



Journal

Chapter 18: OFFERING MY TIME

Personal Study

Last week you examined the practice of spiritual gifts. Perhaps you learned that God has empowered us to work together — as one body — for his purposes. Isn't that incredible! This week before your group meeting, read *Believe, Chapter 18: Offering My Time*. Then, allow God's Word to shape your thoughts and feelings toward your use of time.

Read

Read Believe, Chapter 18: Offering My Time *and answer the following questions.*

1. Describe the common patterns found in these verses.

2. As you read this chapter, what questions came to your attention?

3. What did you read that surprised you?

Motivated you? _____

Excited you? _____

4. In what ways, if any, can you relate to the story of Jonah?

5. What is one thing about the way Jesus invested his time that you would like to emulate?

6. The “wife of noble character” is described as a person who used her time wisely. Could the same be said of you? Why or why not?

Evaluate

Based on your reading from Believe, Chapter 18: Offering My Time, evaluate your level of confidence in the statements below, using a 1–6 scale (1 = no confidence, 6 = complete certainty).

_____ I invest my time in others by praying for them.

_____ I spend a good deal of time helping others with physical, emotional, or other kinds of needs.

_____ I give away my time to serve and help others in my community.

_____ I regularly volunteer at my church.

Take Action

Memorizing Scripture is a valuable discipline for all believers to exercise. Spend a few minutes each day committing this week’s Key Verse to memory.

Key Verse: “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” (Colossians 3:17)

Recite this week’s Key Idea out loud. As you do, ask yourself, “Does my life reflect this statement?”

Key Idea: I offer my time to fulfill God’s purposes.

Answer the following questions to help you apply this week’s Key Idea to your own life.

1. How could this practice express itself in your life?

2. What visible attributes can be found in someone who invests his or her time in God’s purposes?

3. What is impeding your ability to offer your time to God and others?

How can you overcome this obstacle?

4. What action step can you take this week to increase the amount of time you give to God’s purposes?
