

## **Lesson 5: Seeing Life from God's View**

*"The way you see your life shapes your life."*  
Read James 4:4

How you define life determines your destiny; your perspective will influence how you invest your time, spend your money, use your talents and value your relationships.

1. How do you see your life? Do you have a life metaphor? If so, what is it?  
(Romans 12:1)

2. The Bible offers three metaphors that teach us God's view of life.

### **A) Life on earth is a test**

a. Why does God test us? Name some Biblical Characters that were tested.

b. Character is both developed and revealed by tests, and all of life is a test. Can you give an example of how you have been tested recently?

- c. Most likely you will be tested by major changes, delayed promises, impossible problems, unanswered prayers, undeserved criticism and even senseless tragedies or illnesses.  
(2 Chron. 32:31)

- d. Does God want you to pass these tests?  
(1 Cor. 10:13; James 1:12)

### **B) Life on Earth is a Trust**

“Our time on earth and our energy, intelligence, opportunities, relationships, possessions and money are all gifts from God that he has entrusted to our care and management.”

- a) What does it mean to be a good steward? Where does all my valuable stuff come from? (Ps. 24:1)
- b) If everything I have is on loan from God, what does God deserve from me? (1 Cor. 4:7)

c) In Matthew 25:14-30 we find the “Parable of the Talents”. What is the lesson we learn from this parable?

d) “At the end of your life on earth you will be evaluated and rewarded according to how well you handled what God entrusted to you.” Everything you do can have eternal implications.

e) What three rewards does God promise in eternity?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

f) Read Lk. 16:11 and Lk. 12:48. How does the way I manage my money affect my spiritual life?