

STEWARDS OF TIME

By Keith Greer

In the Bible, a steward was a household servant who was given authority to manage the household or property. He oversaw the functioning and use of those things or people assigned to him. God has given all of us certain things to use. Of these, one of the most important is **TIME**. Each person receives his or her own specific share of time, and each is responsible for using his specific portion for the best possible purposes. Once we use our time, it is impossible to get it back. Being aware of this can and should help us pay more attention to how we use the time we have. Each person who lives through all of 2014 will have been a steward over the same amount of time. Every use of this time will be made by each person. It breaks down as follows:

2014=12 Months—356 Days—8,760 Hours—525,600 Minutes

Beginning at 12:01 a.m. on January 1, each of us had this much time in our time bank. How are we spending the time given to us? We spend some of it sleeping, some working, some in recreation, etc., but how much do we spend in prayer, Bible study, teaching, encouraging others, meditating, edifying our brethren, and seeking the lost? How much time do I spend attempting to help those of my brethren with special challenges? Do I plan to attend Gospel Meetings, especially those of this local congregation? How much time do I give to the Lord in comparison to what I spend doing the things I want to do? How did you spend your time last year? Are you doing better this year? And what if you don't live long enough to use it all, or Jesus returns? We may not have as much time as we think we have, so we had better get to work! Remember, you're in control of how you use the precious gift of time.

Dear reader, every year we begin with a brand new opportunity to improve our use of the TIME granted and given to us by our Creator. Life is challenging and there are so many things that make demands of my time. Yet, do we give the proper priority to our time that we should be giving to spiritual matters? Here we go again—will you do a better job than in 2013? Time will tell! ***