

# MESSAGE

Occasion : Thursday Prayer Service  
Theme : Being Enriched to All Bountifulness  
Venue : Lighthouse BBC Tatalon  
Date : July 4, 2019

**TITLE : OUR STEWARDSHIP AS A CHURCH. REASON WHY WE ARE CHURCH.**  
Text/s :

2 Peter 1:2-11

2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,  
3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

11 For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

KJV

Bible Reading :

Song/s :

Other references :

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## INTRODUCTION

We are a church that is first Biblical. Our truth is found in the Word of God.

Because of this, we do not based our being true on what others possess. We are not held by norms, schedules, programs

Yes, we have activities - but they are activities drawn from virtues in our lives.

When others talk about services, small groups, evangelism, soul-winning, Bible studies, discipleships, house-to-house, visitation, praise and worship... we're not. While we have them, our roots go deeper than these.

Think about this: Those who talk about Bible studies, small groups, Sunday School, discipleships - are practically just led by modules, powerpoints, manuals done by leaders.

They can't even come together outside of these schedules and groups. They can't be counted on to do counseling in crusades, festivals and celebrations. They can't be counted on to extend themselves as people of God to government, institutions, business endeavors, etc. They can't be organized to do beyond themselves, outside of their businesses. Many of them, if they try an join these things, they do these things so that they can be "blessed", be fortunate and get materially richer. They cannot do ministry to the community if they are not supported by politicians, businessmen, etc.

If they are, at all, present in these things, they are by themselves, personal “leaders”, without their own “disciples” and even members of churches.

These are forms of godliness but without power!

Worst, many, even pastors join networking, quick money scams, deputations in the US, call for support even from businessmen/politicians to help them as people of God!

So there is no use to cite what they have nor compare us with them. None other than the admonitions of the Apostles Paul, Peter and John are what we need to enrich us as His Ekklesia.

But we’re not saying we’re better.

## **BODY**

We are a church so there can be Godliness in us.

### **A) Godliness**

2 Peter 1:3 (KJV) According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

Virtues that come by Godliness is what is empty in many lives, churches, believers.

Many are simply in a box of forms

2 Timothy 3:5 (KJV) Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

1 Timothy 4:1, 8-15 (KJV)

1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

8 For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

9 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation.

10 For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.

11 These things command and teach.

12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

### **B) Virtuous Stewardship**

#### **1) Faith produces Works**

Titus 3:8 (KJV) This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm constantly, that they which have believed in God might be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable unto men.

James 2:14, 17-18, 20, 22, 24, 26 (KJV)

14 What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him?

17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?  
22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?  
24 Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.  
26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

Hebrews 6:1-2, 9-12 (KJV)

1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,  
2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.  
9 But, beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation, though we thus speak.  
10 For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.  
11 And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:  
12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

## 2) Grace produces Virtues (through Diligence)

Proverbs 4:23 (KJV) Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

2 Peter 1:5-7 (KJV)

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;  
6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;  
7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

2 Corinthians 8:7 (KJV) Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also.

Philippians 4:8-9 (KJV)

8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.  
9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

2 Peter 1:10 (KJV) Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

Hebrews 11:6 (KJV) But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

2 Peter 3:12-16, 18 (KJV)

12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?  
13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.  
14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.  
15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;  
16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.  
18 But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

### 3) Mercy produces Ministry

2 Corinthians 4:1-2 (KJV)

1 Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;  
2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

### 4) Patience produces Relationship

2 Peter 1:6-7 (KJV)

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;  
7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

James 1:3-4 (KJV)

3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.  
4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Was it not that the Lord prayed that His disciples be one? The key to this is patience.

## CONCLUSION

### Notes...

- a. Reasons why we are church
- b. Set plans for Stewardship Emphasis Month (July)
  - i. Wisdom of Stewards
  - ii. Faithfulness of Stewards  
1 Corinthians 4:2 (KJV) Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.
  - iii. Occupancy of Stewards  
Luke 19:13 (KJV) And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come.
  - iv. Accountability of Stewards  
1 Corinthians 4:1 (KJV) Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.
  - v. Goodness of Stewards  
1 Peter 4:10 (KJV) As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.
- c. Levels of Stewards
  - i. Wise Stewards
  - ii. Faithful Stewards
  - iii. Good Stewards
  - iv.