

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME

by Rev. Thomas Soltis, Stewardship Director

William Penn wrote: "I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that I can do, or any kindness that I can show, let me do it now. Let me not neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again." "NOW" is the time to get important things done. Tomorrow may be too late to grasp an opportunity or avoid a misfortune. God has allotted a specific amount of time for you. He has given you one earthly life to live.. Make the most of it. Be a good steward of your time.

SUGGESTIONS FOR GETTING PROJECTS DONE ON TIME AND DONE WELL

1. Prioritize projects.
2. Do one at a time.
3. Set a feasible time slot to get it done.
4. Begin well ahead of a deadline.
5. Work when you are most alert.
6. Exclude interruptions.
7. PRAY!

A SAD SILLY DITTY

Saw something silly -
A man looking for time
When there wasn't any.
Saw something sad -
A woman wasting time
When that's all she had.

Wasting time robs. Those who "spin their wheels" on the track of time end up "losers". Like rocking chairs they go back and forth and get nowhere. The Bible advises the slothful: "Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider its ways and be wise." (Prov. 6:6)

THE STEWARDSHIP OF TIME

Time is a gift from God. The length of it is irrelevant. What is accomplished in life is. In the time frame from birth to death, God would have us live to His glory by being good stewards of His possessions. Because God is the owner of all things, Christian stewardship involves managing all of life

and life's resources to His glory according to His will. This includes every phase of life - Church, family, friends, enemies, work, education, government, recreation, time, treasure, talent, etc., etc. Psalm 96:8 declares: "Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name." I Cor.10:31 advises: "Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it to the glory of God."

CRITICAL QUESTIONS

To properly execute the glorification of God through the Christian management of God's possessions, it would be helpful to ask:

- Who am I?
- Why am I?
- What can I do well?
- Where can I do it?
- When should I do it?

The last question enters the realm of time. Don't squander it. Make the most of it by fulfilling yourself for the glorification of God.

TIME THOUGHTS

- * To save a lot of time, take a little time ahead of time.
- * A friend of time is precise.
- * Time (always on time) never runs fast or slow. Humans do.
- * Successful time management begins with self management.
- * Too many priorities are as bad as none if you don't have the time to get them done.
- * Master time by knowing what and when to begin and where and how to end.
- * A friend of time is precise.
- * Procrastination today hurries tomorrow toward a regrettable yesterday.
- * **Prayer time saves time every time.**

Time is God's gift
For which to uplift
Holy hands in thanksgiving.
Give God His rightful due
With a love-life of thanks-living
Faithfully fulfilling your I.O.U.