

MOMENTUM YOUTH BIBLE STUDY SERIES

THE CHRONICLES OF JENIAH & URIAH
#21 - STEWARDSHIP
THE 1ST PAYCHECK





“I am so excited!!!!” Jeniah shouted jumping up and down in the kitchen. Her mom came downstairs to see what all the commotion was about. “What’s going on young lady?” Mrs. Hinds asked. “It looks like whatever it is, it’s really special.”

“Mom, this is my first paycheck!” Jeniah said twirling as she held the check to the sky. “They said it would take a few weeks to get here and it’s finally here! I can’t believe it! I am going to call Uriah and we are going to the mall to look for shoes.

I need a new belt, a new dress and..." She paused as she noticed her mom was giving her a funny look. "What's up mom? You always look at me like that when you have something to say. Did you want to come with us to the mall? We were going to take the bus, but if you come we don't have to wait outside in the cold." Jeniah said.

"I am so excited for you. You've been talking about working for a long time and now you are old enough to make decisions with your money. My only challenge is that I feel like you are missing out on something essential. With all the things you were talking about, I want to be sure you remember what's most important. I want to remind you about being a good steward of the gifts God's given you."

Jeniah paused as she listened to her mom. "I heard Pastor Goodman talk about stewardship a few weeks ago."

"And what did you learn from his presentation?" her mom asked.

Jeniah paused then said, "Everything that we have and everything we receive comes from God who loves us and wants the best for us."

- James 1:17 – "Every good and every perfect _____ is from above and cometh down from the Father..."

"I also remember how he used the story of Abraham and Melchizedek to illustrate the importance of returning a tenth of what we have to God. He called that tithe," Jeniah said proudly.

“That was in the Old Testament. Did Jesus do away with the idea of tithing?” Mom said with a slight smile.

- Matthew 23:23 - “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have _____ the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.”

“Of course not! Jesus was disappointed that the religious leaders were tithing but they were not showing genuine concern for others,” Jeniah said proudly.

“You’re absolutely right,” mom responded. “Stewardship is about what we give AND how we treat others with what we retain,” Mom said. “Pastor Goodman also shared that Jesus warned us that we can get so caught up with the blessings of God, that we can become selfish with how He has blessed us.”

- Luke 12:15 - “...Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of _____; life does not consist in an abundance of _____.”

Jesus said that when we are kind to others, especially those in need, it is like we are doing the good deed directly to him.

- Matthew 25:40 - “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you _____ for one of the _____ of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”
- Colossians 3:23 - “Whatever you do, work at it with all your _____, as working for the LORD, not for human masters.”

“What promise did Jesus give to his followers who are faithful in giving to God and to their fellow man?” Mom asked.

- Luke 6:38 - “_____, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over...”

“Thank you for the reminder,” Jeniah said to her mom. “I was going to go to the mall to get things for me, but I know I can be a better steward if I share what God has given me. One of my classmates was teased the other day because her mom lost her job and her wardrobe was pretty basic. Some of the kids talked about her and I think it would be good to do something to help her out. This is my opportunity to be a good steward of what He gave me.” Jeniah stated. “You know what, I will go with you... And because you are choosing to be a good steward, I’m going to bless you and pay for the items!”