

Hi, I'm Crawford Loritts with a Legacy Moment.

I have a friend who owns some rental property. He and his wife view this as a ministry, providing an affordable place for young couples to live and get started. But this friend told me that early on some people took advantage of him. Consequently, he and his wife now screen potential renters closely, spelling out in detail what their expectations are and exactly how they want them to take care of the property, along with their responsibilities as the owners. He says that made all the difference in the world, and now they have far fewer hassles.

Sometimes as Christians, we tend to forget that where we live belongs to somebody else. I'm not talking about your house and my house. Although, that's true too; technically, it all belongs to God. The moment we trusted Christ as Savior and Lord, a transaction was made. We sold the house, so to speak. We have a new Owner.

Listen to how Paul describes this in First Corinthians chapter 3, verses 16 and 17. He raises a sobering question. "Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are." That's an awesome thought. The God of the universe owns me! We are responsible to God, not to desecrate His house, but to keep it clean. I can't underscore this enough. We live in such a laid back Christianity, sometimes with such an extremely imbalanced emphasis on Grace, that we forget about personal responsibility for holiness.

Here's what I want you to remember today. We are not free to do whatever we want to do. Yield to the Holy Spirit and allow Him to keep up the place, to keep it clean.