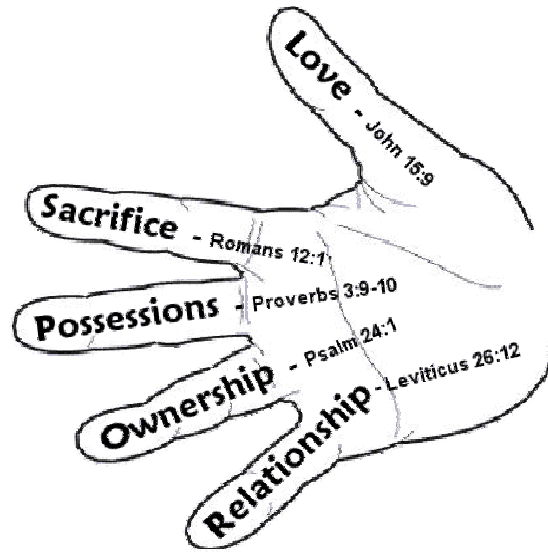


The Stewardship Hand



As the thumb touches all four fingers, so love should permeate my stewardship journey as a Christian.

RELATIONSHIP

Leviticus 26:12

God desires a close relationship with us. He loved us before we loved Him. Our relationship with God is not one of equals since He is the Owner and we are the stewards of His possessions.

OWNERSHIP

Psalm 24:1

God is the owner of everything and He has transferred dominion over His creation to us (Genesis 1:26). As faithful stewards, we understand that we have been assigned the management or stewardship of God's possession. We are responsible to the Owner for the manner in which we conduct our stewardship responsibilities.

POSSESSIONS

Proverbs 3:9-10

Because God loves us He has blessed us with many possessions, such as time, talent, and treasure. The way we use our possessions demonstrates our love to Him. As faithful stewards, we must use our possessions for His glory, to benefit others, and not for personal gain.

SACRIFICE

Romans 12:1

The Hebrew word used in the Old Testament for sacrifice is "korban", and it means to come close to God. Sin separated us from God, but Christ's death on the cross, as the sacrifice for our sins, provided a way for us to come close to Him. As a Christian, living for Christ is our sacrifice to Him. When we use our possessions (time, talents, and treasures) to His glory and to benefit others, we signal to God, and to the world, our desire to have a close relationship with Him.

LOVE

John 15:9

God is love. Stewardship that is based on God's love allows us to look beyond the faults of others while using our possessions to supply their needs (John 13:34,35). Stewardship is God's love in action.