

# **Stewardship Resources....The Process**

#### FOUR IMPORTANT ELEMENTS:

- 1. Introduction, teaching a seminar or preaching on Biblical Stewardship at the Corps by invitation from the Corps officer.
- 2. Stewardship Assessment an analysis of the Corps' level of stewardship with respect to Time, Talents & Treasures.
- 3. The Stewardship Campaign a decision by the Corps leadership to proceed with a week of Intensive focus on Stewardship Education with the on-site assistance of the Stewardship Resources Consultant and his resources.
- 4. Monitoring and Follow-up Procedures maximizing the effectiveness of the tools used.

## 1. Introduction to the Ministry of Stewardship Resources

Here at the Stewardship ministry we believe that every Christian is called to be a good and faithful steward! Stewardship lifestyle is a natural product of a life surrendered to God, knowing that everything we own is God's, and we are here on earth to manage it. The Stewardship consultant can offer recommendations for resources, can teach or preach at the Corps, do an assessment that covers the current picture of the Corps' finances, ministry and volunteers! With tools to help the leadership team discover the strength they have, and the challenges facing them.

Our vision is to see flourishing congregations, filled with purpose and vision to see the Kingdom and the works of God expand through them!

"The earth is the LORD'S, and the fullness of it, the world and those who dwell in it." PSALM 24:1

#### 2. The Stewardship Assessment

The Stewardship Assessment is an extremely helpful service to a Corps. It requires:

- no cost or obligation
- no introductory presentation before proceeding

An Assessment has three essential components, as follows:

- 1. A study of the Corps statistics, an analysis of the giving patterns and an analysis of the Ministry that takes place in the Corps.
- 2. Interviews with 8-10 members of the Corps by the consultant, with appointments arranged by the Corps Officers.

3. A meeting with the Corps Leadership and/or the Congregation to present a "Plan for Healthy Stewardship". At this time, the Corps Leadership will be encouraged to consider whether a decision should be made to proceed with a Stewardship Campaign with the assistance of the Stewardship Resources Consultant.

To complete an on-site Assessment requires at least 2 days.

# 3. The Stewardship Campaign

By completing an Assessment, the Corps is not forced to go to the next step. You may choose to take the information given to you and resource your Corps internally. You may also choose to request our assistance to do a Stewardship Seminar or Weekend or to access our Library of resources.

Once the Corps leadership has decided to proceed with a Stewardship Campaign the 1<sup>st</sup> Section of the Pre-Campaign Info Pack is given to the Corps Officer. Within two months of the beginning of the Campaign the 2<sup>nd</sup> Section of the Pre-Campaign Info Pack is given to the Campaign Chair. When the consultant arrives on site, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Section of the Pre-Campaign Info Pack is given to the Campaign Chair to complete the Info Pack.

It is vital that the preparations towards a Campaign are completed. An organized effort to prepare the way of the Campaign will result in a more effective Campaign.

Once the Campaign starts it is our desire that the focus will be on the Message not on the method. We hope that we can spread the "good news" of Christian Stewardship to the entire corps family.

During a Campaign, some people are being taught Biblical Stewardship for the first time. Others are being reminded and many are being challenged to invest the gifts that God has entrusted to them. As well, we take the time to affirm those saints whose investment into the ministry of the Church has enabled it to survive and thrive.

It should always be kept in mind by those promoting this ministry that any attempt at coercion or undue pressure upon the Corps Leadership to engage in a full Stewardship Campaign is self-defeating and detrimental to all concerned. A Stewardship Campaign should proceed upon a basis of free will or not at all.

### 4. Monitoring & Follow-up Procedures

The monitoring & follow-up procedures are a critical element to the success of a Stewardship Campaign. George Barna suggests, "Good stewardship does not just happen. People must be strategically prepared for it." For a Corps and a Consultant to invest all the time that it takes to complete a Campaign we need a way to ensure that the Biblical Stewardship emphasis that started will continue. The shift in the stewardship trends the Corps desires is a gradual one. This will not happen if we do not have a plan.