

1. What is the greatest implication of having a treasure ENTRUSTED to us?



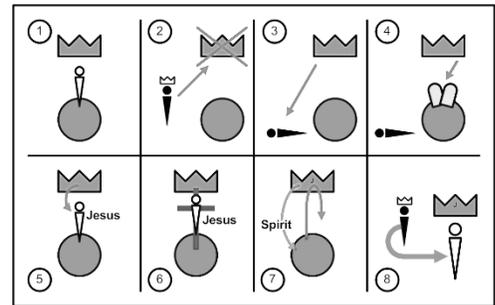
- a. A \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. (1 Cor. 4:7b)
  - ii. (Matthew 25:28-30, Luke 19:24-26, Luke 12:45-46, 48b)

2. What is the greatest treasure with which we have been ENTRUSTED?

a. THE G \_\_\_\_\_.

- i. The Gospel is how we move from having LIFE to having NEW LIFE.
- ii. It begins with the “data points” of the Gospel but does not end there (2 Cor. 4:3, Mark 1:1, 1 Cor. 9:23 & 15:1-2).
- iii. THE GOSPEL is the Person and Work of God the Son, Jesus Christ, with the application in us granting us new life, salvation, the gift of the Holy Spirit’s indwelling, the hope of future glory forever, etc.
- iv. As those entrusted with the Gospel, we must share it, to please God (Gal. 2:7, 1 Cor. 9:17, 1 Thess. 2:4).

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- b. If we understand the Gospel to be the treasure; and the Kingdom that the Gospel proclaims, to be the pearl of greatest price; then we will be willing to lose our life for Jesus and the gospel’s sake (Matt. 13:45-46, Mark 8:35).

3. What are the other treasures with which we have been ENTRUSTED?

- a. OUR B \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Corinthians 6:15, 19-20).
- b. OUR R \_\_\_\_\_ (Eph. 1:17-19).
- c. OUR T \_\_\_\_\_ (Phil. 1:21-24, Col. 3:17).
- d. OUR SPIRITUAL G \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor. 12:7, 11, 24a, 25).
- e. OUR M \_\_\_\_\_ (! Chronicles 29:9, 12-14).



4. When we do not rightly value the “GREATEST TREASURE” of the G \_\_\_\_\_, we end up making I \_\_\_\_\_ of the “Other Treasures.”

5. ENTRUSTED!

- a. 2 Cor. 4:7
- b. “We have been blessed so we can bless, so we are more blessed, so we can bless more.”
- c. “He who sows sparingly, reaps sparingly. And the one who sows bountifully, will also reap bountifully.” (see 2 Cor. 9:6)

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. About what present/gift do you remember being super-possessive as a child (or adult)? What actions reflected the sense that you thought the gift was YOURS to do with as you pleased?
2. How do you put together that the Gospel of the grace of Jesus offers us salvation for free, AND YET we are held accountable for our stewardship (management) of what has been entrusted to us?
3. Interact with Gary's conclusion that The Gospel is the greatest treasure with which we have been entrusted. In what ways do you agree? Disagree?
4. What happens when we make something less than Jesus' person and work (The Gospel) our greatest treasure? What if we make our kids our greatest treasure? Our health? Our happiness?
5. Do you agree that our effective stewardship of the Other Treasures depends upon how we treasure and "manage" the Gospel entrusted to us? Why or why not? What are the questions that still linger in your mind?
6. Give examples of how we can make an idol of each of the five Other Treasures covered. Then explain how this idolatry reflects an improper understanding and embracing of the value of the Gospel as our Greatest Treasure.
7. Which of the five Other Treasures is easiest for you to be a good steward? Which is the most challenging? Why?
8. Are there ways our family or small group can help each other think and act rightly as stewards of the graces of God in these areas?