

## Steward-Ship, Part 2

A *steward* is someone who has entrusted tasks or assignments given to him to oversee and care for attentively. According to the dictionary, a *steward* is someone who:

- 1) attends to the passengers on an aircraft or ship, or handles food provisions and dining arrangements on a ship;
- 2) is elected to manage or administrate affairs on behalf of an employer or official;
- 3) manages the domestic affairs of a hotel, club, college, or other establishment that provides meals or lodging;
- 4) manages the property, finances, or household of another;
- 5) acts as a marshal or official at a large public event.

A steward is accountable to the owner. He is only there to please his master. He is a minister of all the affairs of his master's household. Slaves, during the Roman Empire, became *custodians* of their master's household, and also dictated the training of all his children.

In plantation times, the slaves of masters did the same. The word *slave* merely refers to someone who is bought by a master to carry out work, but stewards are those who hold certain autonomy and authority, and are expected to represent and conduct specific affairs for their master's welfare (Lk 16:2,8; 12:42).

Paul was a steward of the manifold grace of God. Stewards are overseers and are expected to conduct themselves blamelessly (Tit 1:7). Stewards are always held accountable to their masters (1 Cor 4:1; 1 Pet 4:10). Stewards are given "talents" in order to conduct business affairs on behalf of their masters (Mt 25:14-15). Those talents are specific graces in various areas in order to have oversight and do business for the sake of their master.

A steward on this boat, like Yowceph, will manage the affairs involving the ship in certain physical ways – accountable for the upkeep and cleanliness of this vessel to make it shipshape. A steward manages specific affairs in his own realm. Others will also come here and teach the crew everything they know, so there will be a complete contribution in effort and grace to make this ship seaworthy. Fathers could come here and spend a month scraping paint, or doing other tasks with their sons.

A steward is someone who is put “in charge” of a large estate, utilizing and managing all the resources for the benefit of his master. Stewards are managers, as in controlling the movement and direction of the ship. There needs to be a team of stewards who oversee specific areas of this project, working together. This ship will be an incredible witness of all the stewards working together as one, being made evident by their deeds, the ship’s appearance, order, cleanliness, etc. The engine must be kept perfectly in tune, not having smoke or exhaust fumes stinking up the entire area.

Each steward helps to cover the others (1 Cor 4:1-2; 9:17). We must have weekly meetings onboard the ship to ensure its maintenance and upkeep. Stewards are to be examples of selflessly laying down their lives, progressing towards the ship’s ultimate completion. Yowceph of old was a primary example of stewardship. Once a week, we must meet to discuss what is needful, working together in council.

There will always be the general “overseers” of the boat. They are not self-seeking, but stewards. Knowledge in any area can be acquired, but knowledge only puffs you up. Our Father gives grace to the humble. No one person can have superiority over the others onboard *Peacemaker*. You cannot have superior feelings about your function above that of another. Everyone is vital. Everyone has a voice!

As stewards appointed for this ship, we cannot have a careless, reckless attitude in carrying out our responsibilities (Mk 7:21-22). We all need to come to the meetings and judge ourselves. If we do not come in this manner then we will end up being judged. Unity is everything. Without it we are ruined. We want to make the ship a community,

having its own daily minchot. It isn't the thirteenth tribe when this ship goes out in the ocean. It is part of the whole. This ship is owned by all the twelve tribes, and will reflect that fact.

Yowceph, as a steward, should be notified about meetings or appointments that are needed on the ship. He has to have adequate time to prepare the rooms and collect whatever is necessary to oversee what is needed for the meetings. Often, Yowceph is the last person to be notified, but he should be the first, because he is in charge of all things of this nature on board.

The women who are here must be properly adjusted as to where they need to work. There should be no overlapping, so everyone can know they are being depended on to carry out specific tasks. Yowceph does the maintenance duties onboard the ship. We need to make the ship "community-friendly." There may be a need to consider alterations to make it more accommodating to the overall effect of the ship's purpose. Yowceph needs a hospitality refrigerator. He will use that at his discretion as guests come on board.

We need at least two public bathrooms, a men and women's public bathroom. We need a broom closet set aside somewhere. The one that is presently used is silly for this purpose, since it has stained glass on the doors. At one time, it was an additional bathroom.

Perhaps, we could have a traveling café on board. We should investigate the possibilities. Our licensing may have to change to accommodate commercial purposes such as this. The utility space is an issue, as it will have three times the amount of people coming on board soon to help with all the needs.

We must have a monthly plan of everything overall that is needed to make the project run smoothly. The ship should send out monthly reports to the communities, so everyone will know and understand more accurately what is directly involved with getting "their" ship together. People feel too detached from what is actually needed here,

so we have to bring them near by giving a report and expressing what those needs are exactly. The poorest communities can also contribute, giving their support for the *Peacemaker* ship. We need a *Peacemaker* fund, so everyone can have a part in bringing about the completion of this ship. Others can send their apprentices to be trained under the stewards who are already here. It is going to be a marvelous work of the Holy Spirit.