

TIME AND TALENT

“Now I want to tell you, dear friends, what God in his kindness has done for the churches in Macedonia. Though they have been going through much trouble and hard times, their wonderful joy and deep poverty have overflowed in rich generosity. For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford but far more. And they did it of their own free will. They begged us again and again for the gracious privilege of sharing in the gift for the Christians in Jerusalem. Best of all, they went beyond our highest hopes, for their first action was to dedicate themselves to the Lord and to us for whatever direction God might give them.” (2 Corinthians 8:1-5 LNT)



When we talk about stewardship we often summarize it as time, talent and treasure given to God. And most frequently we talk about treasure. As if implying that the giving of money is the most important gift that we can give God. But the scripture above reminds us that we must first give ourselves to God and then to God's work in the world. And that often requires time and effort. God has given each of us abilities to do things

that others may not be able to do. God intends that we use his gifts to honor him. ***“Whatever you eat or drink or whatever you do, you must do all for the glory of God.”*** (1 Corinthians 10:31 NLT)

There are many opportunities to serve God and honor him with our time and talents. Friends Disaster Service is always in need of people to volunteer to contribute what they can to reach out in love and hope to families who have gone through a disaster. Some of the most recent projects include the building of homes destroyed or heavily damaged by Hurricane Katrina. Friends Disaster Service focuses on families that are uninsured or underinsured. What they really do is rebuild and repair lives impacted by disaster. It is the hands on approach that produces the reward of fulfillment and personal contact with persons who need a personal touch. Don't let your time and talent go to waste. Offer your time and talent to God and in turn to God's work in the world.

~ Hugh Spaulding, pastor

From the NCYM Stewardship and Finance Committee

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