

## Financial Peace University

*As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10*

*The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof, the world and all who dwell therein. Psalm 24:1*



## God is the One and Only Owner

### Three Biblical Truths:

- God created everything
- God preserves everything
- God owns everything

Most Christians are likely to accept the above truths, but the last one many of us have a difficult time living out. We have been taught that we own what we have. We worked for it, we earned it, we deserve it, we want to control it. No matter how we have been taught or how we feel, the truth is this: **God owns everything!** The thread of God's ownership runs throughout the pages of Scripture. God is the one and only owner of everything and he never relinquishes that ownership to us or anyone else.

In truth, God owns us twice. He owns us by creation, and He owns us by redemption. 1 Corinthians 6:19b-20 makes that clear: *You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.*

We are stewards by God's design—we are not owners! We steward everything keeping in mind that we are to manage according to the Owner's purpose and not our own. Financial Peace will only happen if we acknowledge, understand, and live out the Biblical truth that God is the one and only Owner.

Charles Lane writes in his book *Ask, Thank, Tell*, "This biblical truth—that it all belongs to God—is the cornerstone of everything we have to say about stewardship."

### Discussion Questions:

1. Why can't one be an owner and a steward at the same time?
2. Why is recognizing God as the one and only Owner so important?
3. Why do most people think they own what they have?
4. How will recognizing God's ownership change the steward's life?

### Stewardship Truth:

God is the one and only Owner of everything. I am not the ultimate owner of anything. He gives me the privilege and the responsibility of managing His gifts for His purposes.