

## Young Stewards' Corner

Have you ever painted a room in your house? The job is much simpler with the right tools. A visit to the paint section of the hardware store will show you all the marvelous gadgets that can help you do an almost professional job. A high school boy came home the first day of calculus and announced that he needed a new calculator. His parents could not understand. The house was full of calculators -- why another one? Well, the student explained, it was a special calculator, specially made for calculus, and it cost over \$100 besides! What could they do? In order to do his calculus, he needed the proper tool!

This is true in the Kingdom of God, too. There are many jobs which require the right tools. God has made sure we have those tools. The Bible calls them "gifts" and tells us that each one of us has a special gift to use in building the Kingdom. It is so helpful to you as an individual and to the Body of Christ if you know what your gift is.

Perhaps you are great at typing and like to use your computer to lay out the material in an eye-appealing way and to design art to enhance the words. That is a gift God has given you. If you don't do it, someone much less gifted might be able to get those words on paper and printed for others to read, but it would lack the polished touch you could give it.

Maybe you enjoy working with food. You have a gift for planning appetizing menus, preparing the food, and serving it so that it looks like a picture out of the latest food journal. Another person might be able to prepare a meal that satisfies the hunger pangs, but you are able to make that meal a work of art.

The point is that God has given you at least one gift, at least one thing that you're very good at. It is your responsibility not to take that gift lightly, to develop your abilities, and to use them to God's glory in the service of his people. The second point is that God expects us to help even in areas where we're not gifted if our help is needed (and it always is!).

**Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26, which talks about the importance of each gift.  
Set a goal for yourself to be involved in some way in using your gifts every day.**



**Prayer:** Thank you, God, for being the Giver of our gifts. Thank you for choosing me to work in your Kingdom. Help me to overcome laziness, fear, or anything else that would keep me from using my gifts to bring you glory. **In Jesus' name, amen.**