

T. E. A. C. H.

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Developing Kingdom Paradigms

When Jesus brought the kingdom of God to this world He manifested a new game plan with new rules and expectations for those who would be a part of His family. The people He called to join Him were often shocked at the things He taught.

A paradigm is a frame of reference or a particular way of looking at the world. One of the common paradigms Jesus espoused is illustrated by the following story.

A successful businessman who had received a very nice car from his brother as a Christmas gift was leaving his office when he saw a shabbily dressed boy admiring his car. The boy ask, "Is this you car, Mister?" The man replied, "My brother gave it to me for Christmas." The boy was amazed. "You mean your brother gave it to you and it didn't cost you nothing? Boy, I wish..." He hesitated. The man knew what he was going to wish for. He was going to wish he had a brother like that. But what the boy said jarred the man all the way down to his toes. "I wish," the boy said, "that I could be a brother like that."

The world has always taught people to be at least self-centered if not self-consumed. Jesus on the other hand came modeling and teaching a life of self-denial. He taught that the most important thing anyone could ever do was to lay down his life for another. The contemporary world is astonished when we live Spirit anointed lives that manifest a greater concern for others than for ourselves. If we want to touch and transform the world for Christ we must follow His lead and lay down our lives for others.

Jesus brought another powerful paradigm shift to the forefront in His life and ministry. He refused to be bound by a frame of reference that considered only the natural world. He continually displayed the reality of the supernatural in situations that were deemed impossible by His disciples and other followers. The reality of His paradigm was an acknowledgment that with man many things are impossible but with God nothing is impossible. I received a card that conveys this truth in a very succinct way - "Every situation is HIMpossible."

The world is literally dying for a modern manifestation of God's transforming power. The church must regain it's grip on the absolute authority of the risen Savior. Literally there is no situation that is impossible when He enters the picture.

The world is a mess and the church, in some ways, is a mess as well. We need to get back to the basics of what Jesus taught about Himself and His Kingdom. We need to rediscover what it means to be a believer who can look at an impossible situation (the state of our world today) and confidently say it is still HIMpossible. We need to return to seeing things more from a supernatural perspective than a natural one. It is well and good to study things until we clearly understand the problems and obstacles we are facing but then it is time to get on our face before God and pray down His presence, His power and His glory.

The world and the church are desperate for solutions to problems that appear to be impossible. It is time to return to a biblical faith and personal trust that understands everything is HIMpossible. Without Him we can't do anything of eternal significance but working with Him we have every right to expect that we can once again see the world transformed by His resurrection power. "If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face then will I hear from heaven and I will heal their land." Our situation today is still HIMpossible if we do our part!

Dan Harrison, Christian Ed. Chairman

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1994 Christian Education Convention
September 17, 1994

Heritage Memorial Church
Washington Court House, Ohio

How long has it been since you last attended our annual C. E. Convention? Have you ever attended the annual C. E. Convention? If you work in a ministry that provides Christian Education, then I hope that your answers were "recent" and "yes" to those questions. Since we live in a culture that is constantly changing we must incorporate new methods and fresh approaches to stay on the cutting edge of effective Christian Education. The message of truth can never be altered or changed but the way we teach, preach, and communicate that truth must. Christian Education is primarily broken down into two areas: content and presentation of that content. For effective communication that produces change in the lives of those listening, both areas must be understood and we must strive to do the best of our abilities in both areas.

One of the main purposes of the Christian Education Convention is to provide for you Workshops, General Sessions and Exhibitors that will help, challenge, and motivate you to effectively communicate to your listeners. We are expanding to bring to you more curriculum tools and teaching aids to assist you in the area of content. We are providing for you workshop speakers that will help you to be creative in your approach to teaching. A Christian Educator that is excited about the content that they are sharing, along with presenting that content in a creative way can only expect great things to happen in the lives of their listeners.

In James 3:1 (NIV) James says: "Not many of you should presume to be *teachers*, my brothers, because you know that *we who teach* will be judged more strictly." This verse can accomplish one of two things, either place fear in our hearts concerning our role as a teacher or this verse can motivate us to always be striving to be our best for the master because of the higher accountability that we must eventually face. We believe that the latter will take place and that is why we provide for you the Christian Education Convention. It is our desire to expand this

convention each year so that you also may be expanded, motivated, and receive new training as well.

This year's theme "Rediscover Evangelism - Reaching With Relevance" is very important to the growth of every church's Christian Education Program. Our General Session speakers, Rev. Robert Kline and Rev. Mark Beeson will enlighten and challenge you in your Kingdom work. We will be looking forward to seeing you this year at the convention.

Kevin Behrer, Convention Chairman

Reflections from the Church Growth Conference



The 18th Annual Church Growth Conference was an affirmation of the growing desire among those in ministry to find an effective way to minister in our day. There was no way to absorb everything we heard, but there is no doubt we must be aware of new ways to minister in a rapidly changing society.

The Bible has not changed. We are still to be about the business of evangelism and discipleship. This conference was an affirmation of our calling and a challenge to be lights in an ever darkening world.

Wes Humble, Circleville, Ohio.

April 18, 1994

Dear C.E. Friends,

I want to express my sincere appreciation for the chance to attend the Church Growth Conference in Anderson, IN this month. When I was approached about the opportunity in January I was going through a "ministerial slump." I was enthusiastically looking toward the seminars. I left the convention encouraged! Like most pastors it's not a lack of desire to see the church grow; it's a lack of clear purpose. I brought back three things to share with the church: (1) Helpful practical information for ministry, (2) A sharper vision for the church and my ministry, and (3) A deeper conviction that my God is able in all things. My prayer is that all pastors and lay workers who attended the sessions will start to see the fruitful growth of applying these ministry concepts.

A Supportive Friend,

Rev. Mark Otero, Tracy Creek CCCU, Vestal, NY.

(The C.E. Office has available cassette tapes from the Church Growth Conference for you to borrow. Give Cindy a call for a listing of topics at (513) 695-0025.)

Looking Back at The David Ring Rally . . .



Having the privilege of working with the Christian Education Department during the David Ring Rally was a great blessing for my wife Connie and I. We were the coordinators of the greeters. This gave us the opportunity to renew a lot of acquaintances and meet a lot of new people.

When I listen to the testimony of David Ring I am always blessed. At the same time I am convicted because of my shallow faith. I could always do more yet I complain about my little aches and pains. I also was encouraged to share with others that we need to be more dedicated and willing workers for God. Remember God's Power is made perfect through our weaknesses.

Rev. James Griffith, Associate Pastor Columbus North Church



A Tremendous Success at Circleville Jefferson Church

Rev. Lonnie Potts

An overflow crowd of 450 people turned out to hear David Ring's life story at the Circleville Jefferson Church of Christ in Christian Union, Sunday evening, March 20. Adults and children alike listened with rapt attention for well over an hour and a half as Rev. Ring challenged the congregation to victorious life in Christ. "Don't whine but Shine," Rev. Ring admonished the congregation as he paced the platform preaching with authority and power. "If God can use David Ring, He can use you," he said at numerous times while reminding those in attendance that he suffers from cerebral palsy. People were deeply moved by this message and eighteen people accepted Christ as their Savior when the closing invitation was given.

David Ring is yet another marvelous example of what God can do with those who yield totally to him. "I would like to come back again next year," Rev. Ring said just before leaving. We would also like for you to come back, David. May God bless you as you continue to minister for Him.

David Ring Video and Audio Tapes

The Christian Education Office has copies of the video of David Ring's Life Story that we'd be happy to loan out to you. This video could be used for a Sunday Evening worship service, or perhaps in a small group setting. David's story has touched hundreds of people and made a difference for them. If you have never seen or heard David's testimony, give us a call. We have an audio cassette tape available of his life story which we can send also. Our number here at the office is (513) 695-0025.



One Night / One Revival

Rev. James Manning, Maysville, KY.

One of the greatest revivals I have ever been in occurred March 19, 1994. That's right! On a Saturday night in Maysville, Ky. something astounding happened at Calvary Temple. The Bible tells us that "one soul is worth the whole world." Accepting that as truth I cannot help but wonder what Jesus would say the revival of an entire church would be worth!

David Ring's message, "Why do bad things happen to God's People," was brought to a resounding conclusion. Walking his walk and talking his talk David pointedly asked everyone present, "What is your excuse?" When the call was given people began moving toward the front. From the balcony to the choir loft, from old to young, hearts were broken. I have pastored Calvary Temple for 24 years and I can tell you I have never witnessed the moving of the Holy Spirit in a greater manner.

A man who had left the church 24 years ago, came and hugged my neck seeking forgiveness. He, his wife, daughter and son-in-law have rejoined our church. People have joined the choir, men and women have volunteered as van drivers, others are being "plugged in" to real ministry on a weekly basis. To God be given the honor and glory.

Although I recognize that David Ring was God's man of the hour, I also know that he was only a contributing factor to the evening's success. The greatest preacher cannot bring revival by himself, revival only comes to those who are ready. The days of revival are not over! One church in one town may not sound like much, but multiply that across the width and breath of the Churches of Christ in Christian Union and we, yes little "us" could impact America. Let us pray to God that as a denomination we can return to our heyday of revivals. The answer to church growth has and will always be the revival of the church.

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." (KJV)
II Chronicles 7:14.

Resources From The Lending Library . . .

In each issue of the newsletter we will be highlighting one particular area of the Resource Library. This issue will focus on Children's Ministries. All of these resources are available in the library for your use, all you need to do is give us a call at (513) 695-0025 and ask for Cindy. We will be happy to help in any way possible.

Good Stuff To Know Teacher Training Videos (Gospel Light) Each video includes a Leader's Guide and reproducible masters for handouts and transparencies. You get the crucial information your teachers need in a light and easy cartoon format they'll enjoy and remember.

How to Discipline Children

How to Lead a Child to Christ

How to Talk with the Young Child

How to Teach Kids using Guided Conversation

15 Minute Teacher Training Series (Gospel Light) These concentrated training tapes sum up the essentials of effective teaching in 15 minute bites. Topics included are discipline, how to talk to children about salvation, understanding children and how to converse with children. Each set comes with two 15 minute audio tapes and is reproducible for you to provide a set for each of your teachers.

*15 Minute Teacher Training Series 1 -
Young Children, Ages 2-5*

*15 Minute Teacher Training Series 2 -
Children, Grades 1-6*

Sunday School Promo Pages (Gospel Light)

Reproducible book giving dozens of quick tips, instant art and ways to build up your Sunday School among church and community leaders.

Sunday School Smart Pages (Gospel Light)

Reproducible book giving training ideas, clip art, storytelling techniques, ministering to children with special needs and much more.

Everything You Want to Know About Teaching Children (Gospel Light)

A child's ability to learn changes at every stage of his or her development. These paperback book resources will help you make the most of every child's God given learning style. Book 1 - birth to 6 years; understanding how young children learn and grow: Book 2 - Grades 1 - 6; new insight into different learning styles, exciting classroom environments and teaching skills.

Teaching Children In The Church (Group Pub.)

Your teachers will discover how to make Bible lessons unforgettable and help children apply Scripture to their lives. Plus, skills to handle classroom discipline with confidence and adjust their teaching styles to the develop-

ment strengths of each age level. Five training videos and leaders guide complete with meeting plans and handouts.

Teaching To Make A Difference (Sampson Ministry Resources)

Video set complete with nine 20 minute lessons, workbook, leaders guide, overhead transparency kit, audio cassette and detailed instruction guide make up this teaching resource. The nine lessons are: Implication, Expectation, Participation, Preparation, Communication, Presentation, Application, Cultivation, and Multiplication.

The 7 Laws of the Teacher (Walk Thru The Bible Ministries)

This video series contains seven video tapes, course notebook, leader's guide, and textbook. This series serves as a teacher training curriculum. The seven laws are: Teacher, Education, Activity, Communication, Heart, Encouragement and Readiness.

The 7 Laws of the Learner (Walk Thru The Bible Ministries)

This video series is ideal for Sunday School classes, training sessions or small study groups. Kit comes with seven video tapes, leader's guide, workbook and textbook. The laws in this series are: Learner, Expectation, Application, Retention, Need, Equipping and Revival.



A letter to share with you . . .

Dear Concerned Christian,

There is something available to you that can ignite your lay ministry and increase the effectiveness of your church. It is the C.E. Department Resource Library, which is available to all of our churches! We at Lincoln Heights Church in Mansfield have already utilized three resource packets and will certainly continue to use more in the future. "Teaching To Make A Difference" was a definite hit with our Sunday School Staff and this month we will use the Youth Worker Training Materials for our ECY leaders and volunteers. This library is of great value to you and your local church and the only thing stopping it from benefiting you is a call or a letter. I trust you'll find that they will have the resource needed for your unique situation and ministry. Don't hesitate! Pick up your phone or grab a pen and paper and do it now! You won't regret the effort.

*Together For Christ,
Rev. Bruce A. Morrison, Jr., Pastor*



A New Loan Library Ministry

What? Christian Videos. Everything from Bible stories, character building stories, Dr. Dobson's tapes, Billy Graham's tapes, counseling videos and more. Also wholesome stories such as "Anne of Green Gables." You may check out three videos per week. Also available: 5 Nintendo Bible games for Kids!

Who? Elmer & Betty Winner
telephone: (614) 477-3143

Where? Christian Family Videos
Elmer & Betty Winner - owners
119 1/2 N. Scioto Street
Circleville, OH 43113
(When coming to their library, use the outside stairway to the 2nd floor.)

When? 9 AM - 2 PM Saturdays

Lending items out from Saturday to Saturday
Items are free of charge, however donations
will be accepted.

SPECIAL NOTE TO PASTORS: Mr. Winner also has a library of books you may borrow.



Help Wanted . . .

Jr. Church Leader and Youth Worker needed for Sunday Morning Service at the Kenton, OH. Church of Christ in Christian Union Church. Modest pay. Call during the day - (513) 246-5634, or write to:

Warren Goble
2411 Rapp Dean Road
Raymond, OH 43067.

Past C.E. Convention Tapes for Sale!!

The C.E. Board is offering to you cassette tapes from our past Christian Education Conventions. These will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Some of the years have a limited supply of tapes, so call us early to reserve yours. Our number is (513) 695-0025, ask for Cindy and give us the convention year that you need. The price for each tape is \$1.00.

1983 - "Reach Out & Touch"

1. How to Develop a Curriculum for Cradle Roll - Joan Allison
2. How to Have a Mid-week Program for Children - Chris Lindsey
3. Mid-Life Crisis I and II - Dr. David Van Hoose
4. Visitors Becoming Members - Jim Dorsey
5. Five Signs of a Growing Church - Fred Moore
6. A Formula for Church Growth - Fred Moore
7. The Leader and His Problems - Dr. John Maxwell
8. The Leader and His Possibilities - Dr. John Maxwell
9. What Qualifies a Christian Leader? - Dr. John Maxwell
10. "Cecil" - Gardiner Gentry

1984 - "Bring Them In"

1. General Session - Rev. Robert Kline
2. General Session - Rev. Robert Kline
3. General Session - Rev. Wayne Patton
4. General Session - Dr. Elmer Towns
5. General Session - Dr. Elmer Towns
6. 10 Guidelines for Finding Responsive People - Wayne Patton
7. Teachers as Spiritual Shepherds - Mildred Paul
8. Discipling New Christians - Jack Combs
9. Personal Soul Winning - Dale Dixon
10. 154 Ways to Revitalize your Sunday School I - Dr. Elmer Towns
11. 154 Ways to Revitalize your Sunday School II - Dr. Elmer Towns
12. Seeds of Non-Growth - Wayne Patton

1985 - "We Shall Reap, if We Faint Not"

1. General Session - Rev. Robert Kline
2. General Session - Dr. Chuck Milhuff
3. General Session - Dr. Chuck Milhuff
4. General Session - Dr. Donald Joy
5. Preparing Your Church for Revival - Dr. Chuck Milhuff
6. Follow-up From Your Church Revival - Dr. Chuck Milhuff
7. VBS as an Outreach - Peggy Beard
8. Reaching Young Adults - Dr. David Van Hoose
9. Puppet Ministry in Your Church - Jim Manning
10. Helps for the Teacher - Dr. Donald Joy
11. Our Strategy Against Pornography - Dr. David Case
12. Sunday School Teacher Training - Stephanie Schellin