

RADICAL STEWARDSHIP

*PARTNERING WITH THE MASTER
IN EVERYDAY LIFE*

Dr. Stephen R. Graves



SESSION FOUR

MULTIPLY

*TAKE RISKS TO GROW YOUR
SUPERPOWERS & ASSETS*

MULTIPLY | TAKE RISKS TO GROW YOUR SUPERPOWERS & ASSETS

Before completing this session, read Chapter 6 of Radical Stewardship.

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

Let's consider a few snapshots from Paul's life and how he modeled the Multiply application of stewardship. At every stage, Paul leveraged what was in his bag (his training, skills, relationships, and influence) not just to maintain, but to multiply.

From the start, Paul's life as a steward was driven by a holy ambition to multiply the life of the Gospel where it had not yet taken root.

Romans 15:20

"It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation."

Paul wasn't a one-trick pony. He didn't just preach. He worked with his hands, stewarding practical skills like tent-making and building relationships that opened doors for ministry and multiplication.

Acts 18:1-4

After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ² There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, ³ and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. ⁴ Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks.

Paul's investment multiplied not only through his own voice but also through others. He poured into individuals like Timothy and Titus and even into entire communities like the church at Thessalonica, who then passed on the Gospel with their own lives.

1 Thessalonians 1:6-8

You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. ⁷ And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. ⁸ The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere.

Even near the end of his ministry, Paul wasn't done multiplying. He re-risked his comfort and safety to fulfill the task entrusted to him. Stewardship, for Paul, was a lifelong pursuit of purpose.

Acts 20:22-24

And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there.²³ I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me.²⁴ However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace.

What do these passages reveal about Paul's view of risk, calling, and multiplication?

What stands out to you about the way Paul used multiple assets and superpowers for Kingdom impact?

What do these passages reveal about Paul's view of risk, calling, and multiplication?

Where do you sense God calling you to move from comfort toward multiplication?

By now, you know what's in your bag, and you've done the heart work of transferring ownership to God. But stewardship doesn't end with awareness and transfer. As great American poet Mary Oliver ended her poem "Summer Days," the question lingers:

Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?

As the two "well done" servants did, how can we take risks to double the assets and superpowers given to us so that we have a return to offer the Master at the end of all this?

Some of our assets are easy to imagine multiplying—finances, professional influence, or platforms. However, for others, the idea can feel abstract or even overwhelming. It's harder to envision what it means to multiply your home, your friendships, your creativity, your marriage, or your possessions that don't naturally "scale." And that's okay.

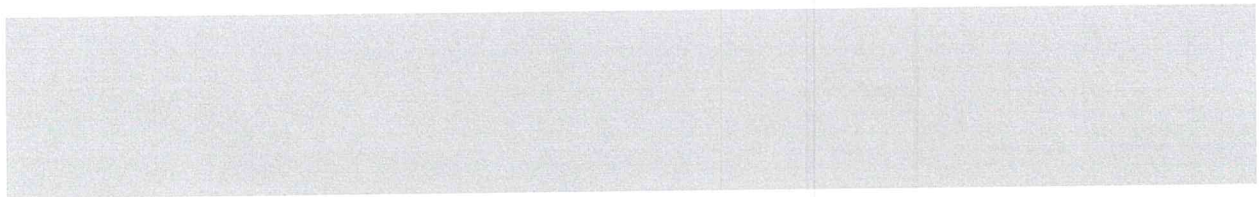
But multiplication isn't always about size or visibility. It's about faithful risk and Spirit-led investment in what God has placed under your care.

We all carry some version of a holy imagination somewhere beneath the surface, but sometimes we need help drawing it out. These four question sets have often helped me recognize where the Master is inviting me to take steps of faith toward multiplication.

1. Why won't this idea leave me alone?

Some call it holy ambition. Others call it purpose or calling. Either way, multiplication often begins with a sense that you're meant to lean into something bigger than yourself.

- Where do you sense God nudging you to move from comfort toward calling?
- Is there a mission, need, or possibility you can't seem to shake?
- What would you pursue if you fully believed God had entrusted it to you for a reason?



2. What else can this be used for?

Multiplication often starts when you re-imagine how your unique strengths might serve others in new ways. Sometimes, it's a skill that needs sharpening. Other times, it's a resource that needs re-purposing.

- What strengths or experiences might you be under-utilizing?
- What's something in your bag that's been limited to one context but could be expanded into others?
- How might God multiply what you've already been given if you weren't distracted by what you wish you had?

3. Who levels up if I lean in? Who steps up if I step back?

People are often the most fertile ground for multiplication. Whether it's showing up more fully or making space for someone else to lead, your relational investment can plant seeds that bear fruit far beyond your reach.

- Who needs more of your presence to grow?
- Who might rise to the occasion if you handed over more responsibility?

4. Where have I gotten comfortable?

Sometimes the greatest barrier to multiplication is comfort. What started as a bold step of faith can become something we feel the urge to protect instead of re-risk.

- Is there an area where you've stopped trusting because it feels "good enough"?
- How has "playing it safe" become an excuse to neglect fresh calling?