



CAYMAN ISLANDS REGIONAL MISSION COUNCIL

WEEKLY UPDATE

September 16, 2020

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STEWARDSHIP & THE DISCIPLE

Responsible Stewardship is Genuine Neighborliness!

by Rev. Euthman Wray, Ms. Camile Watt, Mr. Noel Wallace

Please read: Leviticus 19:9-18 & Matthew 19:16-24

Christian Stewardship is the highest form of a responsible life. As we reflect on the passage in St. Matthew, we see where the rich young ruler explored the question “what good thing must I do to inherit eternal life”; the response Jesus gave directed him to an accountable life, a life of Stewardship.

What is Christian Stewardship? Jay Morris in an article entitled “The Wayward Journey” describes Stewardship as being called upon to take care of what belongs to our Master, who has created everything on our behalf. We are only its caretaker and in the end we will be held accountable for how well we treat the planet and its inhabitants.”

He further defines the characteristics of a good steward: One committed to selfless service, sustainability, the practice of inclusion, a team player opens to innovation and change, one who believes in communication and emphasizes a lifestyle of gratitude to his Master (God).

Leviticus 19 gives some practical ways in which we may demonstrate this life of Christian Stewardship. This involves first our response to God our Creator and Heavenly Father, and our responsibility to our fellow human beings, our community. Here we see God's laws and statutes listing ways in which we can practically show our responsibility to our neighbours.

1. Economics: The first one talks about harvesting in a way that leaves something for the poor and needy in our community:

“When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest.” (v.9)

In other words, the harvester should leave some, not necessarily the worst, for others. There are many verses in the Bible that

show God's care and concern for the poor, needy, destitute, orphan, even foreigners and strangers. We are called upon to assist the less fortunate among us, and to share from the resources we have received.

The scripture passage also addresses employers giving a fair wage and to pay workers on time:

“Do not hold back the wages of a hired worker overnight.” (v.13b)

It is a disservice to God and to employees to withhold or delay wages that have been rightfully earned.

2. Social Relations: Several verses here lay out clearly what not to do to our neighbours; these include theft, fraud, deceit, slander, false witness, cursing or swearing. In fact, do nothing to endanger another's life, and not to seek revenge. In other words, do that which edifies and encourage, rather than that which is inhumane and unjust.

3. Special Care for the Disabled: deaf, blind. We could add the sick, shut-in, other-abled (paraplegic etc.); the marginalized, the vulnerable.

“Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block in front of the blind, but fear your God.” (v.14)



It gives the picture of being careful in not putting down even further the ones already down.

God's expectations in how we utilize, or otherwise treat with these God-given resources remain critical. God invites us in every sphere of our lives as individuals, families, church and society, to examine ourselves against God's expectations. How are my neighbours benefitting from what I have been blessed with? How have I extended support in any way to those unknown to me, different from me by social dislocation, ethnic, racial dispensation or sexual orientation? How am I as an employer treating with those within my employ in terms of their wages, basic amenities, and so on? How are we as a society managing, organizing, tending to, and addressing the social ills that seem to be a part of any community? What “spoils” are we gleaming and leaving behind, so that our less fortunate are not denied of that which gives them dignity and self-worth? How are we as the church managing the resources entrusted to us? What programmes and projects; vision and provision are marking our budgets and plans for the church and unchurched?

1 John reminds us:

“...For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen” (1 Jn 4: 20).

In the Matthew reading the rich young ruler, was challenged not just to pay attention to the obedience of the law, but to ensure it is done from a deep conviction upon obedience to God and sincere love for neighbour. *May our stewardship be confirmed and affirmed in and through our response to neighborliness.*

East End Senior Citizens' Event

The regular monthly East End Senior Citizens' Fellowship was held on September 08, 2020 at the East End Civic Center. It was Gun Bay United Church's turn to host the event which they did with assistance from the East End United Church. Interim Minister Rev. Rohan Forrester and Lay Pastor Mr. Ormond Williams were also in attendance. The event included devotions, craft-making and lunch.



UCJCI'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Individual Prayer:
Every Wednesday
from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

(2 Timothy 1:7)

North Side Girls' Brigade Company Reopens



The North Side Girls' Brigade Company reopened on Sept 14, 2020 with much excitement. After 127 years since Margaret Lyttle founded The Girls' Brigade, and 70 years of Girls' Brigade in the Cayman Islands, a new generation of girls and young ladies found themselves under the extreme circumstances due to Coronavirus (Covid-19). The 19 girls and young ladies were happy to see each other for the first time in a long time. Although they were limited hugs and kisses, the girls and their leaders felt overwhelmed by being in the company of each other once again.



UPCOMING EVENTS

September 14. (Sunday) 16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 19. (Saturday)

YLNE Executive mtg – 2:00pm – Council office

September 21. (Monday)

Council Executive mtg – 5:30pm – Council office

September 26. (Saturday)

Council mtg – 9:00am – BT church hall



on Radio Cayman 89.9
every Sunday at 7:45 am

**September 20. - Rev. Euthman Wray,
Ms. Camile Watt, Mr. Noel Wallace**

“Love your neighbor as yourself.”

Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 19:19;

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