



The Good Steward

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Published to help stimulate a better understanding of our need to give

Stewardship Stew – a mixture of assorted (and borrowed) ideas, facts, etc. Do you have an idea to share? Let me know by sending an e-mail to jlajesse@crookston.org or by mailing a note to Jean LaJesse at PO Box 610, Crookston MN 56716. Thank you for sharing.

Story shared with me recently by a friend...

Kathy, a friend of an acquaintance, was recently complaining about the cost of tuition to attend Catholic School. Then one day, while weeding the garden, Kathy mentioned to her son, Adam, that there was a great need for rain. Adam said, "Then let's ask God for rain." When she turned to look at the child, he was standing there with hands folded and said, "Dear God, please let it rain." After returning to their house a short while later, the child noticed it was indeed raining.

Kathy said she'll never complain about tuition costs again, not because it rained but because of the faith that had been re-enforced in her child at the school.

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Dear Editor: The following letter appeared in a church bulletin in the state of New York. There are some times when it is true at most every church. Think about how it applies to your own stewardship of time.

Dear Fellow Parishioners, the other day I overheard someone say, "It's the same old ones doing everything," referring to things being done at church. It's unfortunate that it seems that way. Just as it takes a lot of time and money to keep your house running, it takes a lot of time and money to keep the Lord's house running.

When was the last time you called to volunteer some time or an idea with a committee head or project leader? When you were called on, did you give the standard excuse, "I work" or "it takes time away from my family?" The 'same old ones' work full time too and, unfortunately, they spend too much time away from their families because there aren't enough people to help get things done.

Don't wait to be called; we don't know you're there and willing to help. Call the church office. Let's share the load. Get involved and meet some new people. – A Concerned Parishioner
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Isaiah 26:12 "O Lord, you mete (measured) out peace to us, for it is you who have accomplished all we have done."

Twinkies and Root Beer

A little boy wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with Twinkies and a six-pack of Root Beer and he started his journey. When he had gone about three blocks, he met an elderly man. The man was sitting in the park just feeding some pigeons.

The boy sat down next to him and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink from his root beer when he noticed that the man looked hungry, so he offered him a Twinkie. The man gratefully accepted it and smiled at boy. His smile was so pleasant that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered him a root beer. Again, the man smiled at him. The boy was delighted! They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word.

As it grew dark, the boy realized how tired he was and he got up to leave, but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the man, and gave him a hug. The man gave him his biggest smile ever.

When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "What did you do today that made you so happy?" He replied, "I had lunch with God." But before his mother could respond, he added, "You know what? God's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!"

Meanwhile, the elderly man, also radiant with joy, returned to his home. His son was stunned by the look of peace on his face and he asked, "Dad, what did you do today that made you so happy?" He replied, "I ate Twinkies in the park with God." However, before his son responded, he added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected."

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. People come into our lives for a reason, a season, or a lifetime. Embrace all equally! *~author unknown~*