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# Queries on Radical Stewardship

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# Q U E R I E S O N *Radical* S T E W A R D S H I P

Radical Christian stewardship gets to the heart (the Latin word, *radix* means "root") of the matter. Are you mindful in your meetings and in your personal lives that:

**I** Nothing we have is our own? All of what we have and who we are belongs to God. We are simply stewards of that with which we've been entrusted, and we are called to develop and use it in ways that glorify and further His purposes.

**II** We are called to be faithful stewards of all of our entrustments; including our time, talents, homes, relationships, possessions, bodies, minds, affections, energies, and financial resources? Christ expects us to offer all of these to Him—in ongoing ways—always seeking to further His redemptive work through them and to glorify His name.

**III** Money is "frozen labor"? Nearly all monetary value is connected to labor. In exchange for services rendered money is received, and in commissioning future ministries money is given.

**IV** The Lord calls us to give of our "firstfruits" not just our "leftovers"? Proportionate giving is the mature and stable means of contributing meaningfully and reliably to the Lord's work. The 10 percent tithe serves as a helpful biblical standard, but the Lord's leading for each of us needs to be sought and heeded as it regards the specific proportion of one's income.

**V** The Lord calls us to give in response to need? Through your local church, your yearly meeting, and through Evangelical Friends International the Lord's work is being carried out far more extensively than any of us could do on our own. But cooperative ventures require cooperative support. The work is the Lord's and so are our resources. May they be offered as liberally as the Lord has given us vision—calling us as partners in His redeeming mission in the world.

Please feel free to make photocopies of this page. These and other treatments of Christian stewardship may be developed further in the local church by ordering "A Matter of Stewardship," a 13-week exploration, complete with study guide from Barclay Press.