

BELL OAKS IDEAS & ISSUES FORUM  
*Being Good Stewards of Time, Talent & Treasure*  
Nov. 17, 2008

**STEWARDSHIP**

- HUMBLED TO TALK
- TALK WITH YOU TODAY—NOT AT YOU
- LIFE LESSONS FOR ME—I AM ON A JOURNEY OR, BETTER SAID, AN ADVENTURE.
- I HOPE SOMEHOW WHAT I MIGHT SAY WOULD ENCOURAGE AND CHALLENGE YOU IN YOUR JOURNEY.  
(TIME/TALENT/TREASURES)
- RELATIONSHIPS
- WORK
- MONEY

MATT: 6:21 FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART WILL BE ALSO;  
LUKE 12:34 FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE WILL YOUR HEART BE ALSO.

**RELATIONSHIPS**—STEWARDS OF THE RELATIONSHIPS YOU HAVE; --GIVEN RESPONSIBILITIES

- CHILDREN
- SPOUSE
- FRIENDS/PEOPLE AROUND YOU

STORY OF MY DAD—LYING IN HOSPITAL  
RELATIONSHIPS TAKE TIME

**CHILDREN**—

- RESPONSIBILITY AND STEWARSHIP OF THE NEXT GENERATION
- THEY NEED OUR TIME
- WE NEED TO HELP THEM BUILD THEIR TALENT AND FIND IT.
- WE NEED TO HELP THEM SEE WHAT THE REAL TREASURES ARE.

DAD, IF YOU ONLY KNEW...JOSH WIEDMANN, COLUMBINE IN 1999, SPEAKING AROUND THE WORLD TO YOUNG PEOPLE.

1. DAD, PLEASE TELL ME YOU LOVE ME
2. DAD, LOVE ME WITH ACTIONS, NOT JUST WORDS
3. DAD, I NEED YOUR FRIENDSHIP
4. DAD, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN MY HERO
5. DAD, I NEED YOU TO LISTEN
6. DAD, JUST BE REAL WITH ME
7. DAD, PLEASE BE MY COACH
8. DAD, PLEASE HELP ME FIGURE OUT WHO I AM

## STRONG FATHERS, STRONG DAUGHTERS. MEG MEEKER, MD

1. YOU ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT MAN IN HER LIFE
2. SHE NEEDS A HERO
3. YOU ARE HER FIRST LOVE
4. TEACH HER HUMILITY
5. PROTECT HER, DEFEND HER (AND USE A SHOTGUN IF NECESSARY)
6. BE THE MAN YOU WANT HER TO MARRY
7. TEACH HER WHO GOD IS

### DOROTHY KELLEY PATTERSON

MY CHILDREN WILL NOT REMEMBER THE WORDS OF WISDOM I'VE PASSED ALONG OVER THE YEARS, NOR WILL YOURS REMEMBER THE ADVICE YOU'VE GIVEN. HOWEVER, ETCHED IN THEIR MINDS AND PLANTED IN THEIR HEARTS IS A PERMANENT PICTURE OF WHO YOU ARE AND HOW YOU LIVED BEFORE THEM.

### SPOUSE—

- IS SHE LOVED AND CARED FOR BY ME
- SECURITY IS IMPORTANT
- LOVE AND RESPECT
- EASY TO TAKE FOR GRANTED
- MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU CAN GIVE YOUR KIDS

### FRIENDS—

- ARE YOU A GOOD FRIEND—RON HALL & DENVER MOORE—CATCH AND RELEASE
- ARE YOU THEIR FOR YOUR FRIENDS
- EXAMPLES OF FRIENDS SPEAKING INTO YOUR LIFE, IMPACT ON MY LIFE
- TRAIN TRACKS AND TRAIN STATIONS

AM I WILLING TO GIVE UP WHAT I WANT TO DO? — SELFISHNESS STANDS IN MY WAY

### WORK--

- OUTSIDE OF SLEEPING MOST AMOUNT OF TIME WILL BE SPENT AT WORK
- \*--THE CHALLENGE OF WORK TODAY IS MORE INTENSE THAN EVER
- DO YOU THINK THE CHALLENGES OF BRINGING UP A FAMILY AND KEEPING A MARRIAGE AREN'T HARDER THAN EVER:

### WHAT I HAVE LEARNED:

- NEVER ENOUGH HOURS IN A WEEK TO DO MY JOB
- FEW IF ANYONE AT WORK WILL ENCOURAGE ME TO DO THE RIGHT THINGS
- IT REALLY DOESN'T GET BETTER NO MATTER WHAT YOUR NEXT JOB IS

### LEARNINGS TO APPLY:

- BOUNDARIES—YOU MUST ESTABLISH
- WEEKENDS

--HOURS HOME FOR DINNER  
--HOME FOR THINGS FOR MY KIDS  
--DISSAPOINTMENT DINA'S MOM DEATH

--CHALLENGE—IS IT ABOUT HOW I LOOK OR WHAT I DO?

--STORIES

--WEEKEND

--FRITO-LAY

--NEVER ENOUGH—TRUST GOD/ MULTIPLY YOUR TIME

--LIVE THE EXAMPLE

ANDY STANLEY'S BOOK—CHOOSING TO CHEAT

### **MONEY—**

\*--MONEY IS NOT BAD—IT IS THE LOVE OF MONEY

\*--CHRIST TALKED MORE ABOUT MONEY THAN ANYTHING ELSE—BUT CARED MOST ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

TOO MANY PEOPLE SPEND MONEY THEY HAVEN'T EARNED TO BUY THINGS THEY DON'T NEED TO IMPRESS PEOPLE THEY DON'T LIKE. —WILL ROGERS

MEASURE WEALTH NOT BY THE THINGS YOU HAVE, BUT BY THE THINGS YOU HAVE FOR WHICH YOU WOULD NOT TAKE MONEY. —ANONYMOUS

CHALLENGES AROUND MONEY AND STEWARDSHIP: WHO OWNS IT?

IF GOD REALLY DOES OWN IT ALL—HOW AM I DOING LIVING THAT WAY?

IF THERE WAS AN AUDIT BY GOD ON HOW I WAS DOING, WHAT WOULD I SAY? HOW WOULD I DO?

I BELIEVE EVERYONE WANTS TO BE GENEROUS.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:7 “EACH MAN SHOULD GIVE WHAT HE HAS DECIDED IN HIS HEART TO GIVE, NOT RELUCTANTLY OR UNDER COMPULSION, FOR GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER.”

### **WHAT STANDS IN OUR WAY TO BEING GENEROUS?**

1. DEBT—WE OWE TOO MUCH
2. LACK OF CONTENTMENT—WE WANT TOO MUCH
3. FEAR OF HAVING ENOUGH—WE WANT TO BE SURE-WHAT'S THE FINISH LINE
4. CULTURE CHALLENGES US—WE WANT TO LOOK GOOD
5. STEPPING OUT AND DOING IT—FAITH AND COURAGE

### **WHAT I HAVE SEEN:**

1. DEBT IS TOO HIGH AND TOO EASY TO GET
2. BUY FUN VS. MAKE FUN
3. LOWER INCOME GIVING VERSES HAVING ENOUGH TO GIVE
4. HEARTS WHO TOUCH OTHERS TOUCH THEIR CHECKBOOK
5. HAVING FREEDOM TO GIVE WHEN YOU SEE THE NEED. BLESSING

## CLOSING

STEWARDSHIP IS:

1. HEART ISSUE NOT A HEAD ISSUE!
2. IN CRISIS YOU WILL TRADE EVERYTHING FOR TIME WITH PEOPLE—WHY DOES IT TAKE A CRISIS?
3. YOU WILL NEVER MAKE ENOUGH MONEY TO LIVE DIFFERENTLY. DON'T WAIT.

--RELATIONSHIPS

--WORK

--MONEY

THREE QUESTIONS:

--WHAT WOULD BE BIGGEST THING I WOULD DO TO LET MY SPOUSE/KIDS KNOW HOW MUCH I LOVE THEM THAT DOESN'T INVOLVE MONEY?

--WHAT COULD OR SHOULD I DO DIFFERENT AT WORK TO REALLY BE A GOOD STEWARD?

--WHAT IS THE FIRST THING I COULD DO TO BE MORE GENEROUS WITH MY MONEY?

GEORGE ELIOT: IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO BE WHAT YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

CORRIE TEN BOOM: NEVER BE AFRAID TO TRUST AN UNKNOWN FUTURE TO A KNOWN GOD.