

DISCUSSION IDEAS  
**THE BETTER LIFE OF A STEWARD**

1 Chron. 29:10-16

January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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Do you want to feel free of worries and to have a feeling of contentment?

This is ours when we acknowledge that God owns all things,  
and when we trust His promise to provide.

- ♦ **DISCUSSION POINT ONE: GOD OWNS EVERYTHING – I am a steward of His possessions.**

Mine, Mine...**MINE!!!**

Does that remind you of a two-year-old?

Yet how often do we really think in those terms?

Job was an amazing man. Job had far more riches than just about anyone you or I will ever know.

Yet look at his perspective: Job 1:21.

If you spent your "blood, sweat and tears" building something (and assuming that you did not take out a loan to do that) who is the owner?

Now think about Who owns this entire universe!

Look at John 1:1-5, especially v. 3.

Compare Col. 1:15-17.

Break down the statements in v. 16. What was Jesus' role in building this world?

Look carefully at v. 17. What does that say ...

1) about Jesus, compared to John 8:58, John 17:5 and Rev. 22:13?

2) about Jesus' role in our physical universe today?

Who owns the very materials on which you spent that "blood, sweat and tears"?

Who actually owns YOU?

What does all this, along with 1 Chron. 29:10-16, say about my responsibility?

What does this say about my sense of ownership?

How do our financial decisions relate to our spiritual life?

How can contentment result from giving up control?

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♦ **DISCUSSION POINT TWO: GOD PROMISES TO PROVIDE MY NEEDS – /  
can serve him without worry.**

Anxiety ---- Worry!

See how many times the idea of anxiety is mentioned in Matt. 6:25-34.

How does the kind of trust talked about here relate to feeling SAFE?

If God already knows what we need, and if God really cares about me,  
then what kind of freedom does that give me?

Does God have a daily plan for me? Review Eph. 2:10.

How does trusting Him for my needs relate to that?

What about actually feeling contented in this messed up world?

What does 1 Tim. 6:6-10 say about this?

♦ **LET'S SHARE OUR EXPERIENCES.**

Many of us in this room have seen God answer and provide.

What are some of these experiences?

Let's share them with our group.

♦ **THOUGHTS:**

If my obeying God results in something like a tree being pruned....

If God removes from me that which wastes my energy, time, and  
money....

How does this allow me to grow spiritually?

How does this affect my time learning to understand His Word?

How does this affect my service to God?

How does this affect my peace and contentment?

Think about these key ideas:

TRUST

REST

BEING CONTENT

SERVING

.....

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♦ **FOR PRAYER:**

Pray for the Gettis family as they go through a two-week training session in Portland.

Continue to uphold the Shelter Valley believers, and the GCC team that serves there. Pray for continued growth in understanding among those who attend about God's Plan and what it really means to follow Him.

Pray for the new home groups starting up soon, especially the leaders. Pray that more folks will take part in a home group and be encouraged as a result.

Let's continue to pray for the Lord's love and power to be seen in Barangonan Island.

Pray for wisdom and encouragement as both Ingvaldstads and Binders prepare to move off the island. Pray for wisdom, clear understanding of God's Word and continued obedience to the Holy Spirit on the part of the island church leaders.

Praise and continued prayer: Continue to uphold the Tagbanwa believers who go to a neighboring island every Friday to teach about God. Pray too for the hearers to respond.

"Continue to pray for them as there continues to be a solid group listening and interacting with God's Word. We often get to go, and it's exciting to see 'the body' in action.

"Not only are there teachers, but others go to support and engage this new group who is hearing. If you can believe it, there are even some who catch fish for the families who go so they won't miss a meal!

"Continue to pray for strength and endurance for those who go, as well as understanding for those who hear."

Thank God and uphold in prayer the "TFG" (Time For God) group of children and young folks who meet every day!

Pray with the strong, self-motivated women's group as they study God's Word and grow to be mature believers.

Remember to pray for the Pearsons, as they plan with the Wycliffe Director in Spain regarding their involvement, as John completes a living area for his 101 year old mother, and for their son, John Caleb, who is dealing with severe cancer.