

A Stewardship Minute

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

March 2019

We know Jesus as Lord and Savior. We know him as Friend and Companion. Today, let's consider him as a steward, as one who fulfilled his mission as an earthly servant with a heavenly frame of mind.

Toward the end of his physical life, Jesus offered the following prayer to God:

"I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do." (John 17:4)

He meant that his time of servitude on earth was coming to an end. He was referring to his various roles that were meant to show God's hope for humanity. Think of the many facets of Christ's stewardship: He served as teacher, minister, healer, comforter, prophet, and ultimately as Savior. He had been the consummate steward in that he served God perfectly in every way. Christ revealed the basic essentials of stewardship, which are: Accepting responsibility from God and using one's time, talent, possessions, and self to serve God and others.

This month's issue of *Stewardship* reviews Christ's own "report" on his stewardship. He gave an account of his stewardship before God at the last judgment. Hopefully, at that time, we can say with Jesus "I have glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do."

Prayer: Loving Creator, the challenges before us seem enormous as we strive to serve you. Help us to remember that we can courageously meet every test through Christ our Lord. 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.