

Managing Time

FILL
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WITH
THE
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OF
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NOT
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FILL IT
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The secular ballad writer Jim Croce once wrote a song that included the words: "If I could save time in a bottle the first thing that I'd want to do is to save everyday 'till eternity passes away just to spend them with you."

Of course, this lyric is not a statement of theological truth. Even so, just as God used Balaam to bring his word to Balak, this secular lyric illustrates to the world a significant stewardship challenge God places before human beings - including believers.

Time on this old earth is given to each of us in different amounts, but God does not often give us any idea how much time he's given individually to you and me.

Some believe that God created time for us, and that eternity is then the absence of time - that God is time impoverished. One wise friend of mine recently asked me the question, "If there is no time in heaven, then how will we sing hymns?" God has an eternity of time. He has the maximum wealth of time available.

It is interesting to know that God's method of teaching us Stewardship is to trust us with a little, and if we're faithful with that little, He entrusts us with more. Perhaps eternity is like that. God is teaching us how to be faithful with a little time, so that when we are confronted with the riches of eternity we will know how to use it appropriately.

The telltale sign of a Stewardship opportunity, after all, is when you find that you don't have enough of whatever it is. Our society is full of evidence that time is a stewardship opportunity. "There's not enough hours in the day," we say when we've not been good stewards of time.

So, what objectives should we have in being time stewards? First, we need to understand the nature of time.

Time is like a bucket. It can be empty - filled with air. It can be filled with garbage. It can be filled with clear, clean, pure water. It can be overfilled so that whatever is inside spills out onto the ground.

Every once in a while, I take stock in

how I fill my time. How much time have I spent doing nothing of productive use? How much time have I wasted because of procrastination or bouts of sloth. That would be like the bucket filled with air. An empty bucket is a resource wasted.

How much time have I spent doing evil? We all sin - in fact, "If anyone says he has no sin he is a liar and the truth is not in him," Scripture teaches. Time spent watching worthless movies, or wasted in front of worthless sitcoms. Entertainment is wonderful. Let's make sure its also honoring to God. Let's not fill our time bucket with garbage!

Scripture plainly teaches us how we should spend our time. "Pray without ceasing" instructs us. We are to remember God and follow the commands of Scripture "in our rising up and sitting down," all the day long! Fill your bucket with the pure water of God. Not half full. Fill it up.

We also need to distinguish between the proper use of a resource and the abuse of a resource. A bucket overfilled with pure water wastes the excess water that spills out. In the same way, a life overfilled with noble pursuits becomes inefficient and wasteful.

Now, I'm not talking about our continual worship of God throughout the day - that's good and right. I'm talking about the events we parcel out to our days. This ministry here, that ministry there - which often overfills our time bucket. Our efforts lose their value because we've executed the ministry entrusted to us so poorly due to time constraints. We become careless in our haste to do it all, and the ministry of God suffers as a result.

Don't overfill your bucket. Trust that if God needs another bucket of pure water taken to a brother or sister, and your bucket is already full, he is wise and sovereign enough not to fill your bucket twice. But if your bucket is filled with half pure water and half junk be sure to take the junk out and fill up with all pure water. You'll be glad you did!

Member's Needs



Housing for unemployed, Christian couple with one child. Becky: 548-0978 (2)

Vita-Mix - Becky: 548-0978 (1)

Land. 1 1/2 acres of land within 20 minutes of Waukesha Memorial Hospital to purchase - OR - 4 -5 bedroom home on at least one acre of land with one bedroom and a full bath on the main level. The garage should also be on the same level as the main level of the house in order to accommodate the handicapped. Marcy: 524-8704 (3)

Cloth covered car seat with a sun canopy to borrow or buy. Liane: 456-9511 (3)

Girls 12-13 years old who like to play soccer. I'm starting a soccer club/team. Ker (pronounced Care): 542-9669 (3)

We would love more Christian neighbors!!! (especially with kids). The home next door to ours is for sale by owner. It is located on a quiet street in Big Bend. It is a two story home with three bedrooms, 1 bath, three car garage, newly remodeled kitchen. Call Sherry: 662-0247 (3)

Cross Country Skis - Karla: 662-3163 (3)

Electronic Keyboard with 49 or more keys. Sherry: 662-0247 (2)

Snowblower. Walk behind model that is 22" - 24" wide. Gary: 246-7231 (2)

Weight Bench. Sheri: 463-3114 (2)

Infant car seat that has a base that is left in the car with a detachable, lightweight carrier/chair. Michelle: 542-2998 (2)

Vacuum cleaner in good working condition. Kim: 871-9511 (2)

Refrigerator with freezer. Maura: 462-3399 (2)

Lawnmower. Maura: 462-3399 (2)

Snowblower. Maura: 462-3399 (2)

Freezer: Becky: 548-0978 (2)

Wringer washer. Movable, uses hose to empty and is not attached to water or sink. Jeanne (414) 677-0359 (1)

Canning Jars. Jeanne: (414) 677-0359 (1)

Flow meter to check the flow of water in our home. We would like to borrow

this for a weekend. Dan: 662-0247 (1)

Dehumidifier in good working condition. Karla: 662-3163 (1)

Washing Machine. Carolyn: 228-5138 (1)

Boys pants and jeans in size 16. Sherry: 662-0247 (1)

Men's winter jacket in size small or medium. Sherry: 662-0247 (1)

Ministry Need

Simply Stewardship needs someone to build two large wood signs for the clothing drive. These signs must be portable, so we can put them up at the spring and fall clothing drives.

This very important evangelism tool brings people in off the road where they can find clothing for their families and hear the gospel presented one-on-one. They also receive a tract containing the gospel message.

If you are able to provide materials, design, construction and painting of such a sign, or can help out in some specific aspect, **call Dan or Sherry at 414 662-0247.**

Services Offered

Waukesha Bible Church will once again be hosting the Simply Stewardship Spring Clothing Drive. Set up is on April 25 from noon to 4:30 and the drive is on Saturday, April 26, from 9 AM - 3 PM. Mark your calendars!

Moneywise - Christian home business dedicated to freeing you from debt and keeping you there. Learn to change your spending habits to reflect God's desire for wise stewards. Earl: 789-0796 (3)

The Waukesha County Library now lends out CD - ROM, educational, computer programs for 7 days at a time. It's a great way to "try before you buy"! (3)

Grorich Photography - Wedding and Portrait Photography. We've been in business for 15 years and we work together as a husband and wife team. Mike and Julie: (414) 628-0967 (2)

12 year old wants to baby-sit for your kids. CPR training. Lots of experience.

References available. Oldest of 5 kids. If interested, call Ker: 542-9669 (2)

***Does your Pastor and your church's Board of Deacons receive copies of Simply Stewardship? Call us with the name and address of your church. We will forward a copy to them and they can begin using Simply Stewardship to help meet the needs of their congregation. Dan and Sherry: 662-0247

The Free Box

Luke 6:38

Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, they will pour into your lap. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.

Proverbs 11: 24-25

One man gives freely yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed.

Hard sided suitcase. Marcy: 524-8704 (3)

Crib Mattress. It is clean and in very good condition. Helena: 672-1257 (2)

Kiplinger's CA-Simply Money for Windows. Fast, easy software to manage your finances. Good as new! Dan or Sherry: 662-0247 (2)

Texas Instruments OmniLaser 2108. Needs work but does print. Jeanne: (414) 677-0359 (1)

Apple Peeler / Corer. Hand crank model. Karen: 549-1585 (1)

Varioslicer. Karen: 549-1585 (1)

Western Youth Saddle. Karen: 549-1585 (1)

Epson Dot Matrix Printer. Needs some

repair. Karen: 549-1585 (1)

Scrubbee Do from Don Aslett. Karen: 549-1585 (1)

Little Tykes Chalkboard. Needs a bolt. Karla: 662-3163 (1)

Argus 300 Watt Slide Projector. Sherry: 662-0247 (1)

Girl's size 5-6, thick, hooded, winter coat. It could use a new zipper but it is usable. Sherry: 662-0247 (1)

Omni - Regular carbon water filter. Dan or Sherry: 662-0247 (1)

Fluorescent lamp ceiling fixture. Two bulb, wood trim, new. Karen: 549-1585 (1)

Boots: Men's - size 7 1/2 Cowboy boots, size 7 1/2 hiking boots with red

laces, size 8 waterproof, lace up "pack" boots. Women's - size 7-8 black, lined bootie, size 6-7 low heel, black, lined dress boot. Women's boot sizes are approximate. Sherry: 662-0247 (1)

Dishes: Two sets are available. One set is a plastic service for eight minus several pieces that are missing. Each piece is a bright solid color and each place setting has a dinner plate, lunch plate, bowl and mug. The other set of dishes are brown transparent glass. Each place setting has a dinner plate, bowl, small plate, and a cup with saucer. This too is a service for eight minus a couple of pieces. Sherry: 662-0247 (1)

Baby Walker. Karla: 662-3163 (1)

Baby Bathtub. Karla: 662-3163 (1)

Umbrella Stroller. Karla: 662-3163 (1)

For Sale

Two Men's Bikes for sale or trade for a ladies 10 speed bike. 1) Schwinn Varsity 10 Speed 2) Firenze 12 Speed. Mark or Susan: 521-3461 (3)

North Face Tent - Lunar Light. Brand new, compact, lightweight, freestanding, quick pitch system, aluminum poles with locking tips, flysheet with vestibule for storage, raised floor seams with waterproof bias tape, interior storage mesh sockets. Dimensions: 84"x 54", Height: 43". Originally \$239, asking \$175. Mary: 461-2396 (2)

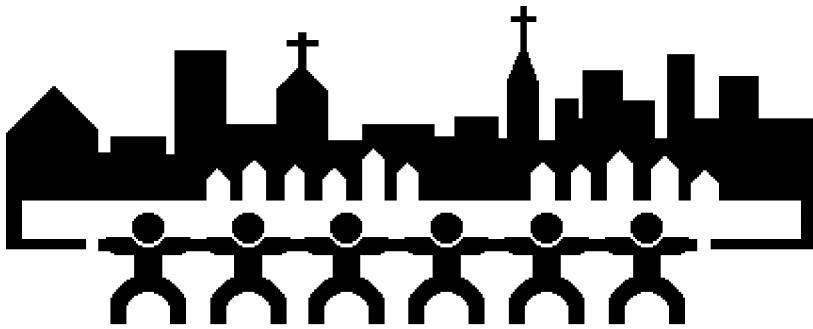
White zigzag sewing machine with cabinet. \$60. Mary: 461-2396 (2)

Piano - Netzwow, oak console with bench. \$1,495. Mary: 461-2396 (2)

Westinghouse upright freezer, white, \$150. Mary: 461-2396 (2)

Little Tykes Workshop with some tools. Good Condition. \$5. Karla: 662-3163

NOTICE:
All ads must be updated for the next issue by February 28 '97. Please remember, call us to place new ads AND to remove those ads that were answered. You can reach us at 662-0247. You can also Fax us at 662-0640.



Basics in **Milwaukee** **Brothers And Sisters In Christ Serving...**

Christian Partnerships Sought

Building friendships by helping... and sharing testimonies of God's good work among us to bring the whole gospel of Jesus Christ to every person in Milwaukee.

BASICS is designed to help inner city Christians build family-to-family and ministry-to-ministry partnerships with brothers and sisters in outlying areas.

The inner city church has an important message for suburban Christians - one of spiritual com-

mitment and strength. A whole-hearted commitment to the things of God. A trust that God protects his own even in a place of danger.

The suburban church has time, talents and treasures that are needed for inner city brothers and sisters. Material needs may include clothing, rent, shelter in times of distress, job placement, mentoring and training. A kind phone call from a friend may be all that is needed for a weary believer.

If you feel God's call on your life to partner with suburban Chris-

Simply Stewardship

Sherry Quakkelaar.....Editor in Chief
Dan Quakkelaar.....Production & Layout

Simply Stewardship is published six times per year. Subscriptions are free. Classified ads are free, and will run in as many as three consecutive issues.

Any donations made to Simply Stewardship are used exclusively for printing and postage costs.

Simply Stewardship
W229 S9025 Jackson Pky
Big Bend, WI 53103
(414) 662-0247 FAX 662-0640

tians needing to see your faith at work, or with inner city Christians in need of physical assistance, then you'll want to investigate involvement with BASICS. To receive a Christian Services Network volunteer offering form, call the Christian Services Network at 414 272-0380, or write to Arn Quakkelaar at qgroup@execpc.com

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Important Note to Members

The date you see in the upper right hand corner of your mailing label is your renewal date. If your renewal date is this month, then it is time to let us know you wish to renew. If you want your name removed from the list, let us know that too!