

## Sermon Discussion - 30 April 2023

Read Psalm 24:1; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 Timothy 6:17 together.

### **Getting Started** *Sharing from personal experience*

In recent years, *carpe diem*, or “seize the day,” has become a motto for living each day to the fullest. That’s actually a biblical concept. We only have a limited time on earth to fulfil God’s purpose for our lives. We must seize every opportunity God gives us “as long as it is still called ‘Today’” (Hebrews 3:13). If you had only a few weeks or days to live, what would be the first thing you would do with the resources you have?

### **Observation** *Discovering the context*

- What does it mean to you that we “belong to God”? What does it mean to you that “everything we have belongs to God”?
- Jesus’ parables explore the difference between “ownership” and “being a steward.” How does thinking that one is an “owner” rather than “a steward” influence understanding and affect actions?
- The dictionary defines a steward as “a person who manages another person’s property or affairs.” What do you think the Bible mean when it speaks of the Christian as a steward?

### **Interpretation** *Discovering the meaning*

1. In looking back on your spending habits, what have you given priority in your life?
2. Many people think having more money would lead to financial freedom. What does the Bible say about the endless pursuit of wealth? Read Proverbs 23:4-5, 28:19-20; Ecclesiastes 5:10-12.
3. Paul quotes Jesus, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). How do you experience blessings with regard to giving and receiving?
4. What does being a generous person mean to you?
5. How much attention do you give towards the categories of planning from Sunday’s sermon: Living with a budget, Saving, Avoiding Debt, Paying Taxes, and Giving Money Away?

**Application** *Putting knowledge into practice*

- What action is the Lord prompting you to take this week as a result of being in His Word?
  
- Try memorising Acts 20:35.  
*“In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”*
  
- How has God blessed you and answered prayer this week?