

Getting Personal

Concluding Thoughts

BY REV. RICHARD BOCHE



Getting personal with another pastor is never easy. We don't live in a world where we seek to help others excel in what they do or how they do it. Competition is much more the world out there. Even so, while we are in the world, we are not of the world.

It is my prayer that you will give heed to what has been brought to your attention in this section, give it much thought and give stewardship a greater place in your own life, in the preaching and teaching that is yours by virtue of the call into the Office of the Holy Ministry, and that you would also begin to appreciate the importance of faithful stewardship for you, your family and the flock entrusted to your care.

We do live in a broken and sinful world. We are sinners ourselves, but the effort to know, understand, preach and teach faithful stewardship is not only commanded but worth it as you see the cheerful steward emerge and the Lord's work move forward!

*We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord,
from Thee.*

*May we Thy bounties thus, As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our
firstfruits give!*

*And we believe Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it
unto Thee.*

(Lutheran Service Book 781, verses 1, 2, 6)

*"So you also, when you have done all that you were
commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have
only done what was our duty'" (Luke 17:10 ESV).*

✦ To God Alone be All Glory ✦

Helpful Resources

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- › Gregory J. Lockwood, *Concordia Commentary, I Corinthians*, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, 2000.
- › Kennon L. Callahan, *Effective Church Finances*, Harper San Francisco, 1992.
- › Dr. David S. Belasic, *Guidelines for Christian Stewards*, Stewardship Ministry, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, 2011.
- › Dr. Francis Pieper, the Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison (translated), *On Christian Stewardship — Gifts of Christians, At Home in My Father's House*, Lutheran Legacy, 2009.
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- › C.F.W. Walther, translated by John M. Drickamer, *Pastoral Theology*, Lutheran News. Inc., Morris Publishing, Kearney, Neb., 1955, p. 260.
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- › C.F.W. Walther, W.H.T. Dau (translated), *The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel*, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, 1928.

- › Dr. Joel Biermann, “Stewardship: A Theological Perspective,” *Faith Aflame Congregational Stewardship Workbook*, Second Edition — Volume I, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, 2012.
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- › T.K. Thompson (editor), *Stewardship in Contemporary Theology*, Association Press, New York, 1960.
- › R. Scott Rodin, *Stewards in the Kingdom*.
- › The Rev. Wayne J. Knolhoff, *Stewardship Fundamentals for the Pastor*.
- › The Rev. Wayne J. Knolhoff, *Stewardship Primer: A Guide for the Christian Congregation*, Stewardship Ministry, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.
- › Karl Kretzschmar, *The Stewardship Life*.
- › *2010 Handbook*, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, St. Louis, 2010.
- › Ewald M. Plass (compiled), *What Luther Says: A Practical In-Home Anthology for the Active Christian*, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, 1959.

