

Faithful Living...Practicing Stewardship is Not Optional

We Know from scripture that everything we have is a gift from God. We know from the teachings of Christ that our faith will save us.

Stewardship is not a new concept. Throughout the gospels, Jesus teaches us by word and example how to live God-centered lives. We are warned not to be preoccupied with things of less importance while ignoring the weightier issues. The human tendency is to follow the letter of the law while ignoring the spirit of the law.

Holiness can be cultivated. How we spend our lives is a testimony to our faith. To worship and obey the voice of the Father, we must follow the cross-bearing Christ. Jesus has the power to heal when our faith in God becomes a priority in our lives. “Your faith has saved you.”

We are all baptized into one body. We cannot deny we are interconnected with all of God’s creation. To be Christian stewards, we must share gifts of time, talent and treasure in proportion to the blessings received from God. Let us not be impoverished by a tendency to forget God or to keep Him at a distance.

Use Your Time – and Live!

Prayer

Have I made room in my life for daily prayer or am I so preoccupied with making a living, answering the phone, shopping, doing chores or watching TV that there is no time left for God? Make an effort to fit prayer into your daily routine. Most everyone spends some time alone, even if tending to chores. Turn off the radio and spend some time with your Creator.

Fasting

The Lenten practice of not eating meat on Fridays, and fasting between meals, doesn’t mean fasting must necessarily be about food. Give up an hour of TV, smoke one less cigarette, or drink one less cup of coffee, just consciously make some small sacrifice daily. The practice of fasting will help us to become aware that God has truly blessed our lives.

Sacrificial Giving

Every act of financial giving is a testimony that you are willing to trust God in your life. Take time to regularly examine how you spend your time, talents, and financial resources. Do these expenditures show what you really value? Realize that, if you have food and shelter, you are already richer than many of God’s children. Are you as generous with others as God is with you?