

The 3 Things We Can Give to God This Year

By Greg Laurie

As we prepare to enter into a new year, here is something to remember: When it's all said and done, we have three things we can offer God—our treasure, our talent, and our time. Each of these is given to us by God, and each of them should be given back in generous portions.

First, there is our **treasure**. I urge you to commit yourself to give faithfully and generously to the Lord in this coming year. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:21). Whenever we put our money into something, we develop a vested interest in it. It makes sense to us that we would place our treasures where our hearts are. If we love reading books, or being entertained, or the latest technology, we spend our treasure on those things. And if our heart's desires change, that changes where we put our treasure. But it works the other way too: Where we put our treasures, our heart will follow. Do you want your heart to be in the things of God? Then put your treasures in the things of God! Develop a vested interest in God's kingdom. The second thing we can give to God is our **talent**. God has gifted each believer in different ways. Everyone has something to offer for the work of the kingdom. *Romans 12* says, "Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are all parts of His one body, and each of us have work to do."

Finally, there is our **time**. Let's say that one day your phone rang and it was the president of the bank that you use. He told you that an anonymous donor who loved you very much had decided to deposit 86,400 pennies into your bank account each and every morning. At first, maybe that didn't seem like a lot. But then you figured out that it was \$864 a day. At seven days a week and 52 weeks a year, those pennies add up to almost \$315,000 each year! But the bank president added one thing: "The anonymous giver said you must spend all of the money on the day you receive it! No balance will be carried over to the next day. Each evening the bank must cancel whatever sum you failed to use! Remember, what you don't spend is lost." That may sound like fantasy, but here's the reality: Every morning, Someone who loves you very much deposits into your "bank of time" 86,400 seconds, which represent 1,440 minutes, which of course equals 24 hours each and every day. God gives you that much to use each day. Nothing is ever carried over on credit to the next day. There is no such thing as a 27-hour day. It's called time, and you can't escape it. Time is ticking away right now. The Bible tells us to "redeem the time"—to make sacred and wise use of every opportunity.

Offer God your treasure, your talent, and your time. Live this next year as if it were your last, because it could be. Make those minutes count!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH BELEN

Pastor David Guerrero . Pastor Ernest Sanchez

December 27, 2020



Welcome to Church!

If you are a first time visitor, please fill out a "Connect Card" and visit our Connection Desk. We would love an opportunity to get to know you better and encourage you in your spiritual walk, as well as answer any questions!

Contact Information for our Pastoral and Office Staff is provided on our website at www.fcbelen.net, or you may call us at 864-8621.

Activities for the Week

Sunday - December 27th

Spanish Bible Study - 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.

Young Adults @ the Sanchez' home - 7:00 p.m.

Monday - December 28th

Church Office Closed

Tuesday - December 29th

Church Office Closed

Wednesday - December 30th

Church Office Closed

Thursday - December 31st

Church Office Closed

Friday - January 1st

Church Office Closed

Happy New Year!

Saturday - January 2nd

Deacons of the Week:

Phil Gregory
Lloyd Cary

Safety Team - January 3rd:

Howard Curry
Allen Hancock

Lottie Moon Christmas
Offering Collection
Concludes Today.

Please be in prayer:

* International Missions

* The children who will
receive Operation
Christmas Child boxes

*"While
it looks like things
are out of control,
behind the scenes
there is a GOD
who hasn't
surrendered
His authority."*

- A.W. TOZER -

Baby Church: The P - 5 class-
room is open to all parents/
grandparents with babies.

**Sermon Notes and Children's
Bulletins are available at the
Connection Center Desk.**

Church Office Hours

Monday, December 28th - Monday, January 4th: Closed

In Celebration of the Christmas Holiday...

The Church Office will be closed
Monday, December 28th through Monday, January 4th

If you need to get a message/prayer request/praise report to a Church Staff member during the office closure (or at anytime), please contact Nadine through Remind. If you do not yet have this resource, below are the options to gain access to this great mode of communication.

Pick a way to receive messages for First Baptist Church Belen:

1. If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/nfagg

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You will be prompted to download the mobile app.

2. If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @nfagg to the number 81010.

If you have trouble with 81010, try texting @nfagg to (201) 676-4319.

**Standard text message rates apply.*

Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/nfagg on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.



Church BUSINESS MEETING

Sunday, January 10th
Following the Worship Service

Offering Boxes are located in the back
of the Sanctuary for your
- Tithes/Offerings/Prayer REQUESTS -