

The Five T's of Stewardship

Temple

I Corinthians 6:19-20

"I will lose ___ pounds/kg this year"

"I will exercise ___ times a week"

"I will eat less ___ and more ___."

Stewardship encompasses the ideas of caring for all of creation, economic management, and the inclusiveness of the entire world within the family or household of God.

All dealing with the body - What is the place of the body to a believer?

Many today worship the body – spend millions to improve it.

Ancient Greeks (time of Christ) hated it.

Greek proverb – "the body is a tomb"

Epictetus "I am a poor soul shackled in a corpse"

Both are wrong and lead to extremes

Either – I will mortify the body or I will indulge it with pleasure.

What does the Bible teach?

Corinth – center for open and unbridled immorality,

Temple of Aphrodite – up to 1000 temple prostitutes

To "corinthianize" meant to practice sexual immorality.

To this church plagued with many problems Paul explained the body

I. A Reminder ---- Don't you know/realize

The body was made by God –

Genesis 1:26-27 Made in the image of God

Not looking like but containing the essentials of God

Psalms 139: 13-16

Job 10:8, 11

God knew before your parents – color of your hair, eyes, height

He even knew – deformities – Nick V. No arm, legs – no Limit

Our bodies are parts of Christ – **I Corinthians 6:15**

II. A Revelation --- your body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit who lives in you

Not the temple like Aphrodite's temple for immorality but for morality

Where God can dwell –

John 14:7 He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you.

John 14:23 Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my word, and my Father will ... and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him and dwell with him."

Temple – where God dwells

- where men come to meet with Him

- where we worship and serve Him

III. A Receiver / steward– Given to you by God

God gave us the body

But it has weaknesses

– Jesus said the spirit is willing but the body is weak.

Weakness are mainly twisted virtues

We need food – but we eat too much of the wrong kind

We are created to have sex – but only in the limits of marriage

Today – Just do it generation says God made it to use

Ill – father with children in forest – gathers wood

Builds fire – but not to be taken from pit.

We are created to enjoy – music, art, beauty, pleasure

But not to be ruled by them

I Corinthians 6:12 – we are not to be slaves

I Corinthians 10:23 – not everything is beneficial

IV. A Retainer - you belong to God

for God purchased you with a high price.

Christ came to earth and took on a human body

Philippians 2: 6-8 From form of God to human form

He paid the price for our sins –

1 Corinthians 7:23 You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of men.

1 Timothy 2:6 Who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

Galatians 3:13-15 But Christ has rescued us from the curse pronounced by the law.

When he was hung on the cross, he took upon himself the curse for our wrongdoing.

For it is written in the Scriptures, "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."

Through Christ Jesus, God has blessed the Gentiles with the same blessing he

promised to Abraham, so that we who are believers might receive the

promised Holy Spirit through faith.

You belong to Him – body and soul

V. The Resolution – so you must honor God with your body

A. Dedicate your bodies to God

Romans 12:1-2 And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

“Commit your body to God. Any change in any area of your life begins with your physical body. Why? Because your body affects your behavior, and every change in your life requires energy. The reason most people never change is that they are too tired to change” Rick Warren

Cleansing - “Let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates the body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God” 2 Corinthians 7:1

Illustration – Daniel – refusing to eat what was offer to gods.

B. Discipline your bodies for God

1Thessalonians 4:4 Then each of you will control his own body and live in holiness and honor—

1 Timothy 4:8 “Physical training is good, but training for godliness is much better, promising benefits in this life and in the life to come.”

1 Corinthians 9:27 I discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified.

C. Doxology – honor God with you bodies

Honor = Doxazo – glorify Him in His perfection

Romans 6:13 Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31 So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God

What will you do with your body to bring glory and honor to God.

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