

Becoming "Evolved People"

by Dr. Simone Brosig

Pat Jamniczky, the stewardship committee chair at St. Gerard's parish in Calgary, brilliantly connects this reflection from Fr. Richard Rohr with the work of parish the stewardship committee.

"Humans do not have the patience or the humility of God. We want things done tomorrow, today or yesterday to achieve our immediate goals.

Spiritual power, however, is the ability to influence events and others through one's very *being*.

Evolved people change others interiorly through *who they are*, and through their sharing of wisdom, but not through mere external pressure. It *is* a slower process, but much more long lasting."

--- Fr. Richard Rohr, *Bias from the Bottom*

The goal of the stewardship committee, Pat explains, is to "effect change to the insides of people such that it will make a change in their response to the call of stewardship. . . our job in relation to this is to work on becoming 'evolved people' as Rohr calls it, so we can influence others by sharing what we have learned."

All too often stewardship leaders get caught up in the *doing* of stewardship rather than simply *becoming* stewards, becoming *evolved people*. We cannot change ourselves let alone share our wisdom and see the internal transformation of others into steward disciples after only one or two years of a parish stewardship initiative. We must be devoted, committed, and patient for the long haul. Stewardship spirituality is ongoing and takes a lifetime.