

Hold On to This For Me

Sample A: **Bill, or name of person, would you give me \$100?** The person you gave the money to steps up and hands you the money. Wow, thanks. Do you want to know why he was so willing to give me that? It is because I gave it to him earlier to hold on for me and told him at some point this morning I would ask for it back and he agreed. **The reason he could give it up was that it was not his in the first place!**

Sample B: If I gave you \$100 bill earlier this morning and asked you to hold on to it for me would you do that? You might think that strange but most of you I would think would oblige me that. Then when I asked for the \$100 you would probably not hesitate to give it back to me right? Why? **You know it is not yours in the first place so it's easy to give up what you don't own.**

Psalms 24:1 says, **“The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it.”** As Christians we understand that everything belongs to God and that we are simply stewards or managers of what He has given us. To the One who has given us eternal life and overwhelmed us with so many spiritual blessings we in return know that all we have is His. He is simply entrusting us with that.

This is one reason why at the offering time we are so willing to give. God is only asking of a portion of what He has given us. **It is easier to give away what I don't feel is mine to begin with.**

I Peter 4:10 says, “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful **stewards** of God’s grace in its various forms.” This means that we offer up to God all the gifts he has blessed us with. You use your gifts to help around our church in various ways but your gift of money helps fuel all that we do!

So this morning as we take up the offering let’s remember a couple of things. First, what we give is truly not ours but His. Secondly what we give is used to help us continue reaching people for Christ not just here locally but around the world.