Stewards by God's Design: The Three R's of the Christian Steward

Relationships – Responsibilities - Resources

The First Commandment:
You shall have no other gods.
WDTM: We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

What to watch out for: "Mammon is the world's favorite idol." Large Catechism

The Second Commandment:
You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God.
WDTM: We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

What to watch out for: Using God's name in a meaningless way or to lie or deceive.

The Third Commandment:
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
WDTM: We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

What to watch out for: Neglecting God's Word and not putting it into practice.

My Relationship with God

From the very beginning God designed us to be stewards. He entrusts us with relationships, responsibilities, and resources (the 3 R's) to steward for Him. We do this under the umbrella of repentance. The most important relationship we are privileged to steward is our relationship with God. A relationship He establishes with us by creation and redemption.

What do the following verses from Scripture tell us about God?

Genesis 1:1	John 3:16
Psalm 24:1	John 14:26

What do the following passages tell us about God's expectations for us?

- Deuteronomy 10:12-13
- Micah 6:8
- Ephesians 2:10
- 1 Corinthians 10:31-33

The first three commandments God gave His people at Mt. Sinai deal with our relationship with Him. In the 2017 edition of the Luther's Small Catechism, it says this about the First Commandment, "As Christians, we look to the one true God for all that we need. This is the God who created and sustains us, who redeemed us by giving Himself to be crucified for us in the God-man, Jesus, and who sanctifies us through the power of the Holy Spirit. There is no other God."

- What does this commandment have to say about how we steward our relationship to God?

The Second Commandment is summarized this way, "As Christians, we treasure and honor God's name with our prayers, praise, and witness."

- What does this commandment have to say about how we steward our relationship to God?

The Third Commandment is summarized by these words, "As Christians, God's Word leads us to delight in His wonderous works of creation and redemption."

- What does this commandment have to say about how we steward our relationship to God?

What else does the Bible tell us about stewarding our relationship with God?

- 1 Chronicles 16:11
- Philippians 4:6
- 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- Colossians 3:16
- 1 Chronicles 16:29
- Acts 1:8
- 1 Peter 4:10

Stewarding our relationship with God continues throughout our lifetime.

- What point does Peter make in 2 Peter 3:18?

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