

# Stewardship/Reflection Letter

## November 2014

About a year and a half ago I was invited to participate in a group organized for the purpose of exploring the nature of stewardship. Quickly I came to understand stewardship is simply acknowledging everything is a gift from God, belongs to God and how I am responsible, as a Disciple of Christ, to share those gifts with those around me. Prayerfully, I have come to be more sensitive to needs around me, but even more than that an awareness of a graced response to living a life centered in Christ who is the model steward.

Soon after I was asked to write a letter about stewardship in my life, but that letter was more about a personal faith journey; I read it at several Masses. I'm thankful to God for all those blessings. The past remains just that because now I have a clearer perspective about living in the now using God's gifts of time, talent and treasure in the moment to best serve the Lord. Of course I don't always make the mark, but I continue to walk the journey trusting in God's love for me.

I have come to a deeper realization that stewardship is a commitment of one's self and possessions to God's service, recognizing that I do not have the right of control over property for myself. Weekly Sunday Treasure support and other contributions hold a unique place in the spiritual life promising us closer identity with Jesus who tells us to care for one another as we would for Him.

I am called to manage that which belongs to God with care and concern holding all as evidence of a generous God who has entrusted me with gifts to build the Kingdom of God... I look upon this occasion to remind myself that God does own all things; he is the Master who distributes his gifts at his discretion.

Now when I reflect upon: Time, talent and treasure; I think recognize and utilize God's generosity by embracing a stewardship way of life realizing more and more how I am called to share what God has given to me.

I invite you to use the gift of time by coming to the: Bible Study this coming Wed., Dec 3, 6:30 – 8:30 the same session repeated on: Thur. morning, Dec. 4, 10:00 -12:00 am. This DVD assisted study comes from the Diocese of Gary Library and I have facilitated this study in a neighboring parish with a positive response. Stewardship's way of life deepens my response to God's gifts and a willingness to share them.

Thank you,