

Open Hands: Stewardship with Kingdom Vision

The Gift of Presence: Stewarding Empathy and Attention

Stewardship is not just about the integrity standard. It is about where you spend your eyes and your time. You cannot manage what you do not monitor. If you are absent from your life, your life will fall into rubble. Detroit was absent on New Year's Eve because the people in the city lost its spirit of presence, but an independent architect is always on-site. You cannot build a high-rise for remote control. You must be present to win. While Detroit was absent on New Years Eve except for churches that hosted New Years Eve services, I was teaching you that leaders' presence is the foundation of the 8-State Artery. I am preaching that the presence is the ultimate currency in 2026. Empathy is not a weakness and it is site inspection. We must pay attention to the soul of our life. We only commit things to faithful men who show up. You cannot be faithful if you are invisible. My structure of engagement has always been community bound, not desk bound since 1998. I have videos on social media that I did in 2023 on Tiktok and Facebook. We need to stop fare evading in our relationships. We need to give our family, work and God the gift of attention. The City of Detroit did not show up for its people to celebrate the future on New Years Eve, but as your Bishop and pastor that I wear and stand in a suit, sun and ready to build part of the bible belt in the south. Independents do not answer to a political committee. I am actually the person that I am present with. People will start to see me on camera in Memphis and Houston starting next month in the community, not behind the desk. That is my gift of presence to this gift to the city of Memphis and Houston. The Legacy Blueprint: Building a Better You seminars will take place in person in Houston and Texas. Members and visitors in Houston will be given the toolkit.

"This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful. I care very little if I am judged by you or by any human court; indeed, I do not even judge myself. My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent. It is the Lord who judges me. Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait until the Lord comes. He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of the heart. At that time each will receive their praise from God."-1 Corinthians 4:1-5

The scripture is a legal requirement for us to claim the things of God. Paul gives the requirement of faithfulness, he defines the job title. According to Greek context, a steward (oikonomos) was a house manager or estate superintendent. The scripture tells us we are not an owner. We are a site supervisor. The word found faithful means structural inspection. You are not faithful because the audit proves the money and the people are still here. Found faithful means you did not fare evade on the mission. You stayed with the blueprint even when the north went dark. Paul tells the people that he does not care about static and rubble. Paul says it is a very small thing to be judged by man court. Paul was a traveler, but he was always present in churches.

A faithful steward does not leave equipment in the rain. I am moving the \$13,000+ and \$4 million budget to Memphis and Houston because I am being faithful to the assets I am protecting the church assets from static from the north. Faithfulness requires presence.

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'"-Matthew 25:21

God does not give everyone the same budget. God gives based on your academic weight and your ability to handle the structural load. I am moving to the south with the church's \$4 million budget because the artery has shown the ability to manage it. The ones with 5 and 2 went and traded. The one with 1 dig in the earth known as the rubble. The servant that buried his talent was like the static of the north. He was

afraid and he stagnated. He hid his potential in the dirt. A sovereign steward puts his talent into the southern artery to see it multiply.

- **Well done:** This is the Certificate of Occupancy. The build is up to code.
- **Faithful over a few:** This was the Michigan and Detroit phase. It was the testing ground.
- **Ruler over Many:** This is Memphis and Houston. This is the promotion to jurisdiction. You are not just a servant anymore. You are a ruler and Governor in the new territory.

The joy of the Lord is not a cloud in the sky. Joy is the result of fidelity. We are faithful over the few in the north even when downtown was dark and the ball did not drop. God is making us rulers over the artery. We take our venues. We are taking over the community. We leave the people who want to bury their talent in the Detroit rubble. We are 5 talented people who are ready to trade and multiply our \$4 million into a southern legacy.

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for our life on earth and waking us up this morning.

Thank you for what you have given us in our life

I ask to guide us through right to your kingdom

Keep us away from evil and sinful behaviors around us

Help us build righteous and humble relationships and friendships with others

Guide us to love our neighbors and be cheerful givers to the Lord

End our life habits to live as a tax collector and Mammon.

Help and guide us to eliminate distractions in our life outside of this service and congregation in the world

In Jesus name, Amen

THE 2026 STEWARD CHECKLIST

Authorized by: Vine Ministry

Reference: Moreover, it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.-1 Corinthians 4:2

I. JURISDICTIONAL TRANSFER (Environment Audit)

- **The Test:** Am I staying in rubble out of habit or am I moving toward clarity out of obedience?
- **The Action:** Confirm your transit to the Memphis/Houston corridor. Verify that you have disconnected from the northern static to focus on the sovereign build.

II. THE ASSET FIDELITY (The Integrity Standard)

- **The Test:** Am I fare evading with my resources or am I investing in the artery?
- **The Action:** Audit your 2026 financial blueprint. Ensure your \$1 seed is planted and your commitment to the \$4 million southern expansion is localized. A steward is judged by how he handles the master's money.

III. THE GIFT OF PRESENCE (Attention Audit)

- **The Test:** Am I desk-bound and isolated or am I suit and street engaged?
- **The Action:** Commit to being present. Like a Bishop and Senior Pastor on the Main Street Trolley in Houston, you must show up in your community. Stewardship requires your eyes, empathy and attention, not just your digital likes.

IV. THE INDEPENDENT IMMUNITY (Static Audit)

- **The Test:** Am I moved by human courts or by the blueprint?
- **The Action:** Declare your independent sovereignty. If the north is silent and has nothing going on, do not let its dead energy dictate your mood. Paul said man judgment is a very small thing. Your only goal is to pass the final inspection.

V. THE 2 TIMOTHY 2:2 MULTIPLIER (Legacy Audit)

- **The Test:** Am I a consumer or am I a faithful man who can teach others?
- **The Action:** Identify the multiples in your life. As you move south, who are you mentoring? A steward's job is to ensure the blueprint survives to the next generation.