

TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURES

Then Jesus said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." <sup>16</sup>And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. <sup>17</sup>He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' <sup>18</sup>Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>Then I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."<sup>20</sup>But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'"

Luke 12:15-20 (NIV)

❖ **Prioritizing Your Time:**

*There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven...*

Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NIV)

1. Making time for GOD.

*In the morning, O Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation.*

Psalms 5:3 (NIV)

2. Making time for your FAMILY.

*Teach your children to choose the right path, and when they are older, they will remain upon it.*

Proverbs 22:6 (NLT)

3. Making time for REST.

*"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>10</sup>but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work."*

Exodus 20:8-10 (NIV)

❖ **Utilizing Your Talents:**

*"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. <sup>16</sup>The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. <sup>17</sup>So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. <sup>18</sup>But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money... <sup>20</sup>The man who had received the one talent came. "Master," he said... <sup>25</sup>"I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you." <sup>26</sup>His master replied, "You wicked, lazy servant! ... <sup>30</sup>And throw that worthless servant outside."*

Matthew 25:14-19, 20, 25, 30 (NIV)

1. God GIFTED you from birth.

*"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."*

Jeremiah 1:5 (NIV)

2. Your gifts are a part of a GREATER FORCE that together can change the world.  
*We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. <sup>7</sup>If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; <sup>8</sup>if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.*

Romans 12:6-8 (NIV)

3. Your gifts are an EXTENSION of GOD in YOU.  
*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.*

1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)

❖ Sharing Your Treasures:

*"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. <sup>20</sup>But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

Matthew 6:19-21 (NIV)

1. Give back to God first: SUPPORT KINGDOM WORK.

*"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."*

Luke 6:38 (NIV)

*"Will a man rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How do we rob you?' "In tithes and offerings." ... <sup>10</sup>Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."*

Malachi 3:8, 10 (NIV)

2. Give to others in need: SHARE with those in NEED.

*Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.*

James 1:27 (NIV)

*If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?*

1 John 3:17 (NIV)

3. Give back to yourself and family: SAVE for that RAINY DAY.

*"Ants are creatures of little strength, yet they store up their food in the summer."*

Proverbs 30:25 (NIV)

*In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has.*

Proverbs 21:20 (NIV)