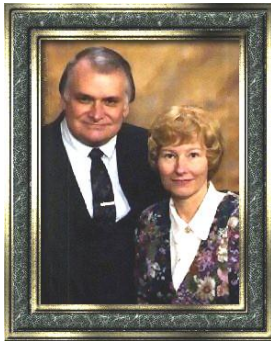


SPIRIT AND TRUTH



June/July 2009



**FROM GENERAL BISHOP TY
AND ASSOC. BISHOP BETSY TICE**

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In economics there is a term referred to as "diminishing returns." John Maxwell in his book *Developing the Leaders Around You* discusses the phenomenon of leadership abilities never surpassing the abilities of the leader of the organization. This seems to be proven over, and over again in church after church. I have watched associate pastors, assistant pastors, Sunday School teachers, and so on, emulate their senior pastor. I watch most pastors today, and you can identify who they respect and desire to be like, whether that is Billy Graham, R.W. Schambach, Adrian Rogers, or some other renowned preacher of today or yesterday. I wondered in my heart, if John Maxwell, and everyone else that seem to subscribe to the concept of diminishing returns are right, how can the church grow to where God wants it to be?

The answer does not rely on the ability, sincerity, or even the talent that is in the church. The answer is so simple most ministers are not willing to do it.

ALLOW THE HOLY SPIRIT COMPLETE CONTROL!!

The minister must be willing to step into total surrender and total TRUST that the Lord is not going to allow HIS church to become a shambles. This is so hard to do, many ministers will put up the following excuses:

1. I only want excellence because the Lord deserves the best.
2. I don't want to be Pastor Billy Bob... saying, "Sister Myrtle, haven't seen you in a month, y'all come up and give us one of your pretty songs."

3. Well, if the church service goes too long, some people will go to another church.

Sadly, because of our “multimedia culture,” we have taken God’s church and turned it into a one-hour sit com and then wonder why there is no power in the church. When ministers go overseas for the first time, they are totally unprepared for what they find. When the villagers come together, they come for all day expecting the preacher to teach them of this Great God they have come to hear about. These same ministers when they come back to the States are totally disgusted at America’s attitude towards what we call church services.

Let’s look at some of the objections. True, we all want to give God our best, but He tells me my best is as “filthy rags.” What was excellence in the 1500’s, 1800’s, and 1900’s would not match what we call excellence today. Now I too, do not condone throwing something against the wall, and if it sticks, offering it up to the Lord as an offering. On the other hand, if someone is giving his or her absolute best with a voice that is cracking, you had better be very careful, that you are not looking down on the widow’s mite. I am just ornery enough to call you a “Smelly Hypocrite” if you can sit in front of the TV for 5 hours, watch a ball game for 3 hours, fish or hunt all day (regardless of the weather), and yet try to intimidate the pastor into a 15-minute sugar pill called a sermon. If that is all you’re after, I can suggest some TV preachers you can watch and never bother to get out of your recliner. Of course, God will say to you as He will say to them, “Depart from me. . . . I never knew you.”

So how do we break this mold in our churches?

First, comes the **surrender**. “Lord, it is not my church but yours. You have given me the awesome task of feeding your sheep and making sure the flock is not scattered by wolves or thieves.” In this spirit of humility, we are no longer the “lords” over the sheep, but rather are the shepherds for the Owner of the sheep. It becomes, then our job to nurture and feed the sheep so they are healthy and producing wool that is pleasing to the Owner.

Second, comes the **teaching**. We have the privilege introducing the sheep to the Owner and teaching them to hear HIS VOICE, not ours. Hearing the voice of God, comes from solid teaching. Knowing the Word’s exhortations and warnings allows the sheep to graze on good ground. Since they have the confidence that you, the pastor, have taught them to hear the voice of God through the Word, when they say, “I believe God’s wants me to do this or that,” they will be able to back up their statement with Scripture and conviction.

Third, comes the **nurturing**. Are you willing to groom the sheep to be abundant wool producers? This comes through the baptism of the Holy Spirit and allowing each sheep to come alive in its primary gift from the Holy Spirit, whether it be prophecy, word of wisdom, word of knowledge, exhortation, governments, mercy, faith, healing, miracles, teaching, and so on.

When their supreme leader is the Holy Spirit, then and only then, can the sheep excel past the pastor’s abilities and in doing so enhance what the Church of God should look like to a lost and dying world.

What if people with the gift of healing were laying hands on the sick in your church and being healed? What if those with the gift of faith were allowed to believe for more than the pastor’s limitations? What if those with the gift of music were allowed to worship till His Glory filled the temple? What if those with the gift of prophecy were allowed by 2 or 3 to declare the Word of the Lord? Just imagine if people went away with a sense of involvement rather than having “watched another one-hour sitcom where the plot will be forgotten until the next rerun.”

Many years ago, I pastored Faith Bible Center in Lucerne, CA. We started in a storefront and borrowed chairs from the attendees. I asked the church to pray for folding chairs. Pam came up to me and said, “Pastor, I am

believing for PEWS.” I stood there and laughed and said, “Pam, you go right ahead.” I then showed my own lack of faith by saying, “However, pews cost \$1,000 each, and we only have about \$500 total.” She said, “Well, that is what I am believing for.” That week she called and told me to look in our local shopper paper on page 7. There was her faith being honored by the Holy Spirit. Ten, twelve-foot pews and two, ten-foot pews were on sale for a total of \$400, and just in case we weren’t happy enough, they threw in a pulpit and several other items for free. Thank God, the church had someone with more faith than me. (This occurred in the 80’s, where pews, and NOT chairs, were the thing to have.)

Last night, we had one of those “God-filled services.” The power of the Holy Spirit was released out of taking prayer and praise requests. One shared how God had delivered them from smoking for 6 weeks, another said they were still battling, but the praise report gave them hope. Another asked how God had delivered them, and several shared the awesome power of the Lord. Pastor, lead by the Holy Spirit, zeroed in on the need with a message of the hope and confidence that we can have as Christians in Jesus Christ. Instead of preaching on Mercy, which was the prepared message, MERCY filled the House of God. As the altar call was given, a couple of elders joined the pastor. A lady came forward for rededication, and the Lord instructed the elder to step back and have the ladies of the church come and surround this dear sister with prayer and love, allowing a broken lamb to receive healing in the center of safety. On the other side of the church, another elder was taking a little six-year old girl through the steps of understanding what it meant to become saved. The musicians continued to flow in the Spirit, one song after another. The pastor said, “I have to get in on this,” and reached his hand into the group of praying women as a point of agreement. A few minutes later, the pastor broke away, laughing and saying, “Pity the poor devil that gets in the middle of that group of ladies.” Then the pastor’s wife came in with the 25 teens she had been ministering to, with two more coming forward to give their heart to Jesus. At this point, ladies and children began dancing before the Lord. [Three saved, One Rededication, and 4 water baptisms from earlier decisions, ALL on a Wednesday Night.]

I am not telling you this to brag on a particular church, or worse, to make you feel inadequate or jealous. My only desire Pastor/Minister/Friend is to let you know that if you will stand on the truth, teach your people the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and then humble yourself, take your controlling hand off of God’s People, SET HIS BAR, and then SIT BACK AND SEE WHAT THE LORD WILL DO, your church and ministry does not have to be plagued with the concept of “diminishing returns” when the OWNER / LEADER is Jesus Christ Himself. Don’t be afraid that if they realize their full potential, they will run off to another church. People will always stay where they see and feel the Hand of God on their lives. True, there will be those that leave, but they were only with you for God to give them another chance. Don’t worry about the Tares; the Wheat is ripe onto harvest.

Cancellation: Our 2009 FGRMC National Conference has been called off. The MO state fair was moved up and no motel rooms were available and other times were not working for the majority. However, Bishop Boer, Bishop Eslick, and Bishop Brewer are planning regional meetings for the North East, West, and South East respectively.

NEW CHURCHES / MINISTRIES

Please welcome: **Affiliated Church**

**TOPEKA HARVEST CHURCH –
TOPEKA, KANSAS**

<http://topekaharvestchurch.com>

PASTORS STEVE & SUSAN BYRD



NEW MEMBERS

UNITED STATES



REV. WAYNE JACOBSON - LICENSED MINISTER

Bloomington, MN

Ministry: Fishing (that is right y'all, he takes young people out fishing and shares Jesus with them.) Remember "Thou shalt not covet."

Mentor Pastor: Bishop Orville Stone



REV. SCOTT PETTIT – LICENSED MINISTER

Rogerville, MO Christ_is@live.com

Ministry: Servant's Heart

<http://www.myspace.com/scottpettit> or <http://www.myspace.com/servantsheart5>

Mentor Pastor: Bishop Dutch Boer



REV DUANE P ALLEMAN - LICENSED MINISTER – Plaquemine, LA

Mentor Pastor – Pastor Chrystal Welch and Billy Welch, Revival Fires Church

duanepalleman@cox.net

PROMOTIONS:

Bishop Dr. Charlie Brewer to Hold a position on the Council of Elders and Advisory Council/Faculty for Full Gospel Restoration Bible College.

(On the recommendation of Bishop Orville Stone)

Rev. Dustin Nelmark from Lay Minister to Licensed Minister.

Rev. Daniel Raimer from Licensed Minister to Ordained Minister.

Welcome our newest Bible College students and Lay Ministers

Kenya

tfimins@yahoo.com Lay Minister Joseph Koech

hujambo09@yahoo.com Lay Minister Susan Koech

jameskinanga@yahoo.com Lay Minister James Kinanga

zachmomanyi@yahoo.com Lay Minister Zachariah Micheal

Canada

tancriskuso@yahoo.com Pastor Tancris Kusopila

Eglise Souffle de vie(Breath of life church) French speaking

BIBLE COLLEGE NEWS

Certificate of Completion in Biblical Studies

Brian Byers, Lorrie Byers, and Chad Byers, Congratulations to this family seeking greater growth in the Lord.

Associate of Theology Degree from our satellite campus Redding, CA

Connie Lee Herrick

Jennifer Marie Brown

Emma Marie Mimi Wilcox

Darlene J Worch

Leandra T. Dougherty

Good news. Because my Council of Elders and staff administration stressed the importance for our students to have a college with Peer Accreditation we are now a “Candidate College” with the Accrediting Commission International from Bebee, AR. The same state our College is established in. Go FIGURE! Isn’t God good? We will have our on-site review prior to our convention in August. We are joining an Accreditation Agency that has 314 colleges/schools in 8 countries which will accept each other’s credits. This will triple what we had under ACEA and yet on a financial basis be 1/3 of the cost annually.



JUNE UPDATE: We are now 2/3 complete. Thank you for your prayers. All CLU have been replaced so there is no longer a variance in course pricing. Because we are getting everything ready for the “accreditation review” we are changing our workbooks that go with each course. The only

book that is totally without error is the Holy Bible. It is important that our students learn to think critically as to whether or not each chapter lines up with the Word. The new workbooks will ask the student on each chapter; what the author was communicating; what scripture did he use to support his idea; and did it line up with the Holy Bible and if not why and according to what Scriptures.

Some of the courses are being discontinued for the following reasons:

Books are no longer in print.

The author has gone into doctrinal heresy.

The author is suggesting that some of biblical characters were having homosexual affairs.

The authors own lifestyle has compromised his message. (This does not include those who have repented and are now doing will of the Father.)

NEW COURSES WE HAVE ADDED OR REPLACED

BIB211 Walking in Power, Love, and Discipleship (1 & 2 Timothy and Titus) By: Kay Arthur, David Lawson, Bob Vereen More in Inductive & Kay Arthur Series

BIB301 Pentateuch From Paradise to the Promised Land, 2d ed.: An Introduction to the Pentateuch by T. Desmond Alexander

BIB302-BIB303 Handbook on the Historical Books: Joshua, Judges, Ruth, Samuel, Kings, Chronicles, Ezra-Nehemiah, Esther

BIB304 The Bible Exposition Commentary, Old Testament Wisdom & Poetry
By: Warren W. Wiersbe

BIB305 Introduction to the Prophets
By: Paul L. Redditt

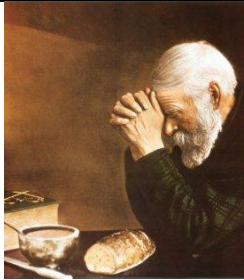
BIB306 The Life of Christ: The Smart Guide to the Bible Series
Edited By: Larry Richards Ph.D.
By: Robert C. Girard

BIB307 The Book of Acts: The Smart Guide to the Bible Series
Edited By: Larry Richards Ph.D.
By: Robert C. Girard

BIB308 Paul and the Prison Epistles: The Smart Guide to the Bible Series
Edited By: Larry Richards Ph.D. By: Kathy Collard Miller

PRAYER REQUESTS:

BISHOP CHARLIE BREWER: Total recovery from his heart surgery.
BISHOP ORVILLE STONE: Restored strength from bout with Shingles. (He is feeling much better.)
PASTOR CHRYSTAL WELCH: Health. Billy's total recovery from back injury.
BISHOP ORDUSON: Finances for new vehicle.
BISHOP DAVID ESLICK: Health
BISHOP FARRONE: Finances and wisdom for some difficult decisions.
BISHOP DAVID SHADLE: New responsibilities with the Bible College
BISHOP TY TICE: Health and strength.
BISHOP AWODI: Finances and more students
DONNY QUERIN: Total Health
PASTOR BEN KINCHEN: Health and strength to lead his new church.
REV. IRIS KIRK: Unspoken Request.
For all our new ministers to expand in the Vision that the Lord has set before them.



Memory Verse

Psalms 37:3-5 Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. (4) Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. (5) Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring *it* to pass.

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