



Stew Pot: April

Stew On This...

What if someone told you that **there are 24 hours in a day** – and they are not yours? They are not yours at all. Oh you can plan how to spend that time. You can work, you can exercise, you can lunch with friends, you can go shopping, you can run your kids from school to soccer to choir to somewhere quick for dinner in between. All are your decisions. **But the time is not yours.** Nope. It's God's. And He's just letting you fill it up.

Tough thought, right? What do you mean my time isn't mine? I deserve a night to myself! I've worked hard to go out to dinner and a movie! I've earned a week with the sea and the sand and the sun!

But what if we stopped feeling entitled to our time – and started acknowledging we've been entrusted with it? That, in fact, **we're not entitled to anything.** That **God has entrusted to us riches** and blessings beyond anything we deserve.

It says in Deuteronomy chapter 8:

¹⁷ You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” ¹⁸ But remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth.

We are called to be good stewards of ALL God has given us; beyond our pocketbooks and bank accounts and into our hearts and homes. And **this takes trust** in a being far greater than we can ever be. You've heard of giving your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and bearing witness to the Lord above, right? That's **not just within the walls of a church** building or the hours of a Sunday morning. It's everywhere, **all the time.**

Guess it's a good thing **God wants** – not just to exist – but **to have a**

relationship with each of us – and help us along this crazy journey of life He created for us. 'Cause the thought that my own blood, sweat, and tears alone aren't the sole reason I call Lake Michigan my summer home is just baffling to me.

– The Stewardship Team