

A Stewardship Minute

Inspiring a deeper understanding of true giving
An introduction of **Stewardship** to the congregation

January 2019

At worship services we hear about being good stewards. We are reminded that everything we have ultimately came because of God. God created us; body, mind, and spirit. Our talents, creativity and achievements are all God-given. We have possessions because God has given us the ability to obtain them. Not to be overlooked is the time God gives us to live on earth, which is a theme in this month's Stewardship. The article makes the point that our time is a sacred trust from God as long as we live. St. Paul makes that point in his letter to the Ephesians: "Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people, but as wise, making the most of the time..." (Ephesians 5:15-16). Christian stewards are those who make the most of the time that they have. In short, we are called to spend our time responsibly, using our talents to serve the Lord in whatever way we can.

Some years ago a brilliant Englishman named Malcolm Muggeridge, who for years used his mental and spiritual powers wastefully, wrote a book called *Chronicles of a Wasted Life*, in which he told of his foolish living. A wasted life! How sad. Fortunately, in his later years he became a dedicated Christian and went to India where he detailed the wonderful service of Mother Teresa in a book called *Something Beautiful for God*. That, of course, was Mother Teresa's goal: to be something beautiful for God.

What if we were such steadfast servants of God that we used our time profitably in service to God whatever our occupation happened to be?

Imagine what a world that would be!

Prayer: Lord, give us the courage to make our lives beautiful for you. Amen.

*"A Stewardship Minute" is provided as a supplement to the **Stewardship** newsletter as part of your subscription. It can be read by the pastor, stewardship leader or lay reader during worship to briefly introduce and remind the congregation about the principles of stewardship each month. It may also be edited to fit specific needs. Used in this manner, it can significantly increase the general understanding of true giving.*

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