



John C. Maxwell

There are a few different ways we can view our possessions and gifts. Author, coach, and speaker John C. Maxwell encourages us to view them with the highest perspective possible.

How we see things is how we view things. We see people as we are. Mature people have the ability to see things from another person's perspective.

### Three perspectives on possessions

The Good Samaritan—Luke 10:30-37

#### 1. Robbers' perspective on possessions:

*What's yours is mine, and I'm going to take it.*

We're all born into this world as robbers.

#### 2. Priest and Levite's perspective on possessions:

*What's mine is mine, and I'm going to keep it.*

What the son didn't realize about the French fries:

I'm their source.

I control whether or not he has them and how many.

I don't need them.

I just want to share them with him.

We all have a tendency toward selfishness and scarcity. This perspective makes us tighten our grip on possessions so we miss out on other blessings.

#### 3. Samaritan's perspective on possessions:

*What's mine is yours, and I'm going to give it.*

Selfish people don't want to be inconvenienced.

Significant people are giving, kind, and sharing.

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**We offer a step-by-step process to confidently deliver advice that aligns with Christian values.**

**Study Groups connect like-minded peers for encouragement, best practices, and accountability.**



#### Highest perspective on possessions:

Based on the biblical principle of God's ownership.  
(Psalm 24:1, James 1:17)

#### *4. What's mine is not mine, and I'm going to steward it.*

This perspective changes my mindset about how I handle the possessions at my disposal—not mine to keep but mine to manage.

*Your gifts aren't yours. God has just loaned them to you to use to add value and to help people.*

The fourth perspective grounds us, helps us steward our gifts and possessions well, and opens up opportunities to bless and help others.

#### Discussion Questions

- 1 What stood out to you from John Maxwell's teaching?
- 2 Dr. Maxwell described perspective as "the way I view things" and asserted that "I see people as I am." How could perspective impact our client counsel, either positively or negatively?
- 3 As Kingdom Advisors, we know God owns it all and we are stewards (perspective #4). How can the other three perspectives sneak into our thoughts and behavior?

#### Personal Reflection

- 1 Which of the four perspectives dominate my daily actions?
- 2 Are there ways I am a "robber"? If not in possessions, could it be in time, relationships, or attitudes?
- 3 What's the next step I need to take as a result of this study?

John Maxwell's 2016 book, *3 Things Successful People Do: The Road Map That Will Change Your Life*, gives readers practical teaching with engaging stories to build a path toward successfully influencing others.