

BIBLE STEWARDSHIP

Notes for the Instructor

Purpose of lesson 24: When we studied the Sabbath truth, we entered into the area of Christian responsibility or stewardship called "time." Christ's Object Lessons, page 342, says, "Our time belongs to God. Every moment is His, and we are under the most solemn obligation to improve it to His glory. Of no talent He has given will He require a more strict account than of our time." In this lesson we remain in the realm of stewardship, and study God's requirements in relation to our means--another talent (see COL 351,352). We must include our tithes, offerings, even how we treat the personal use of our income. Thus, we have the reason for the order of our lessons at this point in the series.

During the lesson itself: The sequence of thoughts is very simple: God has rightful authority over every human being, we can all reject it, only the love motivation from Calvary will lead us to take His claims seriously and respond in a way pleasing to God, tithing is one method that God has ordained to test our relation to Him, and its chief benefit is in the fact that the faithful tither places God first, thus continually permitting his Lord to further destroy his selfishness, which is what restoration to the likeness of our selfless God is all about. Divine love must be permitted to finally destroy, replace, all selfishness.

In question 4, (a) and (b), make it clear that the man who buried his one talent was simply proving that he did not love God. This is the "bottom line" of unfaithfulness. Make spiritual blessings the key point of question 7(b).

Appeal: Carefully read the appeal that concludes this study in Unto a Perfect Man, pages 146, 147. These ideas are briefly summarized in question 10 of this lesson.

Illustration: Let the illustration be a review of the high points, with the comparison between Sabbath and tithing shown by the two circles.

