

FINDING MEANING BEYOND THE HUSTLE



EVERY NATION
CHURCH · MALAYSIA

Genesis 1 : 27-28

²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them,
“Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and **subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.**”

Psalm 8 : 5-8

- ⁵ Yet you have made him a little lower than
the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.
- ⁶ **You have given him dominion** over the works of
your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,
- ⁷ all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
- ⁸ the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

Vice-Regency

**Humans as God's
appointed rulers
under His ultimate rule.**

Vice-Regency

**Humans as God's
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under His ultimate rule.**

Stewardship

**Humans as God's
entrusted caretakers
of what ultimately
belongs to Him.**



3 Instances of Failed Stewardship



Genesis 2 : 15-17 (NIV)

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to **work it and take care of it.**

¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷ but **you must not eat** from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”

Genesis 3 : 1-3

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

² The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

Genesis 3 : 4-7

⁴ “You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman.

⁵ “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

⁶ When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Failure of Stewardship #1

Neglect

Genesis 4 : 2-8

² Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil.

³ In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the Lord. ⁴ And Abel also brought an offering—fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering, ⁵ but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast.

Genesis 4 : 2-8

⁶ Then the Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? ⁷ If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.”

⁸ Now Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go out to the field.” While they were in the field, **Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.**

Genesis 4 : 23-24

- ²³ Lamech said to his wives,
“Adah and Zillah, listen to me;
wives of Lamech, hear my words.
I have killed a man for wounding me,
a young man for injuring me.
- ²⁴ If Cain is avenged seven times,
then Lamech seventy-seven times.”

Genesis 6 : 11-12

¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. ¹² God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways.

Failure of Stewardship #2

Abuse

Genesis 1 : 27-28

²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the **image of God (Tselem)** he created him; male and female he created them. ²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Genesis 4 : 17

Cain was then building a city,
and **he named it after his son Enoch.**

Genesis 11 : 1-4

Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. ² As people moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. ³ They said to each other, “Come, let’s make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. ⁴ Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that **we may make a name for ourselves**; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth.”

Failure of Stewardship #3

USURP

Genesis 4 : 25-26

²⁵ ... “God has granted me another child in place of Abel, since Cain killed him.” ²⁶ Seth also had a son, and he named him Enosh.

At that time, people began to call on the name of the Lord.

CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD

1 Corinthians 11 : 28

Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD

Lord, how do You want me to be faithful today?

Lord, how can I use my gifts and position to honor You today?

Lord, is there an area in my life where I'm honoring myself above You?