

**“Walk as Christ Walked:
Not as a Fool”**

Ephesians 5:15-21

Ephesians 5:17

17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.

Good Stewards...

- **Walk Thoughtfully**

Good Stewards Walk Thoughtfully

Ephesians 5:15

**15 See then that ye walk circumspectly,
not as fools, but as wise,**

Wesley's Notes

**5:15 Circumspectly - Exactly, with the
utmost accuracy, getting to the highest
pitch of every point of holiness. Not as
fools - Who think not where they are
going, or do not make the best of their
way.**

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1. Walk Seeking a Good Name

Proverbs 22:1

**1 A GOOD name is rather to be chosen
than great riches, and loving favour
rather than silver and gold.**

2. Walk Aware of Unbelievers

Colossians 4:5

5 Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.

3. Walk Cautious of Snares

Proverbs 22:5

5 Thorns and snares are in the way of the froward: he that doth keep his soul shall be far from them.

Good Stewards...

- Walk Thoughtfully
- Use Time Wisely

Good Stewards Use Time Wisely

Ephesians 5:16

16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

1. God's Will is Achieved Through Zealousness

Colossians 1:9

9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

2. Laziness Results in Hunger

Proverbs 19:15

15 Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.

3. Laziness Results in Decay

Ecclesiastes 10:18

18 By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through.

Good Stewards...

- Walk Thoughtfully
- Uses Time Wisely
- Think With a Clear Mind Controlled By God

Good Stewards Think With a Clear Mind Controlled by God

Ephesians 5:18-19

**18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;
19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;**

Matthew Henry

Drunkenness is a sin that never goes alone, but carries men into other evils; it is a sin very provoking to God. The drunkard holds out to his family and to the world the sad spectacle of a sinner hardened beyond what is common, and hastening to perdition. When afflicted or weary, let us not seek to raise our spirits by strong drink, which is hateful and hurtful, and only ends in making sorrows more felt. But by fervent prayer let us seek to be filled with the Spirit, and to avoid whatever may grieve our gracious Comforter.

1. Become a Living Sacrifice

Romans 12:1-2

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

2. Alcohol Leads to Deception

Proverbs 20:1

1 Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

3. Praise Hymns Witness to Others

Acts 16:25

25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

4. Worship God Through the Spirit and Understanding

1 Corinthians 14:15

15 What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

Good Stewards...

- Walk Thoughtfully
- Uses Time Wisely
- Thinks With a Clear Mind Controlled By God
- Give to Others Without Reservation

**Good Stewards Give to Others
Without Reservation**

Ephesians 5:20-21

20 Giving thanks always for all things
unto God and the Father in the name of
our Lord Jesus Christ;

21 Submitting yourselves one to another
in the fear of God.

**Example 1: It is More Blessed to
Give Than to Receive**

Acts 20:35

35 I have shewed you all things, how that
so labouring ye ought to support the
weak, and to remember the words of
the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more
blessed to give than to receive.

**Example 2: The Apostles
Outreach Technique Was to Give**

Acts 3:6

6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I
none; but such as I have give I thee: In
the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth
rise up and walk.

Example 3: Give Thanks to God

Ephesians 5:4

4 Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.

Colossians 3:17

17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

1. Giving Exemplifies God

Matthew 7:7-12

- 7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:
8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone?
10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?
11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?
12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

2. Give Cheerfully

2 Corinthians 9:5-7

- 5 Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren, that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness.
6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.
7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

3. Give Selectively

Matthew 7:6

6 Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you.

4. Give Secretly

Matthew 6:1-4

- 1 Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.
- 2 Therefore when thou doest *thine* alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.
- 3 But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth:
- 4 That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.
