

Stewardship 2009 – Stories of Faith

Week 1

THE BIG IDEA: Our church is in the business of changed lives. As members of God's church we have an opportunity to invest in God changing lives.

OPEN WITH PRAYER

GETTING STARTED: What is the biggest change God has brought about in your life because of your relationship with him?

LEARNING & APPLYING GOD'S WORD

1. What were some themes that you were able to discern in the faith stories of Jim, Crystal, Terri and Jim?
2. What things does God use to change lives? What things has God used to change your life? How has God used the ministry of Bidwell Pres to transform your life?
3. What characteristic(s) of God was/were affirmed through the faith stories?
4. In what ways were you encouraged by the faith stories?
5. In what ways were you challenged by the faith stories?
6. Why did Steve mean when he said that giving to Christ's work of changing lives is a great investment? What are we investing in when we give of our resources to Christ's ministry here at Bidwell Pres?

LIVING OUT "REAL LIFE"

7. How do you determine the amount of your financial resources to give to the ministry of Bidwell Pres?
8. Steve said "Our standard of giving should reflect our standard of living." What does he mean by this statement? How is this a helpful guideline for giving?
9. What are some lessons about giving that you have learned in your Christian life?

10. What might be a step of faith for you to take in terms of giving to the ministry of Christ at Bidwell Pres?

SHARING AND PRAYER (Prayer Requests)

Take some time to share prayer requests, where you need to find God's grace and peace. Be sure to give thanks for each other and pray for one another's needs. When we pray together, we find the power of God.