

A graphic with the text "Stewardship for Life" in a white, cursive font. The background is a sunset over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon, creating a warm orange and yellow glow. The water is dark and reflects the light from the sky.

Stewardship for Life

December 1, 2009

William Faulkner once said somewhere that “The only things you take with you when you die are the things you’ve given away.” Stewardship is “giving away” for the Lord’s sake. You might not think you are in bondage until something on your faith journey road stops you in your tracks and challenges you to “put up or shut up.” Soon after coming to RBCPC the church began handing out *The Purpose Driven Life*, by Rick Warren. While trying to stay uninvolved, I was moved by Rick’s wisdom, I found it overpowering, and I could not live with the self-contradiction of attending and pretending. It dawned on me that I, too, had a responsibility to contribute wherever I could. I realized that I was either going to “see” Tiny Tim in church, or look the other way and be indifferent, doing little or nothing to contribute and help others. It was that concept of Tiny Tim coming home from church with his dad saying, “he hoped people saw him in the church, because he was a cripple, and it might be pleasant to them to remember upon Christmas Day: Who made lame beggars walk and blind men see.” Christian stewardship, then is like Ebenezer Scrooge awakening Christmas morning, buying the Cratchits a big turkey, then celebrating the, “Joy of Giving that redeems and renews us. Stewardship is for life: it is all about how we live our lives and what we do to serve Jesus.

Gary Gustafson