

Stewardship

When I joined the stewardship ministry I had no idea what I was in for. I knew I was attracted to the spiritual growth it offered. What I did not know is that it would become a way of life. I have learned that I need to take on the heart of Jesus. My religion thus far had given me a lot of rules to live by. It has taught me to imitate Jesus. Stewardship has given me a different kind of spirituality. Instead of imitating and following rules and then having the guilt associated with not being able to be Jesus-like at all times, it has taught me at a deeper level to want to do the things that Jesus did, freely. It has moved me from an obligation to give to a need to give because I want to. It has given me a conversion of heart. Just one of many small conversions along my path in life. It has given me the ability to share what I have more freely without thinking about it. It comes naturally from the heart, not from the head. And when time, talent and treasure comes from the heart and is given freely without obligation and guilt, it is a wonderful thing. When I see a need and I can help with that need, I do not have to think about whether I should help or not, it just happens. I have learned to live more true to my intuition and closer to the heart of things, to have more gratitude for all that I am and to realize that all that I have is from the generosity of the Lord . There have been times when I thought I may leave the ministry because my busy life has gotten in the way, but the team is very open to me giving what I can when I can and the pressure is off. I am always attracted back to it. I cannot explain it, my heart just needs it.

In our Stewardship ministry we first took a year and worked on our personal spirituality. Since then we have been offering to the Parish opportunities for spiritual growth through missions, faith sharing and testimonies and the “The Little Burgundy Book”. From the responses to the recent Needs Analysis project, we are now trying to identify needs that are not yet being met and we will soon be sharing that information with the parish. It is truly my belief that these needs will be met with the talents of others because they too will be moved from their hearts towards action.

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