

The starting point to recognize good Stewardship is that everything is a gift from God. In gratitude for God's generosity, we dedicate a portion of these gifts – our time, talent and treasure – to furthering God's Kingdom in our parish and throughout the world.



### ***Stewardship...***

...is not just a decision of the head, it requires a conversion of the heart.



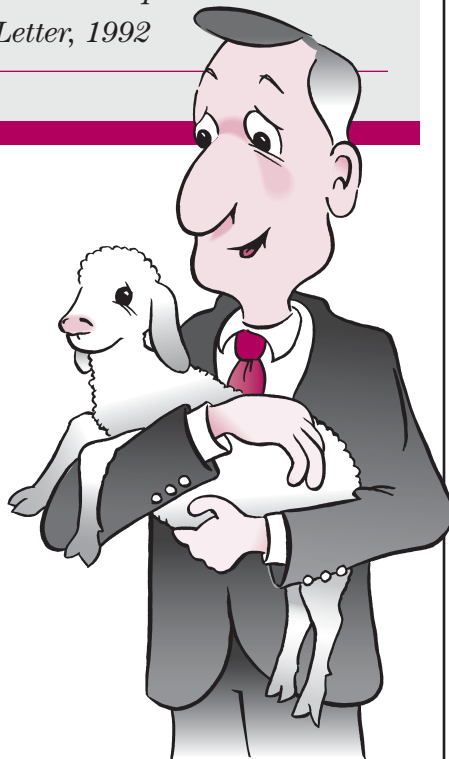
When we share our gifts, we really give back to God a portion of the bounty he has loaned to us.



No one can make you a good steward... it is a personal conversion experience during which life takes on new meaning and gives new freedom and joy.

**“Becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ leads naturally to the practice of stewardship. These linked realities – discipleship and stewardship – then make up the Christian Life in which each day is lived in an intimate, personal relationship with the Lord.”**

*Stewardship: A Disciple's Response U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter, 1992*



## STEWARDSHIP A WAY OF LIFE



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A  
*Good Steward?*

**Christian Stewards respond to God's love in proportion to how they have been blessed:**  
***“Return to God according to the measure you have received.”***

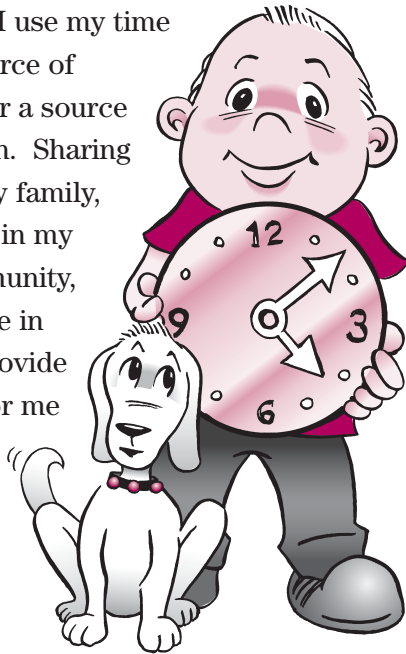
*(Luke 6:38)*

## TIME

*“I just don’t have the time ...”*

Do I control my time, or does my time control me?

How wisely I use my time can be a source of happiness, or a source of frustration. Sharing time with my family, being active in my parish community, helping those in need, can provide happiness for me in this life, and into the next.



*Dear God, as I end this day I pray that I have accomplished deeds worthy of your trust. May I look on this day as a wise purchase, for I have spent a day of my life for it.*

## TALENT

*What can I do to help?...*

God “gifts” everyone in a unique and special way. I have received talents that fit in with God’s great plan.

I will pray for guidance to discover how I may use my talent properly. My family, my parish family, and the greater community around me, need what I can bring to them.



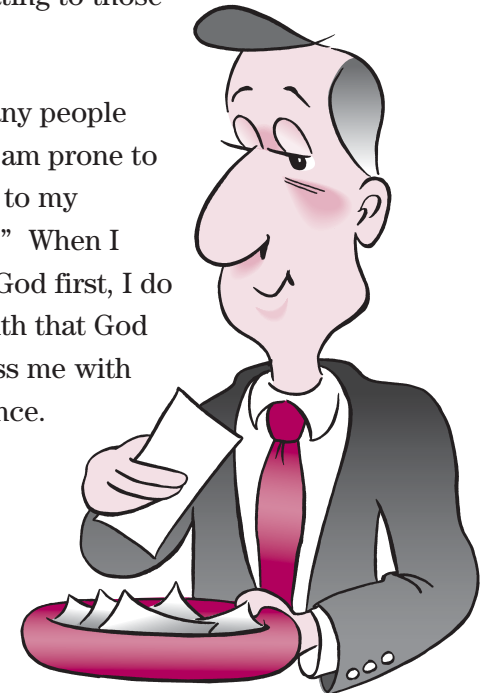
*God... has gifted me with unique talents; I am directed to use them, not hide them, to further God’s Kingdom here on earth.*

## TREASURE

*But an increase hurts my budget...*

Being a good steward of the treasure that God has provided means that I will return a portion of it by giving to my parish, and by donating to those in need.

Like many people today, I am prone to “live up to my income.” When I give to God first, I do so in faith that God will bless me with abundance.



*“We read the Gospel as if we had no money, and we spend our money as if we know nothing of the Gospel.”*

*...John Haughey, S.J.*