5-Day Bible Reading Plan and Devotional Guide

Theme: Faithful Stewards of God's Entrusted Resources

Day 1: Everything Belongs to God

Reading: Psalm 24:1-2; Deuteronomy 8:17-18

Devotional: It is natural to grip what we have and call it ours. Our time, our money, our talents -- the possessive pronoun comes easily. But Scripture is clear: the earth and everything in it belongs to God. He is the Creator, the Sustainer, the Master. Deuteronomy 8 warns against the pride of thinking our own hands produced our wealth. Every breath you drew this morning was a gift. Every skill you carry was entrusted to you by a generous God. The first step toward faithful stewardship is releasing the word "mine" and replacing it with "yours, Lord." Begin today by simply acknowledging that God owns it all.

Reflection: What area of your life do you most struggle to surrender to God's ownership?

Practical Application: Write down three things you tend to call "mine" -- time, money, or a specific talent -- and consciously offer each one to God in prayer today.

Day 2: The Master's Character Changes Everything

Reading: Matthew 25:14-30; Romans 8:31-32

Devotional: The servant who buried his talent did not do so out of laziness alone -- he did so because he misunderstood his master. He called him hard and unjust. His wrong perspective produced fearful, fruitless action. Romans 8 reminds us that God did not withhold even his own Son, making the case that he is not a hard master but an abundantly generous one. How we see God directly shapes how we live for God. A distorted view of him produces buried talents, hidden resources, and paralyzed faith. A true view of him -- as loving, gracious, and trustworthy -- produces joyful, active stewardship. Ask God today to correct any distorted image you carry of him.

Reflection: Do you approach God as a hard master or a generous one? Where did that perspective come from?

Practical Application: Spend five minutes meditating on one attribute of God's goodness and write down how that attribute could change a specific decision you are facing this week.

Day 3: Faithful in Little, Trusted with Much

Reading: Luke 16:10-12; Proverbs 3:9-10

Devotional: The master in the parable did not wait for his servants to prove themselves with grand gestures. He evaluated their faithfulness in what they had already been given. Jesus echoes this principle in Luke 16, teaching that the person faithful in small things can be trusted with greater ones. Faithfulness is not measured by the size of your resources but by the integrity with which you manage them. You may feel that what you have to offer is too small to matter. But God is not comparing your one talent to someone else's five. He is watching what you do with exactly what he placed in your hands.

Reflection: In what small, everyday area of stewardship -- time, generosity, or skill -- is God calling you to greater faithfulness right now?

Practical Application: Identify one small, specific act of stewardship you have been putting off. Commit to doing it this week as an act of worship to God.

Day 4: Stewardship as an Act of Worship

Reading: Romans 12:1-2; Colossians 3:23-24

Devotional: Stewardship is not simply a financial discipline -- it is a whole-life posture of worship. Romans 12 calls believers to offer their entire bodies, their whole selves, as living sacrifices. This is described as spiritual worship. Colossians 3 extends this further, teaching that whatever we do, we do it for the Lord and not for human approval. This means the way you spend a Tuesday afternoon, the way you use a creative gift, and the way you handle your finances are all acts of worship when offered to God. Stewardship strips away the sacred-versus-secular divide and declares that every moment and every resource can glorify him.

Reflection: Which areas of your daily life do you tend to keep separate from your faith? How might those areas become acts of worship?

Practical Application: Choose one routine activity today -- work, a household task, or a conversation -- and intentionally offer it to God before you begin, asking him to make it an act of worship.

Day 5: Entering the Joy of the Master

Reading: Matthew 25:21; Hebrews 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Devotional: The reward the master offers his faithful servants is not simply more responsibility -- it is joy. "Enter into the joy of your master." This is the destination of faithful stewardship: not exhaustion, not obligation, but deep and lasting joy in God himself. Hebrews 12 reminds us that Jesus endured the cross for the joy set before him. Stewardship, when rooted in a right view of God, is not a burden to carry but a joy to embrace. Second Corinthians 9 tells us that God loves a cheerful giver -- one whose heart has been so transformed by grace that generosity flows freely. The goal of these five days is not a better budget. It is a better vision of God that produces a joyful, generous, faithful life.

Reflection: What would it look like for stewardship to feel less like obligation and more like joy in your daily life?

Practical Application: Close this reading plan by praying the spirit of the Modeh Ani -- thanking God for restoring your soul to a new day and asking him to shape your heart into one that stewards every entrusted resource with joy and faithfulness for his glory.