

PENTECOST 14

STEWARDSHIP STORY #3 – THE CHICKEN AND THE PIG

LUKE 18:18-30

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

This is the third story in a series on Stewardship Stories with a moral and questions.

A chicken and a pig are walking down a road together and they read a sign that says “Church Breakfast – Ham and Eggs - \$5.” The squaky chicken looks at his porky friend and says “Let’s go!” The pig responds quickly and says “Yeah that’s easy for you to say. All you have to do is lay an egg. For me, it’s an ultimate sacrifice!”

Let’s look at some morals to this story.

1. Our stewardship wavers between laying an egg or a deep sacrifice. Where are you right now on this scale of sacrifice?
2. Let’s say you are on the “laying an egg” side of sacrifice. What does that attitude do to you? Does it feel good? Is it adequate? Is it time to change?
3. Most church members do not have a clue if their giving is big or small, stingy or sacrificial. Most want to keep it that way. It then is left totally between the member and God. Are you comfortable with that?
4. We sacrifice when we buy a house, buy a car, pay our child’s tuition, pay our health bills, build our retirement. In that listing, for most of us, our church giving is already put #6th in priority. Is that the priority you want?
5. Sacrifice does not need to be all or nothing. Fortunately we can grow in our sacrifice to the church. Also there may even be times in life when personal disaster happens and we have to suspend some sacrifices. Sacrifice comes and goes. What is your personal history of church sacrifice?
6. Sacrifice can be in bundles or at key moments in life. A church’s capital fund drive or a special mission drive can be a significant time of sacrifice. A time of inheritance can be a time of sacrifice. You can plan a future sacrifice in a will or estate plan. There can be occasions when we don’t have to sacrifice from monthly income but we take it from an established account like a savings account.
7. The rich young ruler comes to Jesus: Luke 18:18-30. Jesus challenges his heart, his motivation, his sacrifice. What challenges does Jesus give to you?

Prayer: Dear Jesus, challenge us! And change our lives. Move us towards greater sacrifice, for your church and your kingdom. Amen.