



MEN'S MINISTRIES

Seventh-day Adventist Church
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

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FORGED IN FAITH

“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.”

Luke 16:10

Message from the Director

THE TEST EVERY MAN FACES DAILY

Every man receives something: time, talent, money, influence, family. The question isn't how much you have — it's what you're doing with what you've been given.

Jesus made it clear in Luke 16:10 (CSB), “Whoever is faithful in very little is also faithful in much.” Stewardship doesn't begin when you have more. It begins now, with what's already in your hands.

Being a faithful steward means acknowledging an uncomfortable truth: nothing belongs to us. The money we earn, the wife we are called to love, the children we raise, the years of life we have, the leadership we exercise — all of it is managed, not owned. God is the owner; we are the managers. This distinction changes everything.

In his book *The Treasure Principle*, Randy Alcorn puts it plainly: “God prospers some of his children not to raise their standard of living, but to raise their standard of giving.” Faithful stewardship isn't measured by what we accumulate, but by what we channel with purpose toward God's kingdom and the well-being of others.

Dave Ramsey, in *The Total Money Makeover*, adds a practical dimension no man can afford to ignore: financial disorder isn't just a number problem — it's a character problem. The man who can't manage his finances well reveals something about how he manages everything else.

Faithful stewardship touches every area of our life: how we use Monday morning, how we treat our wife in private, how we invest in our children, how we honor God with our wallet. It's not about perfection. It's about conscious, consistent intention.

The world needs men who manage the small things well, because God entrusts the greater things to those who have proven trustworthy in the everyday.

I invite you to be that man!

César De León PhD LMFT
North American Division
Men's Ministries Director



Pastoral Note

THE GRATEFUL STEWARD

Bill Roberts, Ministerial Director, Washington Conference

“He also said to his disciples: ‘There was a certain rich man who had a steward, and an accusation was brought to him that this man was wasting his goods’ (Luke 16:1 NIV).

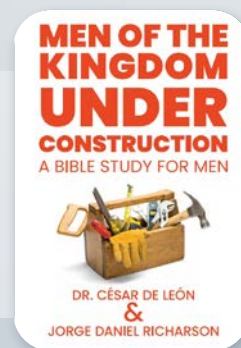
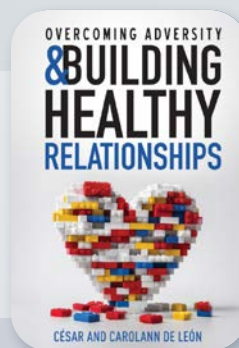
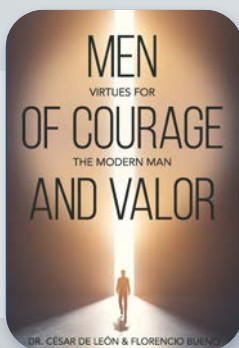
I had an experience that helps focus the meaning of this verse for me. I have a grey wool suit from Nordstrom that I bought 30 years ago. I have worn it while doing ministry for a long time. The seam by the pants pocket started to separate. I took it to Nordstrom, and they agreed to repair it.

My life was busy, and I didn’t go pick up my pants for six months. When I went, they couldn’t find them. Instead, they gave me an \$800 suit. I didn’t think I deserved it considering everything. But they insisted. I felt deeply motivated to say thank you and thought of buying a tie. The salesman picked one out and I bought it, even though it was \$100. I normally buy less expensive ties. But I didn’t mind because I was so grateful for the grace I received.

Purchasing the tie didn’t pay for the suit. It was merely me saying thank you. When we understand the cross and God’s abundant grace, we become grateful. We love because He first loved us. The steward in Luke 16:1 did not serve his master from a thankful heart. Authentic stewardship is an attitude of profound thankfulness. If I have been so greatly loved, I want to love Him back. Our service and stewardship merely say thank you.

RESOURCES for LEADERS

(Click on the images)





Testimony

MENTORSHIP: INVESTING IN PEOPLE

Jeff Downs, Alaska Airlines Pilot

My name is Jeff Downs, and I grew up as a pastor's son in Alaska. At the age of six, I gave my heart to Jesus during Mark Finley's evangelistic meeting in Chicago. My father was finishing his education there. Four years later, I was baptized during a Native Alaska Camp Meeting in Nome, Alaska. I have been blessed to serve as a missionary pilot for nearly five years in New Guinea. I am married to Alisha Tsuchiya Downs, and we have three amazing kids. Currently, I serve as a pilot for Alaska Airlines based in Seattle, Washington.

Keith and Linda Fredrickson, who were my youth leaders in Sitka, Alaska, mentored me. They encouraged my growth as a Christian, showing support and love through the ups and downs, and through good and bad decisions. I attended Auburn Academy for four years and formed lifelong friendships. There, I found acceptance and learned to accept others. Two faculty members who deeply impacted me were Peter Fackenthal, a history and Bible teacher and administrator, and John Neuman, a choral director. Fackenthal emulated integrity, leadership, compassion, and a relationship with Jesus. Neuman taught me the connection between beautiful music and humility.

Since my decision to follow Jesus, I have learned that serving him takes different forms for different people. Followers of Jesus are fishermen, pastors, pilots, heavy equipment operators, and musicians. I have tried all these careers, and each one has taught me something or helped prepare me for the next adventure. I have been able to share my testimony with coworkers about what Jesus means to me and how He has led me. I am thankful for mentors who love me, and I want to do the same for those God puts in my path.

CHALLENGE of the MONTH

For one month, invest 20 minutes a day in your relationship with God.

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