TEAMWORK
...working together for victory!

The SBCV is a fellowship of Southern Baptist Convention churches cooperating to assist local congregations in their task of fulfilling the Great Commission as commanded by our Lord Jesus Christ.
From the Editor

Geoff Hammond
Senior Associate Director

The Leadership Train

Leadership is like a train!

Sound interesting? John Kramp, in his new book, On Track Leadership, teaches about leadership and team building as he tells the story of his church planting experience in Washington State. Kramp, Vice President of the Church Resources Division at Lifeway, says that the Leadership Train has five cars:

- The Engine: vision and personal planning
- The Passenger Car: enlistment and team building
- The Fuel Car: communication and delegation
- The Equipment Car: motivation and correction
- The Caboose: celebration

Each car is important in team building and when one car is missing or broken the train can stand still on the tracks.

At this time of year, our churches are enlisting volunteers and putting together teams for the new school year... so we have dedicated this issue of the Proclaimer to the subject of team building. Many of the articles are about how local churches are building team using the ideas of the Leadership Train. Our hope is that you will be inspired and assisted in your team building.

Have a great summer and remember that the Psalmist said that unless the Lord builds the house, (or team) we labor in vain! (Psalm 127:1)

Geoff Hammond, Senior Associate Director

p.s. For a good summer read, try On Track Leadership. It is a short, fast moving book. To order your copy, go to Lifeway.com.

2006 Week of Prayer for State Missions

: and State Missions Offering

SEPT
10-17
2006
GOAL:
$200,000

How will this offering be used?

Appalachian Trail Ministries $ 5,000
Baptist Builders Startup $50,000
Disaster Relief Equipment & Operation $25,000
Land for Church Plants $25,000
Ministry Intern Scholarships $30,000
Portable Baptisteries for Church Plants $ 5,000
Portable Churches for Church Plants $50,000
Virginia Food Distribution Ministries $10,000

Total : $ 200,000
### Dates to Remember

**SBCV CALENDAR**
For information contact sbcv@sbcv.org or call 888-234-7716

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<td>6–8   COLLEGE BEACH &amp; BOARDWALK OUTREACH  — London Bridge Baptist, Virginia Beach</td>
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<td>8–9 YEC (YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE)  — Liberty Baptist, Hampton</td>
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<td>24 CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)</td>
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<td>10–13 CENTRAL WEST EVANGELISM CONFERENCE (CW)  — The Tabernacle, Danville</td>
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<td>10–17 WEEK OF PRAYER for STATE MISSIONS</td>
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<td>30 SOUTHWEST CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE  — Euclid Avenue Baptist, Bristol</td>
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<td>20–21 WOMEN’S CONFERENCE — Grove Avenue Baptist, Richmond</td>
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<td>26 CHURCH PLANTER NETWORK (CPN) (Statewide)</td>
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<td><strong>OCT</strong></td>
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<td>11 SONIC FLOOD MISSIONS CONCERT — Grove Avenue Baptist, Richmond</td>
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<td>25–Apr1 WEEK OF PRAYER for North American Missions</td>
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**SBCV: 7 Ministry Areas**
Beginning July 1, 2006, SBCV will be adding another ministry area to its decentralization plan.

**Ministry to Sportsmen at Smith Mountain Lake**
Wild Game Dinners become a much anticipated event with over 900 attending and become a spring board for Quest Ministries, an outreach to sports enthusiasts.

**God at Work Among the Maasai**
More than 125 Maasai accept Christ as Savior and new churches were formed when four SBCV pastors visited on a Maasai mission team effort.

For more information or to register visit www.sbcv.org/studentz or call 888.234.7716
**Every Church Has a Challenge:** how to get its members “out of the stands and into the game” through enlistment. Seaford Baptist Church, Seaford, has attempted to launch a volunteer revolution through a philosophical shift. Tammy Esteves, a leader in Seaford’s enlistment process, says, “We no longer want to seek people to fill roles, we want roles to fulfill people!”

Seaford now has “FIRST SERVE” opportunities which give members a chance to “taste and see.” These are various one-time opportunities offered at different times to allow members the chance to see if that ministry is where God is leading them.

Senior Pastor, Richard Harrell, says these new opportunities have uncovered hidden talents, spotlighted new leaders, and closed the back door on fringe members. But the greatest evidence that this new approach is working is through individual stories. Stories like that of “Ted.” He had been in the church for years until this new enlistment leadership process opened the door for him to fulfill his passion for teaching men. Now he is teaching a group of men and making an impact in their lives; all the while fulfilling his passion. Harrell says the difference has been “by starting with a person, not a position.”

Seaford has also taken practical steps to equip its members. There are two big events annually: Seaford Summit in the fall (with topics on leadership, discipleship, witnessing, etc.), and a spring Service Fair for all persons serving in church leadership positions. These training events include video and classroom instruction led by church members on a wide range of topics. Esteves says of her role at Seaford, “Helping people find their God-given mission . . . there is nothing like it in the entire world.”

**Strengthening Existing Churches**

**FAITH Teams Help Plant Church**

Tell us that we have a commandment, not a suggestion, to go and share Jesus Christ with a lost and dying world,” said Pastor David Osborne. “I reminded them that according to Acts 1:8, Mountain View is our Jerusalem and our Judea is the Elk Creek area. Everything that we do as a body of Christ is not just about our congregation; we should be about Kingdom work for God’s glory.”

It did not take many visits to validate the need for a church in the area. FAITH team member Patsy McKnight says, “We are encountering Christians who have fallen away from church and families, who feel no need for church involvement. We also see those who have a false or little understanding of the true Gospel.”

LaVaun Reedy, another FAITH trainee said, “My first thought of going into the Elk Creek area was reluctance… there are several churches in the area and I thought there was no need for another. After I started going out with the FAITH teams, I found there truly was a need. Many showed a true hunger for the Word of God. We, as a team, were encouraged by many of the visits and the openness to the Gospel.”

LaVaun Reedy makes a visit as a FAITH team member from Mountain View Baptist.
YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE
AUGUST 8 - 9
LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH
IN HAMPTON, VA

Pre-Registration Deadlines:
$28 (includes t-shirt)
Must be postmarked by July 24th
Online registration closes August 1st
At the door Registration:
$33 (no t-shirt/seats not guaranteed)

ready to make the SHIFT?

SHIFT YEC _ Breakout Sessions
SHIFT your conversation SHIFT your defense
SHIFT your discipleship SHIFT your leadership
SHIFT my passion
SHIFT your witness SHIFT your youth group
SHIFT your mission SHIFT your school

GREG STIER _ speaker
TODD AGNEW _ worship
AUDIO A _ concert
SKIT GUYS _ drama
VISION FOR MISSIONS IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

In September 2005, four SBCV pastors, in partnership with the IMB, completed a trip to Zambia. Pastor Mike Smith of Deerfield Baptist Church, Deerfield, has already translated his vision into reality by taking his first partnership team back to Zambia in 2006. “I was thrilled to be part of the pioneer team of SBCV pastors that went to Zambia in September of 2005 to establish a

new partnership. Although this was my third time to Africa, it was my first time to Zambia and God did a great work. We truly were able to see Ephesians 2:10 in living color. Although virtually nothing that we had planned actually came to pass...God had something much bigger and better in store. As a result of our trip and evangelistic efforts, Kalabo Baptist Church was born.”

Pastor Smith went on to say, “When the four of us committed to go, we also committed to return with a team. Through a series of events, it was clear that God had called me to go the first time and it has been amazing to see how God has been working through our team that is about to return to Zambia.” Deerfield Baptist sent their first team of seven to Lusaka, Zambia on April 18th. “Equipping believers to reach the lost” was the theme of the trip. The purpose was two-fold: train Zambian believers to share their faith to reach the lost and share “True Love Waits-AFRICA” with secondary school-aged children.

PLANTING New CLASSES

Jimmy Meadows is seeing God work in the life of his church and in his own heart. Meadows planted Mt. View Baptist in Tazewell about four years ago. God is blessing Mt. View with numerical and spiritual growth while renewing a passion in Meadows for church planting.

When Meadows and his Sunday School director began to seek God’s guidance on how to grow the ministry, his vision was to start new classes. Meadows led the congregation to begin thinking in terms of reproduction. Both men decided to plant a new Sunday School class just like you would plant a new church. As they encouraged the class to sow (bring in new people) they also set a goal for reproduction (plant the new class). They soon took ownership of this vision and grew. As time drew closer, Meadows and his director led the people to pray about who would go with the newly-birthed class to help establish it. Just before the launch date of the new class, Meadows brought them together in front of the church and commissioned them...as a new class. This sense of birthing new things is starting to catch on in the life of the church as they look forward to the day they birth a new church.

“Equipping believers to reach the lost.”

2006 Hurricane Season Starts
Mark Gauthier Assumes Volunteer Leadership of Disaster Relief

We are pleased to announce that Mark Gauthier has assumed the statewide leadership of our Disaster Relief ministry. Heretofore, he assisted Jack Noble as Co-Director. With Jack becoming Church Enrichment Missionary for the Midwestern area, Mark will fill the role as Director. He is assisted by a Team Leader for Disaster Relief in each ministry area.

State Director
Mark Gauthier
State Training Coordinator
Robert Williams

AREAS:

Southeast
Ron Early

Northern
Robert Varley

Southwest
David Moore

Central West
Jimmy Marston

Eastern Shore
Stan Owens

Central East
Eddie Urbine

Midwest
Wayne Sink

VISIONING
Soaring

The vision for a sports ministry at Main Street Baptist Church in Christiansburg was cast through an Upward* Basketball presentation at an SBCV leadership conference. Even though Main Street HAS NO GYM, by faith, they started the ministry in November 2003. They believed that “where God guides, He provides.” God brought more than 200 children from around the New River Valley. Fifty families who did not have any church affiliation were represented.

The second season was just as miraculous with 411 children enrolled. God supernaturally provided five different gymnasiums in the area to accommodate 50 teams.

At the start of the third season, church members asked, “What more is God going to do?” God began to answer that question by giving 670 children for the 2005-06 season. Main Street had the opportunity to minister to more than 1500 people each weekend while 87 teams played basketball. The season culminated with the Upward Celebration! More than 1600 people gathered at Virginia Tech’s Cassell Coliseum and heard a clear presentation of the Gospel.

Upward also provides a great means for involving lay-leaders within the church body. More than 200 church members have served in the ministry of Upward Basketball. Each week volunteers serve as coaches, referees, score keepers, concession workers, intercessors and devotional speakers.

From the beginning, many prayers have been answered and God has continued to show Himself faithful in powerful and practical ways. It is true that “where God guides, He provides”!

* Upward is an outreach sports ministry designed for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. It provides an opportunity to invest in a child’s physical and spiritual growth by teaching sports and the Bible, while involving volunteer members in ministry. For information go to www.upward.org.

Essentials for Effective Volunteer Enlistment

ALLAN TAYLOR, well-known Minister of Education from FBC, Woodstock, GA, says, “we really do enlist 95% of our problems.” One of the key ingredients in a successful Sunday School is an effective enlistment process. Here are FOUR ESSENTIALS:

1. PRAYER: The first step begins on our knees in fervent prayer. We must continually and persistently ask our Heavenly Father to “send forth laborers into His harvest” (Matthew 9:38). Too often we attempt to do kingdom work in the flesh.

2. PERSONAL: Successful enlistment is done face-to-face… not through general pulpit appeals or a phone call. It says something about how important the task is when you ask to meet with them one-on-one.

3. PURPOSEFUL: This involves sharing the qualifications and expectations needed for the task. One of the most important things we have done in this regard is the creation of a teacher covenant. I believe in calling people up to serve in Sunday School. These volunteers have the responsibility of handling two of the nearest things to God’s heart: His people and His Word. Should there not be high expectations for such a responsibility?

4. PASSIONATE: When enlisting people, make sure that you do it with passion and enthusiasm. If you are not excited about the ministry opportunity, don’t be surprised if they are not. Let’s call them to a dream, not a job. Make them aware of the great responsibility and great rewards.

When we stop enlisting our own problems, the enlisting process becomes a joy instead of a burden!

Editor’s note: A great resource is the book on this subject, “The Six Core Values of Sunday School” by Allan Taylor.
SBCV WILL BE ADDING ANOTHER MINISTRY AREA to our decentralization plan. Northern Virginia will now be divided into two ministry areas. Loudon, Fairfax, D.C. and the 495-Beltway will form the Greater D.C. ministry area. You will also notice some small changes in other areas. Ministry areas are based on the number of churches, the way in which churches are clustered, geographical distance between churches and population area. We are excited about the way the Lord is growing our Convention.
SBC OF VIRGINIA

DISTRIBUTION OF CHURCHES

**Northern**
- 5 CHURCHES
- POP. 34,165

**Greater D.C.**
- 39 CHURCHES
- POP. 1,975,199

**Central East**
- 67 CHURCHES
- POP. 1,223,412

**South Eastern**
- 102 CHURCHES
- POP. 1,654,412
Pastor Ben Arment of History Church, Reston, makes full use of the latest technology to communicate with both the community and the church family. The church has two websites, one for the public and the other for church family. Ben also posts comments and personal information on a daily blog so his church family feels more connected with him, his family and ministry.

The church sends out a bi-monthly, full-color newsletter, in which the church’s values and vision are communicated mainly through pictures. “We live in a visual age,” Arment says. “So it’s important for us to communicate the church’s mission through images and not just words.”

The church has recently brought on a part-time graphic designer to take over production of the newsletters. History Church also utilizes “podcasting” on their public website so that anyone can listen to the Sunday morning sermons. Arment is hoping that in the future, they will be able to upload video from Sunday mornings, allowing people to watch their service on the web.

In this fast-paced age, the church must remember that technology is an effective tool for reaching the lost. Communication is an important part of team building.

Daniel Dockery, Pastor of Liberty Baptist, Appomattox, says that they have three options in involving people in the ministry of their church:
1. dictate and tell people what to do
2. delegate tasks to be done, which is a top-down structure
3. develop leaders and empower them to do the ministry.

Dockery chooses to develop leaders and meets with committee chairpersons on a monthly basis. During these monthly trainings, members learn the in’s and out’s of leadership, such as: how to prepare and lead meetings, how to take minutes, how to plan a year-long calendar, and how to prepare reports for church quarterly business meetings. “Then we simply trust them to lead,” says Dockery. “They are unleashed and empowered to minister freely. The key to successful leadership is communication — the more the better!”

Liberty Baptist has developed leaders to be in charge of ministries such as Missions, AWANA, VBS, Youth, Children, Preschool and Music. A good example of Liberty’s development of leaders is seen in its VBS structure. This year’s director has an assistant who learns and becomes the director next year, while the former director becomes the assistant. Developing leaders takes a commitment and an investment in people, but in turn, people invest their lives in ministry to others.
A commitment to delegation ultimately comes down to realizing that God the Father is the team leader, so says Tim Piland, Senior Pastor of Nansemond River Baptist Church in Suffolk. His experience in the United States Air Force has helped him to make delegation a natural part of his leadership style.

Delegation is more than just dividing up a task list; it means empowering and allowing people the opportunity to make decisions. Piland says, “To be successful in delegation, the person needs two things: they must know what is expected and be given the right to carry it out. I must be sure of my own calling because I can then allow others to fulfill theirs, while remaining focused on my own.” Piland further explains, “A leader must understand that delegation includes staying out of the way but staying informed of progress.”

Piland has patterned these principles for his church staff:

**FIRST**, delegation becomes easier as you build trust over time and your staff sees you lead.

**SECOND**, delegation can only happen as people are equipped to serve.

**THIRD**, begin the right way by building delegation into the DNA of the church. The encouraging word is that it is never too late to start!

**FOURTH**, know your people. You must begin with giftedness and allow people to be successful.

“When we delegate and empower people to act,” Piland says, “we are following God’s divine pattern in the Trinity: God the Father is the team leader, Jesus carries out the will of the Father, and the Holy Spirit further illumines the work of the Father through the Son.”

**Steps to Building Your Team**

**Step 1. Pre-enlist**

1. Listen to God and know the ministry needs of your church.
2. Never start new ministries without there being a need and without the right person to lead that ministry.
3. Find the answers to the following key questions:
   - Is this person a team player?
   - Can this person follow, as well as lead?
   - Can this person build and lead a team?
   - Is this person a true servant?

**Step 2. Enlist**

1. Look within your fellowship for potential leaders.
2. Target potential leaders.
3. Select leaders who are best suited for the team ministry.
4. Train and enlist new leaders and put them to work.

**Step 3. Build Your Team**

1. Help each team leader know and understand how God has gifted them.
2. Encourage them to focus on what they can do best.
3. Encourage your team leaders to mentor future potential leaders in order to expand ministry capabilities.

Jesus said, ‘the greatest among you shall be a servant.’ The greatest benefit of team ministry... “is that everybody gets an opportunity to serve Christ.”

**Steps to Enlisting and Building Your Team**

**Step 2. Enlist**

1. Look within your fellowship for potential leaders.
2. Target potential leaders.
3. Select leaders who are best suited for the team ministry.
4. Train and enlist new leaders and put them to work.

**Step 3. Build Your Team**

1. Help each team leader know and understand how God has gifted them.
2. Encourage them to focus on what they can do best.
3. Encourage your team leaders to mentor future potential leaders in order to expand ministry capabilities.

Jesus said, ‘the greatest among you shall be a servant.’ The greatest benefit of team ministry... “is that everybody gets an opportunity to serve Christ.”

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**A Life-changing Weekend**

**A Woman After God’s Own Heart**

October 20-21, 2006

Grove Avenue Baptist Church
8701 Ridge Road
Richmond, VA 23229

Registration: $25; after October 13th, $30.

Featuring:

**ELIZABETH GEORGE**

As Guest Soloist

**KENDRA PENN**

For information go to:
www.sbcv.org
or call 888.294.7716

Presented by the Women’s Ministries of SBC of Virginia and Grove Avenue Baptist Church

Jul/Aug 2006 11
Ministry to Sportsmen at Smith Mountain Lake

By Jackie Carver, Pastor, Palestine Baptist, Huddleston

At our church in Bedford County, we have found that God is at work in all the everyday things we do, even when it comes to our hobbies. Nine years ago we held our first Wild Game Dinner (WGD). It was designed as an evening of food and fun in which “good-ole-boys” got together to share hunting experiences. The event grew each year until we had to move it to the Huddleston Elementary School gym. We now hold the “WGD” in our own Family Life Center and this year had more than 900 in attendance! The best part is that each year people surrender their hearts to Jesus as He builds His kingdom. Out of our “WGD” has sprung Quest Ministries, an outreach to sports enthusiasts in the Smith Mountain Lake area and surrounding communities. This year, Quest Ministries raised over $20,000 in sponsorship from vendors. This allowed us to hold the “WGD” and volleyball tournament. We are also able to plan for a bow shoot and golf tournament. These events are not for profit but are opportunities to share the Gospel. In the past, we have held a fishing tournament on Smith Mountain Lake and a very successful Kid’s Fishing Tournament at a local pond.

The reason for the success of this ministry is that the members feel an ownership, with each doing what they can for the Kingdom of God. As pastor, I participate as a fellow believer and encourager and rejoice in it all!

For more information: www.Questministriespalestine.com

Celebrating God’s Provision

PINE GROVE BAPTIST

It was an exciting day in the history of Pine Grove Missionary Baptist, Dugspur. In April 2005, the congregation held a ground-breaking ceremony for a new fellowship and education building. Representatives from various church groups and Sunday School classes used golden shovels to turn the symbolic first mounds of dirt. Pine Grove’s congregation has seen constant growth and realized the importance of working together. They put their focus on Matthew 19:26 where Jesus said, “With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible.” This led them to the building project’s theme, “Building Together in Faith That Others May Believe.”

In September 2005, the church celebrated the project’s completion with a dedication service. Pastor Allen Cherry and the congregation gave God all the credit by saying, “We understand that this is His building and His work. We are laborers in His field.”

The much needed building is almost 10,000 square-feet and includes a new fellowship hall that will provide easy access for the elderly and handicapped. It also increases the amount of space available for large group functions. Additional classroom space provides much needed room for church activities such as Sunday School, AWANA, and youth groups.
**TIME FOR THE TRUTH**

**Christians Living in a World of ‘Evolution’**

By Brandon Pickett, Media Missionary, SBCV

One of my favorite places in Virginia is the Roanoke Valley. What a beautiful area — the Blue Ridge Parkway, the city of Roanoke and Mill Mountain can be a great getaway. On a recent trip with my family, we decided to head up to the Mill Mountain Zoo. At the zoo’s welcome center, the first thing you see is a large display explaining the alleged history and origins of this beautiful mountain.

And the first sentence on the display reads: “Mill Mountain was created billions of years ago.”

You see, the theory of evolution is no longer veiled as a hypothesis. It is now publicized as absolute fact. You can’t get away from it. My son comes home from school talking about how his teacher said we come from animals and that the earth is billions of years old. Turn on the news and ABC has a stunning story on how there is “scientific proof” of the Big Bang.

**Not Billions, The Young Age Of The Earth** at First Baptist Church, Roanoke. A team of scientists from ICR blew evolution right out of the water with scientific proof from an unprecedented eight-year study of the age of the earth. Around 1,000 people attended this special event and took back tools to help combat the lies of the world.

Maybe the message is getting through. In June, Gallop released a new poll that shows about 1/2 of Americans still believe that human beings didn’t evolve but were created by God in their present form within the last 10,000 years or so. And many more believe that, despite the mantra of media and mainstream science, God did have something to do with creation.

It certainly is time for the truth and for the church to get serious about defending the central principles of the Bible.

Learn more about The Institute for Creation Research at www.icr.org/
The four SBCV pastors who were part of our first Massai mission team came home from Kenya celebrating the work of the Holy Spirit. They witnessed more than 125 accept Christ as Savior and the formation of new churches among the Massai people. In their words, “we were truly where God was working and felt that we had simply joined Him in the abundant outpouring of His Spirit.” Ed Rodriquez, pastor of Ragland Memorial Baptist Church and a member of the team said, “The Lord manifested His presence as we witnessed many being saved.”

He shared the following story: “A delay of three hours had occurred during one of our trips. Once on our way, we met a woman who had just given birth and was being pushed in a wheelbarrow to the nearest clinic. She was accompanied by her husband and father. The team stopped, offered assistance, and took them to the clinic where the woman received treatment. While we waited, a Massai pastor presented the Gospel to the two men. Both accepted Christ as their Savior. The team left the clinic celebrating the birth of a child and the spiritual birth of two Maasai men. It was then that we realized the reason for our delay — to witness God at work! The celebration did not stop in Kenya. It continued as the team

returned back to the States. God had prepared the way for them from the beginning to the end of the trip.”

Members of SBCV churches are invited to join this celebration and witness the outpouring of God’s Spirit by joining and praying for teams returning to the Massai in 2007. Go to www.sbcv.org/africa_partnership for more information and photos.

Central East Church Enrichment Missionary

DON MATTHEWS

Don Matthews will be moving to become the Church Enrichment Missionary for the Central-East ministry area. Don has done a marvelous job as Church Enrichment Missionary in the Midwestern area for the past 3½ years and now he has taken up the challenge in the Central-East. Don knows this area well. He served as Minister of Education at Swift Creek Baptist Church in Midlothian and graduated from the University of Richmond on a football scholarship. Don and Mary Ann will be a blessing to the churches in the Central-East ministry area.

Massai nationals with their pastor

Ed Rodriquez with Massai pastor

Price Increase: Sept. 1, 2006
Effective Christian Leaders Are Willing to Pay the Price

Paul begins, “Now I rejoice in what was suffered for you…” (1:24). Look at the preceding verses and you realize that Paul is referring to the sacrifice of Christ for our sin. Paul is grateful for Christ’s work in their life. But there is more to this statement. He also says, “I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ’s afflictions, for the sake of the church.” He began by talking about Christ’s afflictions, now he is talking about his own. Paul says there is a price to pay to lead.

Effective Christian Leaders Have a Servant Mentality

Paul states, “I have become its (the church’s) servant by the commission God gave me…” (1:25). Paul viewed himself not as a professional nor an executive, but a servant. Jesus gave us an example of what this means in the upper room when the disciples gathered with Jesus for the Passover meal. He takes off his garment and humbles himself like a servant and washes the feet of the disciples. He was giving them a model of the kind of leadership He desired: servant leadership.

Effective Christian Leaders See the Big Picture

Paul writes, “We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.” (1:28). Paul sees the big picture. He is not seeking to build organizations… he is seeking to reach and develop people.

Perhaps this picture will illustrate the three key principles. One day John decides to go to church. He walks in with “wild hair,” wearing ragged jeans, a T-shirt, and no shoes. The church is completely packed and all eyes are on him. John gets closer and closer to the pulpit and when he realizes there are no seats, he just squats down right on the carpet. About this time, the minister realizes that an elderly deacon is slowly making his way toward John. The people are thinking, “The minister can’t even preach the sermon until the deacon does what he has to do.” And then they see this elderly man drop his cane on the floor. With great difficulty he lowers himself and sits down next to John so he won’t be alone. Everyone choked up with emotion. When the minister gains control he says, “What I’m about to preach, you will never remember. What you have just seen, you will never forget.” Indeed, that deacon is an effective Christian leader.
To receive the Proclaimer or to correct the information appearing on your mailing address, complete this form and return this page to:
Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia, Proclaimer, 4101 Cox Road, Suite 100, Glen Allen, VA 23060.

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