

# ***Economics: A Christian Worldview – Stewardship Scenarios***

## **(TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS/KEY)**

### **Purpose**

Students see how *oikonomos*/stewardship/managing God-given resources faithfully is practiced via several real-life scenarios.

### **Time**

10-15 minutes

### **Instructions**

1. Print a copy of Page 3 for each student.
2. Briefly remind students: **“A steward does not own the resources. He manages them for the owner.”**  
Connect to Luke 12:
  - The faithful and wise steward
  - Being “rich toward God”
  - Accountability for what God entrusts
3. Divide students in teams (2-4 teams works best).
4. Assign teams to scenarios on the top of the handout page.
5. Read the instructions together. Encourage **concrete answers**, not “be nice” or “spend money wisely.”
6. Give teams 6-8 minutes to answer, then teams take turns reading their answers.
7. Ask debrief questions (next page).

### **Key (Possible Answers)**

#### **Team 1 (Family of Five):**

- Resources – Income, time, home, parents’ skills, transportation, relationships
- Responsibilities – Food, housing, training children, paying bills, giving to church, saving for needs
- Wise Steward Decisions – Budgeting, prioritizing needs before wants, saving, avoiding debt, teaching children about budgeting
- Foolish Steward Decision – Spending on unnecessary items before needs are met, ignoring bills that are due, going into debt

#### **Team 2 (Youth Group Planning Event):**

- Resources – Money, volunteers, church building, time, students’ talents
- Responsibilities – Safety, integrity, good testimony, wise use of funds
- Wise Steward Decisions – Allocating money wisely, comparing prices, avoiding waste, using the event for spiritual growth
- Foolish Steward Decision – Wasting money on flash instead of substance, ignoring safety

#### **Team 3 (Farmer):**

- Resources – Land, equipment, livestock, laborers, knowledge, time
- Responsibilities – Pay workers, use land wisely, provide for family, maintain tools, plan for next season
- Wise Steward Decisions – Maintain equipment, rotate crops, save part of income, treat workers fairly

- Foolish Steward Decision – Exhaust soil for short-term gain, neglect tool maintenance, exploit workers

**Team 4 (Widow):**

- Resources – Monthly checks, time, wisdom, home, prayer
- Responsibilities – Basic needs, medical care, health
- Wise Steward Decisions – Budget carefully, avoid scammers, seek church support, plan medical costs
- Foolish Steward Decision – Ignore medical needs, spend wastefully

**Debrief Questions**

1. What do you think are the most common foolish decisions made by individuals today in regards to their stewardship and managing of money and/or resources?

*AWV.*

2. What does it mean to be “rich toward God” in these scenarios?

*AWV.*

# Economics: A Christian Worldview – Stewardship Scenarios

## Scenarios:

**Team 1 – A Family of 5 – \$4000/month Income**

**Team 2 – A Church Youth Group – \$800 Event Budget**

**Team 3 – A Farmer Managing Land, Tools, Hired Help**

**Team 4 – A Widow on a Fixed Income**

Your team must produce the following:



1. **Three Resources** (What has been entrusted to you?)

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2. **Three Responsibilities** (What obligations come with those resources?)

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3. **Three Wise Steward Decisions** (practical, specific choices)

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4. **One Foolish Steward Decision** (something tempting, but unfaithful)

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