

TIME - TREASURE - TALENT

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Lifestyle Evaluation Quiz

1. I never seem to have enough time. (T-F)
2. I feel I'm drowning in money issues. (T-F)
3. I'm not living up to my potential. (T-F)
4. I'm not sure my goals are attainable. (T-F)
5. When I plan, I fear failure. (T-F)

Non-achievers Dream Vaguely and Dread Specifically

In the February, 2012, issue of Boat US magazine, Jeremy Cage (who spent 16 months sailing around the world with his wife and two children) had this to say, "Many people never achieve the things they want because they dream vaguely and dread specifically. They're vague about how to get there and allow dread to detract them from doing the work and the planning required." Jeremy is a senior executive at PepsiCo, Purchase, NY.

Time - Treasure - Talent

Time, financial resources and abilities are gifts from God and should be used according to His will and for His purposes. He has no delight in non-achievers who plan vaguely and fear irresponsibly. He delights in fearless stewards who plan specifically to engage their time, treasure and talent for His glory.

Some Spiritual "T's"

> **Time** - Christian stewards should not be vague about daily devotions. A specific time should be set for a two way conversation with God via His Word and prayer. Time should also be prioritized for Church worship. Christian stewards take the time to be good care-givers in behalf of family members and those in need.

> **Treasure** - God personally doesn't need your money, but He greatly rejoices when you cheerfully share it through His Church (2 Cor. 9:7). Don't be vague about your offerings. Be specific. Predetermine in January what you will contribute weekly on a percentage of income basis (1 Cor. 16:2). And don't be afraid to fund God first with the tithe (10% of income) worrying about the future. Trust God to provide.

> **Talent** - Volunteers are the dynamos of the Church producing the power to perform God's will in the world. Don't be vague about your talents. Know them and specifically put them into action. Prayerfully eliminate feelings of

inadequacy. Moses felt inadequate when called upon to lead Israel out of Egypt. Trusting God, he accepted the challenge and worked wonders (Genesis 3 & 4).

Some Temporal "T's"

> **Time** - Engaging in long, insignificant conversations or excessively watching TV will eliminate time to do better things to better yourself . . . by reading beneficial books watching good DVD's, taking a class for self improvement, glean useful information on the internet, etc. Procrastinating clock-watchers at work never get ahead.

> **Talent** - Young people struggling to determine a future vocation should answer the questions: "What do I like to do? What can I do best? Those who realistically envision the future without the dread of failure are more likely to succeed. Those already in a vocation should not simply coast along. Fine tuning talents via self improvement can lead to more enjoyable occupations and better pay.

> **Treasure** - "Waste not; want not" is a good adage. Haphazard money management can be disastrous. Just ask someone in the dark pit of credit card debt. It's important to be specific about money flow by establishing a personal budget. To be a person of means, one must live within one's means.

Jesus, the Model Steward

Jesus was not vague about His Father's plan of salvation (John 3:16). Fearlessly, He fulfilled the specifics. He led a perfect life to cover our unrighteousness. On the cross He suffered the agonies of hell to deliver us for heaven. He was the perfect Steward of His Father's plan. God has a plan for your life. Know what it is, then let Jesus captain your ship of life to fearlessly fulfill your life's mission..

