

T. E. A. C. H.

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Are You A Leader?

Dan Harrison, Christian Education Chairman

A leader is quite simply a person who influences others. In the process of trying to accomplish anything worthwhile it is essential that others be stimulated and motivated to roll up their sleeves and join in getting the job done. Yet people skills and team building aren't taught in colleges or seminaries.

Leadership is more than barking orders like a drill sergeant and enjoying making people look insignificant. These approaches seldom produce peak performance. But on the other hand, leaders who simply smile and assume that people know what is wanted often get even less. A combination of clear expectations and a smile can work wonders in challenging people to genuinely do their best. Treating people with dignity, respect, and appreciation tends to bring out the very best in them.

Charles Garfield, in his book, *Peak Performers*, points out that combining the skills of team players and team builders is a win-win situation. The leader who takes the time and puts forth the energy to build a great team of players cannot help but be rewarded many times over for his investment. The more you invest in others the more they give you in return.

An important part of leadership is the ability to recognize the special abilities and limitations of others, combined with the capacity to fit each one into the job where he will do his best. Successful leadership is getting things done through others. Dwight L. Moody, once said he would rather put a thousand men to work than do the work of a thousand men. The ability to choose team members who can be trained and empowered to lead others is the ultimate responsibility of the genuine leader. Moses did not understand this until Jethro his father-in-law confronted him.

The story unfolds in Exodus 18 and uncovers several positive benefits that came from a change in the leadership style of Moses. **First**, Moses was set free to concentrate on the greater responsibilities of his office. **Second**, the dormant and unrealized talents of many of his subordinates were discovered. **Third**, these gifted men were spared from becoming his critics and became instead his staunchest allies. **Fourth**, the needs of the people were

cared for much more efficiently. **Fifth**, effective leaders were developed who could care for the nation in the event of Moses absence.

The story of Moses teaches us that if an organization is a one man band the blame falls squarely on the shoulders of the one man playing not on those who are forced to watch and listen. This issue of team building more than anything else will determine the size and the effectiveness of the organization. Leaders in the church cannot be content to build something small on themselves when the Lord has given them the people resources to build something significant for the glory of God.

Dwight D. Eisenhower used to demonstrate the art of leadership in a simple but forceful way. He would place a single piece of string on a table and say, "Pull it, and it follows wherever you want it to go. But push it, and it goes nowhere." This principle of leadership applies in the church as well as in the military. Autocratic, demanding leaders will sooner or later drive people away with their ironhanded tactics.

Peter recognized this when he wrote to some of the leaders of the early church: "Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, . . . not by compulsion but willingly, (continued on page 2)

Table of Contents

Evangelism Strategies.....	pg. 2
Treating Christ Well.....	pg. 2
1994 Christian Education Convention.....	pg. 3
Leadership Training.....	pg. 3
Library News.....	pg. 4
Invitational Evangelism.....	pg. 5
Sunday School Open House.....	pg. 6

(Are You a Leader? cont. from pg. 1)

not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock." (I Peter 5:2-3). Peter had lived with Jesus and observed His method of leadership. It was strong, gentle, respectful, and carried the authority of a consistent example. A good leader not only knows the way but he takes the time to show others the way as well. Resign from the one man band and determine to build a team beginning today.

Evangelism . . . Strategies You Can Use To Build Your Church



McIntosh and Martin in *Finding Them and Keeping Them* reminds us, "There are only two ways to grow a church: we must bring people in the 'front door' and we must keep people from going out the back door." They suggest five significant strategies for finding prospects and bringing them in the front door of your church:

1. Presence Evangelism

The first step is to be present in your community to help in time of need. It means being highly visible in various expressions of ministry by your church. This kind of evangelism does not allow for isolation from society.

Presence evangelism responds to human needs like divorce recovery workshops, mother's days out and helps for single parents. It also means being present to take the gospel outside the church walls to where spiritually needs people are. This type of evangelism can be done through the normal social networks of family, friends, neighbors and fellow workers.

2. Proclamation Evangelism

Proclamation is speaking evangelism, both personal and public. Proclamation centers on explaining the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. It intentionally designs public services so they are understandable and not intimidating to unbelievers. Examples include evangelistic Bible studies, pulpit evangelism and personal witnessing. Proclamation is designed to attract an understandable hearing.

3. Persuasion Evangelism

Persuasion evangelism seeks to purposefully bring people to a decision about Christ. Billy Graham is a wonderful modern example of persuasion evangelism. The Apostle Paul explained, "Therefore knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are made manifest to God; and I hope that we are made manifest also in your con-

sciences" (II Corinthians 5:11).

4. Progressive Evangelism

Progressive evangelism follows up with discipleship after conversion. It has three parts: 1) new believers orientation; 2) new members instruction to help converts commit to the church; and 3) discipleship training as a way to motivate people to grow in their walk with Christ.

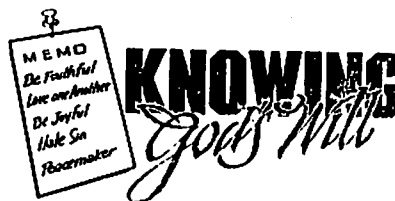
5. Production Evangelism

Production evangelism has to do with sharing one's faith which produces planting the gospel as a witness to someone who does not know Christ. It also includes cultivating one's witness and then harvesting one's witness.

Obviously, everyone in the church will not be gifted in all three of these phases, but everyone will have a part of at least one. As evangelism strategy that goes for a profession of faith without helping a convert become a disciple tends to create spiritual drop-outs. The biblical goal for all of evangelism is a life transformed and then becoming involved as a participating member of the Body of Christ.

--abstracted from *Finding Them, Keeping Them* by Gary McIntosh and Glen Martin, Broadman Press.

(The above information was taken from the January 15, 1994 printing of the newsletter, "Between Us" distributed by the Church Growth Division of the Church of the Nazarene. You may receive subscription information to this newsletter by writing to: International Headquarters, Church of the Nazarene, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.)



Treating Christ Well

Jim Wallis tells of how on Saturdays the Sojourners Community opens a food line to the hungry and homeless of Washington who live within sight of the White House. Before they open the doors, they gather around the food, hold hands and are led in prayer by Mary Glover, the best pray-er of the community - someone who herself stood in that food line a few years earlier. Wallis says, "She prays as if she know the person with who she is talking," and this is what she prays: "Lord, we know you'll be coming through this line today. So help us to treat you well."

Leonard Sweet



**1994 CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION
CONVENTION**

**Rediscover Evangelism - - -
Reaching with Relevance**

**September 17, 1994
at
Heritage Memorial Church
Washington Court House, Ohio**

Plans are being finalized for another great C.E. Convention this year. In just a few weeks we will be gathering for another great day of challenging instruction, motivation and fellowship. I hope that you have already made plans to be a part of this year's convention. We have scheduled 18 workshops that cover a variety of felt needs within Christian Education. Our workshop speakers are busy now preparing for this great day. Our general session speakers will challenge all of us to do more than just teach. Our theme "Rediscover Evangelism—Reaching With Relevance" should call us back to the all important task of incorporating evangelism in all that we do as Christian educators. What is relevant? What method of evangelism works best? How do you share the gospel with small children? These questions and many more we believe will be answered at the convention.

This year some new attractions have been added to the convention. First, Susan Gift Porter will be with us that day. Her energy will be contagious. She will make all of us laugh, challenge us, and look at communicating in a very effective way. Another new item this year will be our exhibits room. We will have several difference ministries, publishers, and other vendors represented that day. You will be able to purchase merchandise as well as order merchandise that day. We are planning on this being just the beginning and plan on having more companies in future conventions. The last item is not new but different than last year's convention. We will be serving lunch in the fellowship/gymnasium building across the parking lot from the church. We will be serving Kentucky Fried Chicken dinners, or large Chef Salads, or Sub sandwiches with chips. We hope that this will accommodate everyone. If not, feel free to bring your lunch with you. Soft drinks, coffee and tea will also be provided.

Your General Christian Education Board along

with myself, are working to bring to you the best possible convention each year. We feel that there are great things that will come out of this year's convention as well as the conventions in the future. This will only take place if you, the Christian Educator, come and participate in this event. We are counting on you to be there. It is not impossible for us to have 800 to 1000 people that day if only 60% of our churches participate. We are doing our best to make this one of the best C. E. Conventions in the state of Ohio and together we can do it!

Kevin Behrer, Convention Chairman



The C.E. board is proud to announce that we will again be sponsoring a gathering of pastors for a special meeting called Project C. A pilot group met last fall with Wayne Schmidt to kick off this important new ministry. The reception by our pastors and key lay leaders was so positive that we are now enlarging this marvelous new opportunity for training and equipping to include all of our churches.

Project C will be meeting November 4 & 5, 1994 at the Holiday Inn in Columbus, Ohio. We are excited about Wayne Schmidt returning as our keynote speaker. Wayne did a tremendous job of communicating to us his experiences, both positive and negative, in growing his church. The cost per couple this year will be approximately \$90.00 which includes your room, banquet and sessions. If you are going as an individual, the cost would then be \$70.00 and if someone would like to attend only the banquet and sessions, you would then be paying \$30.00 per person.

More specific information will be mailed to pastors and churches in the next few weeks. If you have questions that cannot wait feel free to contact either Kevin Behrer or Herschel Holley and they will be glad to help you. Kevin can be reached at (614) 878-4558 and Herschel at (513) 883-2124. Remember to set aside November 4 & 5. Make plans today to join us at the Holiday Inn for a beautiful time of instruction and inspiration with Wayne Schmidt. We'll look forward to seeing you there.



Have you heard the latest . . .

The C. E. Lending Library is being discovered!

Over the last several months the Lending Library of the C. E. Department has become very busy. I am happy to say that we have sent out books, video series and audio cassettes to over 65 churches since the first of this year. Many folks have been giving us lots of positive comments regarding the variety of items available, and the ease in which they are able to adapt these resources to their ministries. Read on to see what some notes have said.

Dwight Mason, from Sugar Creek, OH was pleased with the audio tapes from Rick Warren. He says he especially likes hearing Rick Warren and always learns something from him.

Earl and Caroline Christopher from Elwood, IN had this to say regarding some of the resources on Stewardship: "These tapes were excellent. Thank you so much. We made notes from them and surely will benefit from the shared information. If others are available, we'd like to receive them as time and availability permits."

From Cambridge, OH, Cathy Houser comments, "The video series, 'NO! The Positive Answer' you sent was great! It has a wonderful way of showing our youth the Biblical answers to one of life's difficult pressures. I know this series made a difference to a lot of our kids here."

Hearing from folks, helps us to realize that this library is really doing a lot of good and is beneficial in many, many ways to many people. Would you like to help your class or ministry in your church to grow spiritually? Would you like to be able to do that with almost no cost occurred by you or your church? This lending library is ready and waiting to help you meet your needs. Pick up the phone and call Cindy at (513) 695-0025 or drop us a note. We'll be waiting to hear what your needs are and how we can assist you.

This month we are focusing in on a few of the resources we have available in the areas of Leadership and Evangelism. Do any of these sound interesting? Let us know which of these you would like to preview:

Reaching Your World Through Witnessing Without Fear
by Bill Bright

This six session video training will motivate your members to witness, help them recognize open doors for outreach and equip them with proven methods to share their faith. Set includes video, workbook, and facilitator's guide. Also available is the book, *Witnessing Without Fear* by Bill Bright.

Baby Boomers: Reaching the Unchurched

by Doug Murren

This study kit is designed to help you recognize the unique identity and needs of this vast generation of Americans. It will give you practical ideas for successfully reaching baby boomers with the gospel, and also will increase your effectiveness as a communicator in today's world. Includes 4 audio cassette tapes and notes.

How to Handle Conflict & Change

by Carl George

This audio seminar represents the most in-depth, up-to-date, and innovative material available on this subject. With insight and encouragement, Carl George reveals effective perspectives and practices for dealing with conflict and change in the local church. This series includes 8 audio cassette tapes with study notes.

How to Lead and Manage the Local Church

by Carl George & Robert Logan

Derived from a highly successful three day seminar this self-study kit imparts skills of planning, management and administration for the local church. You will learn how to stop spinning your wheels and become an efficient and successful leader/manager, freeing yourself up for the roles of preacher and shepherd. Series includes 10 audio cassette tapes, workbook, seminary notes, and reproducible forms

How to Reach Secular People

by George Hunter, III

Hunter takes his 25 years of witnessing experience to deliver a formula for reaching the lost. He addresses communication tactics, what kind of church reaches the unchurched best, pitfalls we must avoid and more. (192 pp. paperback book)

Evangelism Expressions

by John C. Maxwell

Eleven messages and outlines to help you prepare your heart for soul-winning. Scripture references are taken from Matthew, Revelation, John, I Corinthians, Psalms, and Mark. Set of 8 cassette tapes and outlines.





Invitational Evangelism
by Roger Swanson

A North Carolina lay preacher's definition of church is as good as I have heard, even in Scripture. "The church," he said, "is what you have left over when the building burns down and the preacher leaves town."

The church, in other words, is not a place, no matter how sacred, or any one person. The church is people--the people of God.

But "church" is something more as well. In the best sense of the word, "church" is a happening!" "Church" is what happens when the people of God meet with the Spirit of God!

When "church" happens, worship stirs the soul. Singing, praying, preaching, giving, receiving the bread and the wine...all are means to a series of ends, as varied and diverse as the number of people for whom "church" happens on any given day. In one person's life, for instance, as at Creation, order is brought out of the chaos. From deep inside of other persons, a felt need emerges to be well in some area of their lives. One person may wish to request baptism or membership in the church. A couple may wish to pray for their marriage. A person may hear God's call to a ministry or a mission, or to the ordained or diaconal ministry. As at times when God has been present in power, people's lives are changed.

Bob, a successful businessman, had decided that he had enough religion as a child and young person. Except for rare and ceremonial occasions, his wife and family attended without him. One particular Sunday, a granddaughter persuaded him to come and hear her sing. Watching her sing with her friends, Bob was deeply touched. Was it the innocent joy of his granddaughter and her friends? Their childlike trust in God? Whatever it was, Bob found himself at a place where he had never been before: on the edge of profound conviction and surrender. Fortunately, the morning's service closed with an invitation to which many persons, including Bob, could respond.

Following the sermon and hymn and just before the benediction, the pastor spoke briefly about "church" being almost over, and for many it was "over", he acknowledged. But "church," he went on to say, "isn't just an hour. Church is meeting God and having your needs met. If church isn't over for you this morning, you are invited to

come to this communion rail with your need, question, or decision and to pray quietly. If you wish, someone will pray with you. You may stay as long as you wish. Others are asked to leave the sanctuary quietly, remembering that for some persons, church is still going on."

Bob made his way to the rail and knelt there. His family joined him. A layperson, who had been trained for this ministry, prayed with them. Today Bob is a winsome witness to the grace and love of God.

As a worship leader, either as a pastor on a Sunday morning or as a layperson on a retreat, have you ever felt an emptiness at the close of a service, as if something was not finished? I did many times until I realized that an invitation for persons to finish something God had begun in their lives during that service had been excluded.

"Church" is more than a place, a person, and even a people. "Church is a happening! And sensitive worship leaders will step aside and let it happen.

(Mr. Swanson is director of Evangelism Ministries, Section on Evangelism, General Board of Discipleship for the United Methodist Church)

*Invite someone to church this week.
This is the one effective action that every one of
God's evangelism co-workers has the opportunity to take!*

Reach Out

Into the highways and hedges. . .
Where a baby is born every two seconds.
Where parental and juvenile delinquency is rampant.
Where substance abuse is epidemic.
Where life's highways lead to school, shop, office,
store, farm.
Where others march to the beat of Uncle Sam's drum.
Where people are groping for reality.

And invite them to come in . . .
That the seeker may find truth.
That the sorrowing may find comfort.
That the weary may find rest.
That the troubled may find peace.
That the sinful may find eternal life.
That the Christian may train for service.

-Baptist Tabernacle
Louisville, KY