

# **GROUP DISCUSSION** | Week 2: Portrait of a Steward

## **SERIES OVERVIEW**

This 3-week series explores what it means to be a faithful steward of all that God has entrusted us with. Accountability to God calls us to responsibility in every area of life. It's important to take good care of what He has given us to manage.

## **HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:**

Think of this discussion guide as a springboard. Use what's helpful to your group and lean into discussion that's sparked from the insight and input of your group.

### CONNECTION

Monte shared how he and some friends once chipped in to leave a big tip after their food had been comped for taking so long. Can you think of a time where you or someone you know responded to a challenge with generosity? What was that like? What was the outcome?

#### TRUTH

We read it last week, but it serves as the springboard for the entire series. Someone read Psalm 24:1. What does this simple verse tell you about God? What does it tell you about everything else? Why is that significant? And how is that truth both simple and complex?

Paul paints part of the portrait of a steward in Colossians 3:23-24. Someone read those verses and then discuss what sticks out, what you like about it, and what you may not like about it — or what could be challenging?

#### **APPLICATION**

Being a steward certainly includes managing financial resources, but it's not limited to that. We unpacked 3 expectations of how Christ followers should invest in God's mission:

- 1. Invest in God's Mission by Serving | 1 Corinthians 12:12-13
  - Do you currently serve at NorthEast? If so, where and how? What's been your experience? If not, in what area(s) could you potentially see yourself contributing?
- 2. Invest in God's Mission by Giving | 2 Corinthians 9:7-8
  - Contributing the the mission financially requires both trust in God and trust in those responsible for then stewarding the tithes and offerings. Do you ever struggle with that? If so, why? What would it look like to take a step in generosity for you/your family? (First Time Giver > Sporadic Giver > Consistent Giver) And if you're already a consistent giver, how do you navigate how much to give and when to consider growing even more in generosity? To be very clear: While these are challenging topics, it's much less about achieving a certain amount and more about continued growth.
- 3. Invest in God's Mission by Sharing Your Testimony | Matthew 28:18-20
  - Monte shared 3 things to do to tell Jesus' story: Be a good friend, Tell how Jesus has changed your life, and invite them to join you for worship

Who in your life right now are you uniquely positioned to influence for Jesus? How can you move a step closer in that relationship, and ultimately, move them closer to experiencing the same hope in Jesus that you have? (Share)