

## "Man is like a breath; his days are like a fleeting shadow."

## Psalm 144.4

Our lifetime is a small bit of eternity, "a fleeting shadow." (Psalm 144), which we receive as stewards. Time is a precious gift that we dare not waste. Like the three stewards in the Parable of the Talents, one day God will call each one of us to give account of how we have used the time entrusted to us.



The most personal, most appreciated and most unique gift that you can give is the gift of time – Your time. That valuable 24 hours a day that only you can spend.



Depending on your profession, your time may be worth hundreds of dollars an hour. But the time you give to another person and the Church is priceless.





Our children need our time, helping shape their lives by word and by example. The time we give to our children is an investment in their lives that is not wasted.



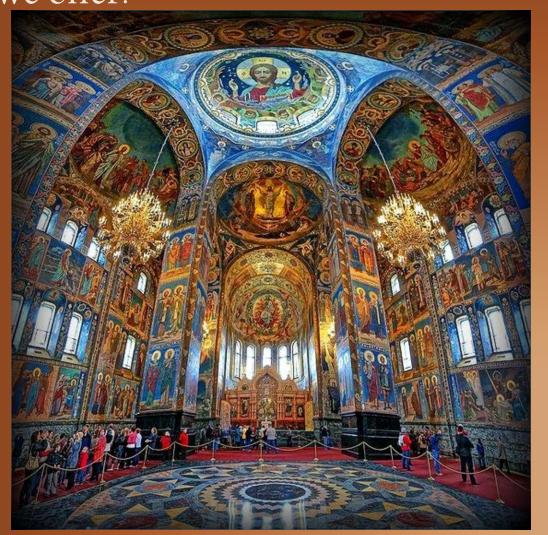
As Christians it is also important to value the time we spend at church, in worship, service and activities. Every member of the Body of Christ plays a role, according to their gifts, in the life of the local church.



Of the 168 hours in every week with which we have been blessed, we offer back the short time we spend in church on Sunday morning and other services, gathered together as the Body of Christ.



As we offer ourselves and our time as His Church, we are part of something much bigger than we can imagine – much bigger than the project we support, the service we provide, the prayer we offer.



We may need to say "no" to certain demands on our time, opening our schedule to God's prompting. We can live each day anticipating the opportunities he places in our path to offer our gift of time.



Are you a contributing member of the body of Christ? Are you actively serving God and sharing Him with others? Are you contributing to peace and unity within His body? Do you worship regularly? Take a moment to evaluate your life in light of these principles.

We are called to apply our gifts, training, abilities, education and skills to the tasks that God places before us. If we do this humbly and prayerfully, the body of Christ will function to its full potential.

