NEXT LEVEL STEWARDSHIP

THE PURSUIT | LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

PARTICIPANT GUIDE • WORKSHOP

Central question: What has God entrusted to me, and what does the evidence reveal about how I am stewarding it?

Our purpose

- Identify resources, gifts, talents, and skills entrusted to us.
- Recognize lifetime patterns and test our perceptions against evidence.
- Evaluate how faithfully we develop, use, and extend those resources.
- Leave with a specific 30-day action and a plan for accountability.

1 | Key definitions

Spiritual gift: The enablement of the Holy Spirit for service and building up the body of Christ (Romans 12:6–8; 1 Corinthians 12:4–11).

Talent: A natural aptitude strengthened through discipline and experience (Exodus 31:1–5).

Skill: A learned or developed proficiency (Proverbs 22:29).

Resource: Anything entrusted to our care: time, health, money, possessions, knowledge, relationships, opportunities, experience, and influence.

Stewardship: Faithful, intentional, responsible, and accountable management of what God entrusts to us for His purposes and the benefit of others (1 Corinthians 4:2; 1 Peter 4:10).

Key Scripture: “Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.” — 1 Corinthians 4:2 (KJV)

2 | Discover patterns across a lifetime

Childhood and adolescence

☐ What did I naturally volunteer to do? What role did I take among peers?

☐ What did others repeatedly ask me to help accomplish?

☐ What came easily, and what was the result?

Notes: _____

Young adulthood

☐ What responsibilities did others repeatedly entrust to me?

☐ What problems did I solve without being asked?

☐ Which strengths followed me across school, work, family, or community?

Notes: _____

Established adulthood

☐ What have I built, improved, repaired, taught, organized, or developed?

☐ What strengths do people consistently seek from me?

☐ What actual outcomes demonstrate effectiveness?

Notes: _____

Later adulthood and accumulated experience

☐ What knowledge or wisdom do others depend on me to share?

☐ What have I repeatedly helped others accomplish?

☐ Without my title, what valuable contribution could I still make?

Notes: _____

Lifetime-pattern discovery exercise

Recall three meaningful contributions from different seasons. Record what you actually did and what changed. In pairs, listen for recurring actions, not merely titles.

Life season / situation	What I did	Ability demonstrated	Observable result
1.			
2.			
3.			

A recurring ability I see: _____

Someone who could confirm its impact: _____

3 | How a talent appears in different environments

Ability	Personal	Professional	Church / ministry
Leadership	Family initiatives	Developing teams	Equipping leaders
Teaching	Explaining ideas	Training coworkers	Teaching Scripture
Administration	Organizing household	Building systems	Coordinating ministry
Hospitality	Welcoming guests	Including newcomers	Receiving visitors
Encouragement	Strengthening family	Supporting colleagues	Encouraging believers
Problem-solving	Navigating challenges	Improving operations	Addressing ministry needs

4 | From possession to responsibility

God entrusts resources; faithful stewards accept responsibility for how those resources are managed. See 1 Corinthians 4:2; 1 Peter 4:10; Matthew 25:14–30; Luke 16:10–12.

Four dimensions	Question to ask myself

Discovery	What has God entrusted to me?
Development	How am I strengthening it?
Deployment	Whom am I serving with it?
Multiplication	How am I extending its benefits and equipping others?

Which dimension needs the most attention? _____ Why? _____

5 | Personal stewardship audit

Reflect on the past 90 days. Circle one rating for each statement: 1 = rarely; 5 = consistently. This is a reflection tool, not a spiritual ranking.

1. 1 2 3 4 5 I can name my abilities and provide evidence of effectiveness.
2. 1 2 3 4 5 I intentionally develop my gifts, talents, and skills.
3. 1 2 3 4 5 I use my abilities to meet meaningful needs.
4. 1 2 3 4 5 I can identify who has benefited from my contributions.
5. 1 2 3 4 5 I seek and act on constructive feedback.
6. 1 2 3 4 5 I manage money, time, and possessions responsibly.
7. 1 2 3 4 5 I help others develop their own abilities.
8. 1 2 3 4 5 I have a measurable plan to improve my stewardship.

My two lowest-rated areas: _____ and _____

Questions for deeper reflection

☐ What ability has been evident for years but remains underdeveloped?

☐ Have I confused longevity with improvement?

☐ What claim about myself might others evaluate differently?

☐ Which opportunities or resources have I repeatedly neglected?

☐ What do my calendar, spending, and habits reveal about my priorities?

☐ If I left my current role, what enduring contribution would remain?

☐ Where have I settled for being considered gifted instead of growing?

☐ What would those closest to my work say I need to address?

One insight I need to act on: _____

6 | Illustrations: levels of stewardship

Matthew 13:8, 23 describes fruitfulness of the Word. The following 30/60/100-fold labels illustrate increasing intentionality and reach, not guaranteed returns.

Illustrative approach	What it emphasizes
30-fold: functional	Meets a real need with available resources
60-fold: intentional	Plans, improves, and monitors effectiveness

100-fold: multiplying	Builds capacity and extends benefits beyond one action

Scenario A | Three individuals earning $50,000 each

Person A pays bills, gives, and saves occasionally but mostly reacts to expenses. Person B uses a budget, plans giving, builds savings when feasible, and reviews debt. Person C does those things and also builds long-term resilience, shares financial knowledge, and plans for future responsibilities. Financial circumstances differ; wealth is not the measure of faithfulness.

Scenario B | Three ministries, the same $5,000

Each ministry receives a $5,000 donation designated for community outreach.

Ministry	Approach
A: Immediate service	Purchases and distributes food to families in need.
B: Organized service	Uses bulk purchasing, volunteers, coordinated distribution, and community feedback.
C: Sustainable service	Meets immediate needs while building ongoing partnerships, volunteer leadership, and recurring outreach.

7 | Group discussion

1. What evidence would demonstrate that each ministry is managing its resources faithfully and effectively?

2. Which additional resources were leveraged: volunteers, knowledge, relationships, facilities, or influence?

3. What practical change could each ministry make to improve stewardship without increasing its financial resources?

4. What practice would make our stewardship more accountable to the people affected by our decisions?

5. What resources are currently underused in our own ministries, and how could we steward them more faithfully?

6. In what specific ways will you become more transparent and accountable in your stewardship?

Group insight / proposed action: _____

_____

8 | The pursuit of faithfulness

Challenge 1: If your life were examined from childhood until today, which entrusted abilities have you consistently demonstrated—and which have you left undeveloped?

Challenge 2: If God asked for an account of your time, finances, influence, relationships, and abilities today, what concrete evidence would show that you have been faithful?

My 30-day stewardship commitment

One ability or resource entrusted to me: _____

Evidence of how I currently steward it: _____

Within 30 days, I will (specific action): _____

I will know I followed through when (measurable result):

_____

I will share my progress with (accountability partner):

_____

Date I will review my progress: _____

Closing conviction: The Pursuit is not simply about receiving more. It is about being found faithful with what God has already entrusted to us. Our gifts, time, resources, influence, and opportunities call for responsible action, honest evaluation, and accountability. “It is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.” — 1 Corinthians 4:2 (KJV)

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