In the story of creation, we learn that from the very beginning of time, God gave us the world and put it into our care. We are obliged to care for those around us and use our gifts from Him to benefit others.

We are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones that we have in excess or when we have "extra time." In addition to giving of our time and talents and financial resources in support of our parish, the broader church and our community, we also should spend time with the Lord in prayer.

Everything that Jesus did, including his passion and death, was for us. How do we become more generous with our gifts and our willingness to share them to benefit others? Talk to God about how you can become more focused on God and others and not so focused on yourself.

Loving our neighbor can be difficult. Sometimes our neighbors, who we are called to love and serve, have different lifestyles, cultures and beliefs than us, but we are to love them through the sharing of our gifts. It is in our sharing of our gifts from God that serve and glorify Him.