

All of us have abilities, skills, passions. We become aware of our strengths—and our weaknesses. We get to know how much of our time is spent doing important and essential things, and we sometimes realise how much of our time we waste doing things that are neither. And most of us have a fair idea that our income can stretch only so far before we have to give up some things.

Being a Christian steward requires us to figure out who we are in terms of our Talents, our Time and our Treasures.

Once we realise how generous God has been to us, it's easier to share God's abundance with others. Christian stewardship flows out of an understanding that we have been given the greatest gift of all—adoption into God's own family.

Make no mistake, when we give from our talents, our time or our treasures, lives are changed. And that is really the goal.

With gratitude to God and as an expression of your personal commitment to Jesus Christ, we ask you to examine who you are, and to prayerfully consider in what ways you might help to change lives.

I'd like to change peoples' lives.

Talent

Do you believe you are capable of contributing in any of the following ways? Or have others expressed to you that they have confidence in your talents in these areas?

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Praying | <input type="checkbox"/> | Assisting during church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Bible reading | <input type="checkbox"/> | Setting up or cleaning up |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Leading worship | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tech things (sound, video) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Singing | <input type="checkbox"/> | Playing an instrument |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Visiting the sick or lonely | <input type="checkbox"/> | Ministering to a niche group
eg Men, Women, Youth,
Transgender, Seniors etc |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Social Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> | Clerical / administrative |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Welcoming visitors | <input type="checkbox"/> | Cooking for a crowd |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Evangelism | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Helping with events | | |

I think the church can benefit from another skill I have: I can

Time

Do you believe that you are able to set aside time each month, each week, or each day to help out in some way? Consider how much time you might spend watching television, on social media or just vegging out (we all do it). Could you reduce some of that time to free yourself to make a difference in someone else's life? Maybe write an estimate of how much time you might be able to make available.

I think I can offer about _____ hours per week/fortnight/month.

Can you use this time? I'd especially like to do the following:

Treasure

Tithing is choosing an amount of money to be automatically earmarked for your giving. For some, making use of an envelope system helps them to make this commitment. For others, a direct deposit each week or fortnight or month ensures that they don't forget. And you always have the option of giving directly each week in our church services. A regular tithe allows the church to make plans beyond the next week or so.

When thinking about money, consider that a cup of coffee a day probably equates to \$15 per week. If you gave up that coffee, could you spare that \$15 for something whose benefits extend a lot further than the café? Some people have the capacity to give considerably more than the price of a coffee. How about you?

Once you have an idea of how much you are able to give, you can help church planning considerably by letting us know. That way we know how bold we can be when ministry opportunities come our way. You don't need to include your name, but if you do, your name and your pledge will be kept strictly confidential.

I believe I'm able to regularly give about \$_____ per week/fortnight/month.

You may also decide to leave a legacy in your will so that lives can continue to be changed way into the future. MCC Sydney can provide you with information about supporting God's work in this way.

Just like teaming up with a gym partner, some enjoy the accountability offered by sharing your intentions with another person. If you like, write your name below and tick the box asking to be held accountable for the pledges written on this brochure.

I wish to be held accountable for my pledges in talents, time and treasure.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____



Christian stewardship begins with knowing who we are and whose we are.

The Basics of Planned Giving

God said ... "I AM" Exodus 3:14

November 2016 to October 2017