

Steward the Call

Kevin Whidden SS/4-6-07

Introduction:

Last week we finished the Money Matters Series with Phyllis Rose...

Unusual Good Friday message...

Pray

1st Things 1st

God has good plans for ALL of us!!!

*No matter...

who you are

what you've done or not done in your life

what your age

what your financial position

what others have done to you or said about you

what your mistakes have been

what your emotions are like

what lies the enemy of your soul has whispered in your ear

GOD HAS GOOD PLANS FOR YOU!!!

*Jeremiah 29:11-14

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. 12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back from captivity.

*God might use you...

to lead your family to Christ (Jodi shares)

to heal someone emotionally, physically or spiritually

to be a missionary (like Phyllis last week)

to be in full time ministry

to be His witness in the marketplace

to fund the needs of the Kingdom

to encourage someone that's about to give up

to bring restoration to someone who's lost hope

to deliver someone bound in an addiction

to challenge someone's wrong thinking

to be an example of His love

Steward the Call

Kevin Whidden SS/4-6-07

Title of the Message... "Steward the Call!"

Over the last 24 hours this has been burning in my spirit..."Steward the Call!"

*It has been said that many Christians go to the movies and act like what they have seen and heard there is true but go to church and act like what they have seen and heard there is false.

*Why? Why do so many Christians (people just like you and me) often treat what is most important in their lives as if it has little value?

-I believe it's because we have not yet learned to steward the call in our lives!

Proverbs 4:23

KJV = *Keep thy heart with all diligence;*
for out of it are the issues of life.

NIV = *Above all else, guard your heart,*
for it is the wellspring of life.

NLT = *Guard your heart above all else,*
for it determines the course of your life.

AMP = *Keep and guard your heart with all vigilance and above all that you guard,*
for out of it flow the springs of life.

Young's Literal = *Above every charge keep thy heart,*
for out of it [are] the outgoings of life.

Understanding Our Role

We can't give ourselves or produce certain things in our lives.

*I believe strongly that a pure heart, right motivations and purpose in life are 3 of these things.

*These things come only from God!

Our role is to steward them!

*Ephesians 4:1 says...

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life *worthy of the calling* you have received.

Remember, God's plans for us are GOOD, IMPORTANT and LARGE!!!

*If we don't accomplish what He has called us to do the whole Kingdom will suffer!

*How many of you think about what God wants to do *through* your life everyday?

-You should!

Steward the Call

Kevin Whidden SS/4-6-07

Understanding the Enemy's Plan

Do you realize that the devil can't do anything to stop God's plans in your life?

*The only way God's plans won't happen in your life is if you don't steward the call.

*The devil cannot win any ground in your life from an external attack. He only has what we forfeit to him from within.

-Example of America...

How Do I Steward the Call?

I'm glad you asked...

Matthew 25:14-28 gives us the answer.

*It's called, "The Parable of the Talents"

*It's misnamed. It should be called, "Lessons in Stewardship."

*Read it...

We learn 4 things in this passage about stewarding the call...

1. God gave what only He could give.

*We've already learned that lesson tonight.

2. We receive what He gives to us.

*Not what He gives someone else.

3. We put our "talent" to work.

*Time, money, skills, abilities, gifts and callings.

4. We become accountable for what we have been given.

*By God's grace many will make Heaven...

*But, at the Judgment Seat of Christ we will be held accountable for what God called us to do!

Jesus' Example of Stewarding the Call

So what does all this have to do with Good Friday?

*Let me ask it another way...

-Aren't you glad Jesus stewarded the call on His life?

2000 years ago Jesus entered a city as a king but died on a cross before the week was out.

*He knew where His path would take him yet He was faithful to God's calling until the end.

*He accomplished God's purpose for His life.

*Will you?

Steward the Call

Kevin Whidden SS/4-6-07

Serve Communion and Give Instruction

Watch The Passion and Take Communion

Scene 26 until they drop the cross in the ground then pause it.

Easter = A time when we think about the place Jesus came to for us. But, what about the place we should come to for Him?

Altar Call

Salvation...

Need to change some things to steward the call of God better in your life...

Need the gifts stirred up within you...

*2 Timothy 1:6 says because you have a sincere faith...

“I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.”