

6

ROTC Life and Faith

Stewardship

The Military and your Faith require that you manage well the assets of that which you have been entrusted.

Throughout your ROTC training, what has been entrusted into your care? (i.e. equipment, reputation, people)

“He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”

- Jim Elliot

As you develop into a well-developed military person, what increased responsibility will the military entrust to you throughout your career?

What does Jesus entrust to us?

What does Jesus want us to do with that which has been entrusted to us?



Many arguments and conflicts begin over disagreements about possessions. Kids fight over toys; adults fight over money; armies go to war over land and power. People also get in fights with God over what they believe is theirs that God has taken away.

If we are going to live in submission to God's will for our lives,
we must recognize that God owns all that we have.

I. Recognize the true ownership of your possessions.

Before you joined ROTC, you counted the cost. You knew it would demand your time, your strength, your emotions, and even your freedom. You were willing to give up those things to become a cadet/midshipman. The context of the following passage is that we must count the cost of living for something.

Luke 14:33

“In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.”

The cost of being a disciple of Jesus is everything you have. You no longer own what you have; you are now a steward of that which belongs to God.

There are three areas of Stewardship:

A. Your Body belongs to God.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.”

What difference does it make to know that God lives in you?

If your body belongs to God, what does He want you to do with it?

How can you honor God with your body?

**Gift
Ownership
Honor**



B. Your Possessions belong to God.

Luke 12:13-21

Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’”

Then he said, “This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I’ll say to myself, ‘You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.’”

But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?”

This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God.”

What do you rely on for your personal security?



How can you be rich toward God?

C. Your Message belongs to God.

2 Timothy 2:2

“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.”

Do you view God’s Word as a great treasure?

How can you pass on the message you have received from God?

List three reasons why you are motivated to use your body, possessions, and message to glorify God and invest into the eternity of others.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

II. Leverage what you have for God's glory and others' benefit.

Make a list of the resources God has entrusted to you and how you can use them for God's glory and others' benefit.

Resources	God's Glory	Others' Benefit
<p><u>Possessions</u> The things you have. (ex. money, auto, gear, technology, etc.)</p>		
<p><u>Skills</u> The things you can do. (ex. ROTC skills, hobbies, cars, computers, etc.)</p>		
<p><u>Knowledge</u> The things you know. (ex. Word of God, academics, people, etc.)</p>		

**If you live in the reality that everything you have belongs to God,
how would that change the way you live?**

How will it effect the way you enjoy what you have?

