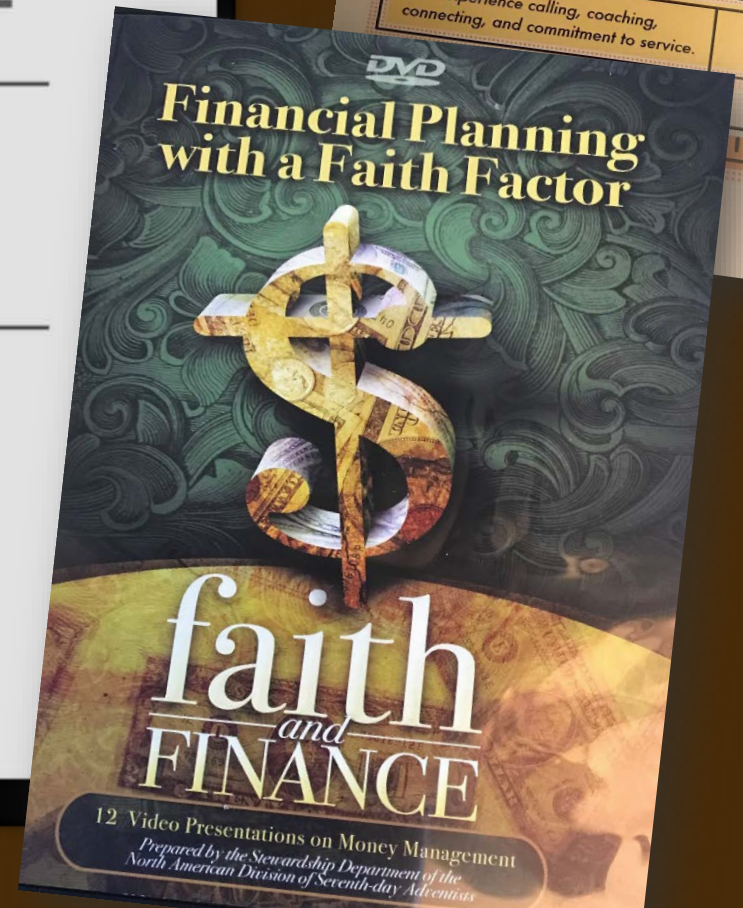
**EQUIP**  
Putting Your Spiritual Gifts into Action  
Experience calling, coaching, connecting, and commitment to service.  
Teacher's Guide

Icons: Heart, Brain, Hand, Foot




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Participant's Guide

Icons: Heart, Brain, Hand, Foot



**Financial Planning with a Faith Factor**  
DVD  
**faith and FINANCE**  
12 Video Presentations on Money Management  
Prepared by the Stewardship Department of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists



# **Resources Will Be Available to Stewardship Leaders**

- 1. Stewardship of Spiritual Talents and Gifts (Survey & videos)**
- 2. Promotional Resources (Offertory Readings)**
- 3. Stewardship of Time (Seminar materials)**
- 4. Stewardship of Financial Resources (Faith & Finance videos)**

# Resources Will Be Available to Stewardship Leaders

5. Stewardship Sermons (New ones posted each month)
6. Stewardship: Frequently asked questions, e.g.:
  - a. Where is the storehouse?
  - b. Can the tithes be redirected to other uses?
  - c. What should happen if the tithes is sent to the NAD/GC or independent ministry?