

# THE FOUR T'S OF STEWARDSHIP: TIME, TREASURES, TREES & TALENTS



## The Deacon's Role

"Deacons serve by leading and equipping the church to minister to its members and the world in a rich diversity of ministries. Identify and develop gifts in both the church and community. Inspire faithful ministries of service to one another, to the larger community, and to the world. Encourage with words that create hope in hearts and with deeds that bring joy into lives."

*(CRCNA Form for the Installation of Elders and Deacons - 2016).*

*"...I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ."*

*Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 1*

**I don't have any special talents. What does this mean for me?**



The Bible tells us that every believer has God-given spiritual gifts! In addition, we each have skills that we've learned and personality traits that make us who we are. God has made each one of us to serve a purpose in His Kingdom.

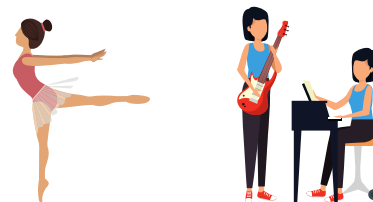
We steward our Talents by faithfully using our spiritual gifts, abilities and all that we are in our work, our volunteer service, and our relationships with others.

*"For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.."*

*Romans 12:4-6*

*"God the Spirit lavishes gifts on the church in astonishing variety—prophecy, encouragement, healing, teaching, service, tongues, discernment—equipping each member to build up the body of Christ and to serve our neighbours... Our work is a calling from God." -Our World Belongs to God, #29 & 48*

## What does this look like, in practical terms?



Stewardship of Talents might include:

- holding a Spiritual Gifts class to help people in your congregation identify their unique talents and discover where they could serve
- starting a mentoring program, matching the youth in your congregation with adults who have similar interests and abilities
- hosting a book or Bible study about work as a calling from God
- writing letters of gratitude to celebrate the many ways people in the congregation share their talents to help the church and other organizations
- conducting a "congregational asset mapping" workshop in your church to connect existing talents with opportunities for action



*"...continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose."*

*Philippians 2:12-13*

*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."*

*1 Peter 4:10*

## Questions for Reflection:

- Why is our stewardship of Talents so important?
- How can we seek God's will about what Talents He has given us?
- Do we boldly use the Talents we've been given to serve others?
- As a diaconate, are we using the Talents of our Deacons effectively as we serve in our various roles?
- How can we use our Talents to show that Jesus is our Lord?



To find out more or get helpful resources, contact Diaconal Ministries Canada today:  
[dmc@crcna.org](mailto:dmc@crcna.org) or 1-800-730-3490.