

equip
to disciple™

Presbyterian Church in America
Christian Education & Publications
1700 North Brown Road, Suite 102
Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043

YOUR PART IN OUR
COMMUNION

1 Corinthians 12:15

PRSR1 STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #275
MONTGOMERY, AL

 **CEP**
ISSUE TWO | 2008

Target Retirement Fund strategies are the most significant development in retirement planning in decades. Imagine being able to make one investment decision and then never having to worry again about your investments. Simply calculate your retirement date (year of birth + 65) and invest your assets in the PCA Target Retirement Fund closest to your retirement date. Your assets will be transferred to an optimal investment mix that is appropriately tailored for you. As you age, your underlying mix of investments will change within the target fund and automatically become more conservative.



With a little help, reaching your retirement goal is now possible, and even easier.

CONTACT US TO TODAY:
800.789.8765, or visit
www.pcarbi.org



Simply choose the **Target Retirement Fund** that fits your target retirement year. . . we'll handle the rest!

already retired in:				I am planning to retire in:									
YEAR: Before 1995	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050	
FUND: PCA Harvester	PCA 1995	PCA 2000	PCA 2005	PCA 2010	PCA 2015	PCA 2020	PCA 2025	PCA 2030	PCA 2035	PCA 2040	PCA 2045	PCA 2050	

The PCA Target Retirement Funds consist of varying percentage of: US Large Cap Equity, US Mid Cap Equity, US Small Cap Equity, International Equity and Fixed Income/Gov Sec./Cash Equiv Funds. The amounts of investments held in any of the above fund segments are based on a balance of risk and income needed to optimize returns for the date of retirement listed.

from the Editor

Charles Dunahoo, Coordinator of CEP

THE CHURCH IS MORE THAN YOU THINK



Welcome to *Equip to Disciple*. This is a quarterly publication of Christian Education and Publications of the PCA to church leaders and other interested parties, especially those

who have participated in our training events. We want to keep in contact with you and encourage and help you with the training and resources needed for your local

perspective of the kingdom, the church must carry out its role of discipling the body of Christ to live as kingdom people with a biblical worldview orientation.

In the winter issue, Roy Taylor's lead article from the 2006 WIC Conference seminar focused on the concept that although the church as the body of Christ transcends the denominational paradigm, its role is connectional. Though at times there have been those who have allowed their denominational affiliation to trump opportunities to work with Christians beyond those boundaries, there is a valid place for Christians to come together as a denominational entity to make kingdom disciples.

In this issue, Richard Aeschliman writes about the church as the Communion of the Saints. Aeschliman underscores what the *Westminster Confession of Faith*

continued on page 4

To have a right perspective of the kingdom, the church must carry out its role of discipling the body of Christ to live as kingdom people with a biblical worldview orientation.

church ministry. Our theme for the last two issues, and now this edition, is the church. We have talked about "Keeping the Church Front and Center." As the heart and center of the kingdom, when the church is off center, so is the thinking about the kingdom of God. To have a right

engage:

- A Believing Community Learning To Live In Communion 6

enlighten:

- *In Case You're Asked:* ...the next big thing 10

enrich:

- *Equip Tip* 12
 - Catechisms 12
- Seniors 13
- Women 14
- Youth 17
- Men 18

endorse

- *Book Reviews* 20

Also be sure to read the PCA's denominational magazine —

- **Needed:** Missional Ministry to Men. More than 90 percent of American men believe in God, and five out of six call themselves Christians. But only two out of six attend church on a given Sunday.
- **Ethnic Changes:** A Challenge to the Church. The "internationalization" of North America represents a drastic shift away from Western European immigration and therefore a waning in the prominence of Western thought. As this change takes place, the Church increasingly finds it difficult to have a voice.
- **Higher Education's Higher Purpose** Christian colleges are doing more than producing graduates who want to win souls for Christ. They're preparing gifted people to be a redemptive force in their

respective fields, to show the world how humans were intended to use their talents, to leave God's fingerprints on every corner of God's world.

- **The AIDS Pandemic:** What Our Faith Requires. In the face of the largest global health crisis of our time, the devastation of HIV/AIDS around the world cannot be overstated. And the need for Christians to rise to the challenge is dire.
- **Can the Church and the Arts Work Together Again?** The phenomenal success of the Harrison Center for the Arts has attracted interest from all corners of the PCA and even other denominations.

To subscribe to byFaith call 678-825-1005. Or visit www.byfaithonline.com.



IN CURRENT ISSUE

equip to disciple (ISSN 1082-7714) is published by: The Committee for Christian Education and Publications of the Presbyterian Church in America, 1700 North Brown Rd., Suite 102, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043. Telephone: (678) 825-1100 • Fax: (678) 825-1101 • E-Mail: cep@pcanet.org

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: *equip to disciple* is provided to individual participants and supporters of CEP's Ministry. Bulk copies are available to churches for \$6 per copy for one year. To begin receiving *Equip*, call 1-800-283-1357.

© Copyright 2008 by the Christian Education Committee, PCA. All rights reserved. Material in *equip to disciple* may be reproduced with permission. *equip to disciple* requests a copy of the publication in which the reproduced article appears.

Unless noted, all Scripture quotations in this publication are from the *Holy Bible, English Standard Version*,

copyright 2003 and 2001, Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Publication of articles, comments, opinions, or advertising does not imply agreement or endorsement by *equip to disciple* or Christian Education and Publications of the Presbyterian Church in America.

THIRD-CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT MONTGOMERY, AL. Postmaster, send 3579 to: *equip to disciple*, 1700 North Brown Rd., Suite 102, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30043.

PUBLISHER: Committee for Christian Education and Publications of the Presbyterian Church in America

COORDINATOR/EDITOR: Charles H. Dunahoo

MANAGING EDITOR: Ashley Walters



from the editor: *continued from page 3*

teaches in this regard, "Saints by profession are bound to maintain an holy fellowship and communion in worship of God, and in performing such other spiritual services as tend to their mutual edification." Read the In Case You're Asked section to see the combining of the organized institutional church with the body of Christ and then the kingdom.

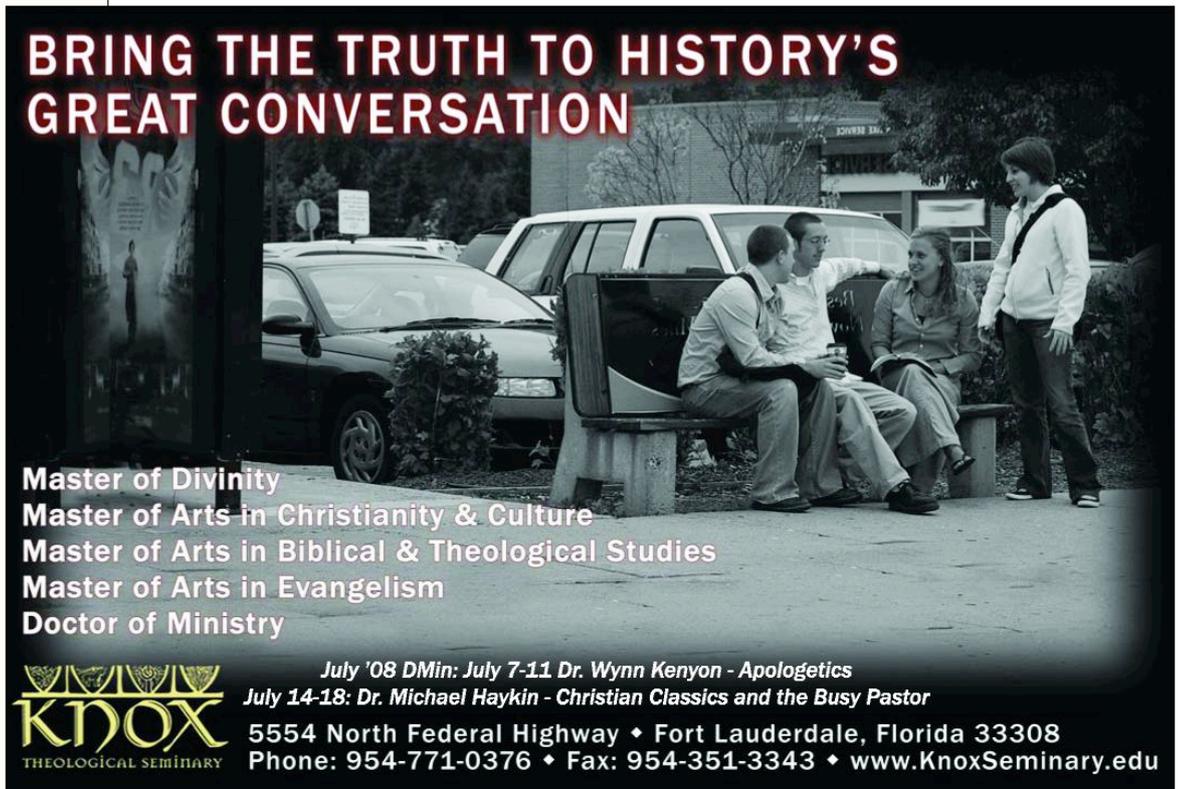
The book reviews have been carefully chosen. Often we get our cart before the horse. We jump to what the church should be doing. However, in order to determine that, we first need to understand the nature or essence of the church. Craig Van Gelder's *The Essence of the Church* is a challenge in that area. *The Supremacy of Christ in a Postmodern World* is a must read for every pastor and church leader. It speaks of the emerging church movement, which is attempting to redefine both

the essence and role of the church. Because the church has been assigned to dispense the sacraments, the book on the four views of the Lord's Supper will be of interest. Some today are consciously or unconsciously attempting to resurrect the sacerdotalist position, over emphasizing the sacraments to the extent of not keeping grace in its proper light.

The church's role in the kingdom is to make disciples, requiring the development of a Christian mind. The books included on this topic are important to read and study. Commentary and other Bible study helps and resources reviewed will also be of interest to you.

Our prayer and desire is for you to be a kingdom disciple who loves the church, and because of the church's role in discipling you, make you a more effective disciple for Jesus Christ in the kingdom. **e**

For further information on training and resources, schedules, and other items relating to our ministry, visit www.pcept.org or call our bookstore at 1-800-283-1357.



BRING THE TRUTH TO HISTORY'S GREAT CONVERSATION

Master of Divinity
Master of Arts in Christianity & Culture
Master of Arts in Biblical & Theological Studies
Master of Arts in Evangelism
Doctor of Ministry

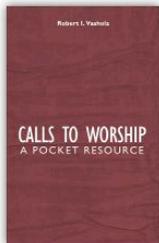
KNOX
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

July '08 DMin: July 7-11 Dr. Wynn Kenyon - Apologetics
July 14-18: Dr. Michael Haykin - Christian Classics and the Busy Pastor

5554 North Federal Highway ♦ Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308
Phone: 954-771-0376 ♦ Fax: 954-351-3343 ♦ www.KnoxSeminary.edu

Resources to enrich your ministry

CHRISTIAN FOCUS – good books with the real message of hope



Calls to Worship
A Pocket Resource
Robert Vasholz
Focus your congregation's attention at the beginning of a worship service with these scriptures. Includes sections on special occasions, responsive passages and solo scriptural texts.
ISBN 978-1-84550-338-3 | **\$14.99**



Benedictions
A Pocket resource
Robert Vasholz
Instead of people shuffling to get ready to leave when you pronounce a benediction, get their attention and focus them on the week to come with this collection of scriptures that you can use as benedictions.
ISBN 978-1-845502-300 | **\$14.99**



Pastoral Visitation
A Pocket Manual
Seagle/Short
What do you say to the housebound, bereaved or hospitalized? Here is a pocket resource, written by a doctor and a pastor, which enables your pastoral visitations to be highlights in the lives of those you visit.
ISBN 978-1-84550-016-0 | **\$14.99**

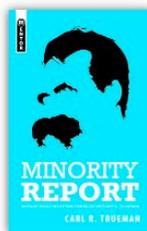


Fear Not!
What does the Bible say about what happens after death? Could you explain it to someone you know – and who desperately needs the right answer? Respected teacher and pastor, Ligon Duncan, takes you through the scriptures that tell the truth.
ISBN 978-1-84550-358-1 | **\$6.99**

MENTOR – encouraging Christians to THINK!



Faith's Reasons for Believing
An Apologetic Antidote to Mindless Christianity (and Thoughtless Atheism)
Robert Reymond
The Christian faith is under attack from all quarters. Chief amongst the accusations is the lack of rationale behind what so many Christians believe. In this new book, respected theologian and professor, Robert Reymond, shows you how to explain your faith to the world around you.
ISBN 978-1-84550-337-6 | **\$19.99**

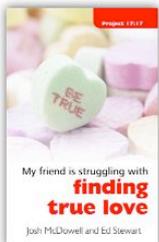


Minority Report
Unpopular thoughts on Everything from Ancient Christianity to Zen-Calvinism
Carl Trueman
Do you want to make an impact in society with the Christian worldview? This is the second collection of essays by Carl Trueman that comment on societal issues and attitudes with wit, wisdom - and a little barbed criticism to wake us up!
ISBN 978-1-84550-317-8 | **\$17.99**

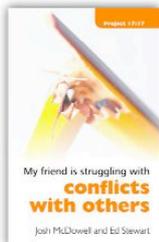
CF4K – because you're never too young to know Jesus

Project 17:17

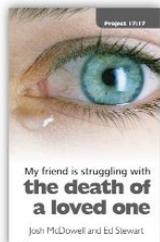
Your Youth Ministry team engages with greater and deeper problems with their charges each year. How can they engage the whole youth group in ministry? Josh McDowell and Ed Stewart have put together a series of booklets that enable young people to get alongside each other based on Proverbs 17:17 ('a friend is always a friend and relatives are born to share our troubles' C.E.V.) **\$4.99 each**



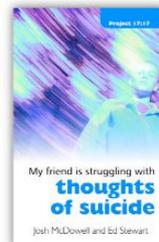
My friend is struggling with finding true love
ISBN 978-1-84550-356-7



My friend is struggling with conflicts with others
ISBN 978-1-84550-354-3



My friend is struggling with the death of a loved one
ISBN 978-1-84550-355-0



My friend is struggling with thoughts of suicide
ISBN 978-1-84550-357-4

By Richard Aeschliman

The past two issues of *Equip to Disciple* have focused on the church and the important role it must continue to play in growing and expanding the kingdom of God. In this particular article, I want to focus your attention on the theme expressed in the title above; the church as a believing community learning to live in communion. As our Westminster Confession of Faith says in 26-1, "All saints that are united to Jesus Christ their head by his Spirit, and by faith, have fellowship with him in his graces, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory: and, being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces."

A CONNECTED COMMUNITY

In the last issue of 2007, Dr. Charles Dunahoo stated in the editor's section that the church is more and more

describes in his book *The City on a Hill* the problem of our culture as twofold: relativism and narcissism.¹ The post-modern society rejects absolute truth; the only truth is what you discover for yourself; you have your story and I have mine. Self-love and instant gratification are driving forces in this day of radical individualism. These are the types of issues that fly in the face of the theology of the Communion of the Saints as stated in the Westminster Confession of Faith Chapter 26. Ryken points out in another chapter, "Christianity has never been a private religion. It is personal of course, because it involves a personal relationship with Jesus Christ... But in coming to Christ... every single Christian gets connected to every other Christian. Our union with Christ brings us into communion with His church as members of a local congregation."²

In a book entitled *A Peculiar People*, Rodney Clapp writes, "It is important for the church in each time and place to embody and communicate the life of Christ exactly where it is. Christianity is not about compartmentalization or withdrawal: it is radically and relentlessly life-

A BELIEVING COMMUNITY LEARNING

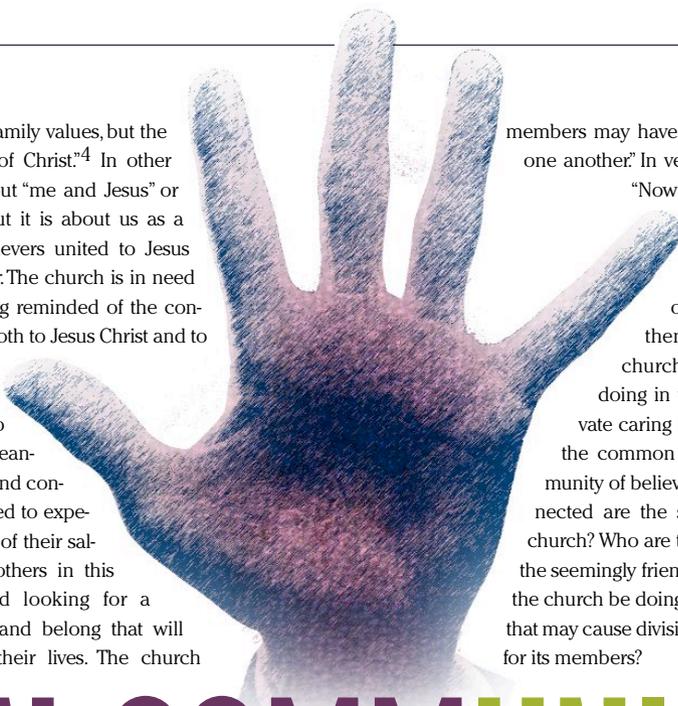
The church is in need of continually being reminded of the connectedness it has both to Jesus Christ and to each other. Some in the church have failed to understand the meaning of community.

being marginalized. In this connection he referred to J.I. Packer and John R.W. Stott's descriptive term the "stunted ecclesiology" of the church. Some of the reasons for the church's being pushed from the center of life are the lack of focus on community, the emphasis on individualism, and self-interest. Phil Ryken

encompassing. Christianity understood as culture is about a living tradition, a continuing argument, a still unfolding history."³

In a similar vein Dr. Edmund Clowney in his book *The Church* writes, "When Peter describes the impact of Christian righteous deeds in a pagan world, he is thinking not of isolated saints, but of the *people* of God, called out of darkness into God's light. Christian witness that is limited to private religious experience cannot challenge secularism. Christians in community must again show the

world, not merely family values, but the bond of the love of Christ."⁴ In other words it is not about "me and Jesus" or "you and Jesus," but it is about us as a community of believers united to Jesus and to one another. The church is in need of continually being reminded of the connectedness it has both to Jesus Christ and to each other. Some in the church have failed to understand the meaning of community, and consequently have failed to experience the benefits of their salvation. There are others in this post-modern world looking for a place to connect and belong that will give meaning to their lives. The church



members may have the same care for one another." In verse 27 Paul writes, "Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it." How often do leaders ask themselves and the church how they are doing in the public and private caring for one another for the common good of the community of believers? How well connected are the saints in the local church? Who are those on the fringe, the seemingly friendless? What should the church be doing to correct conflict that may cause division and lack of care for its members?

TO LIVE IN COMMUNION

today needs to demonstrate to the world what our Confession says.

In the article "Keeping the Church Front and Center" Dunahoo wrote, "The PCA has a great opportunity to make a difference for Christ and His kingdom but only if we practice our theory... We must come together with a working connectionalism that enables us to be all that God would have us to be."⁵ This is where the Westminster Confession of Faith in Chapter 26, "Of the Communion of Saints," teaches the church the practicality of a "working connectionalism." Paragraph one states that saints are "obliged to the performance of such duties, public and private, as do conduce to their mutual good, both in the inward and outward man." In verse 7 of 1 Cor. 12, Paul writes of the "varieties of gifts given by the Spirit and to each given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good, Paul then refers to the church as one body with many members. He says that "God has composed it [the church] that there be no division in the body, but that the

LEARNING TO LIVE IN COMMUNION

In the Westminster Confession of Faith 26-2 "Saints by profession are bound to maintain an holy fellowship and communion in the worship of God, and in performing such other spiritual services as tend to their mutual edification; as also in relieving each other in outward things, according to their several abilities and necessities. Which communion, as God offereth opportunity, is to be extended unto all those who, in every place, call upon the name of the Lord Jesus." In an age which demeans authority and devalues accountability, it behooves the church to instruct the congregation in the responsibility of being "obliged to the performance of duties," and "bound to maintain a holy fellowship and communion" because of profession in Christ. The "profession" is the public profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and the commitment to live a life of holiness, as well as to support the work and ministry of the

body and be subject to the authority and government of the church. In an age of post-modernism, individualism, and privatization of faith, such profession as described is quickly forgotten as members settle into their life in the church. Any obligations and binding as had been vowed seem to fall by the wayside as time moves forward. Maintaining a holy fellowship and communion in worship can often get squeezed as priorities change. Weekend schedules of work and entertainment become excuses for not participating in fellowship and communion. Sundays become a time of personal relaxation and pleasure.

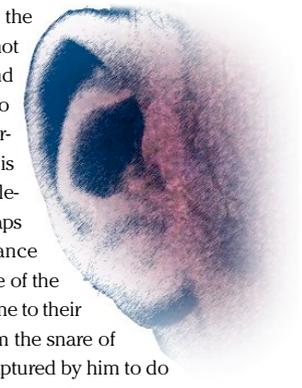
Mutual edification is lost as believers only think about their personal feelings of self-gratification. The shift from spiritual services (what can I do for others) to a consumer mentality (what has the church done or not done for me) begins to seep into the hearts and minds of those who have not been assimilated and taught what it means to be a part of the Body of Christ and family of God. Where does a "working connectionism" come into play? How does the church bring such a connectionism back into focus?

In Ephesians 4:15 the church is instructed by these words, "Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ." Reformed Presbyterians are known for their knowledge and systemizing of truth. We are after all a creedal church. However, we

must question where the love is as we proclaim the "doctrines of grace." This love should be manifested as a self-sacrificing love where one looks not upon his own interests, but upon the interests of others. Encouragement of others in spiritual growth is the goal for the building up of the body in love.

Such speaking is not always easy when believers do not see themselves as needing instruction, correction, or reproof. Sometimes it takes on the character of "tough love." The apostle Paul instructs Timothy in his pastoral

epistles in this manner in II Timothy 2:24-26. "And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will." Our obligations and commitments should have growing in maturity in Christ as their goal.



Churches should not just be interested in building their own congregations, but should be interested in displaying a concern for the community.

The local church has a wider arena in which to practice its communion. In the PCA, there is a structural foundation in place to help local churches to demonstrate in a visible manner what it means to live in communion by sharing with one another the gifts and graces given by the Holy Spirit. "Communion as God offereth opportunity, is to be extended unto all those who, in every place, call upon the name of the Lord Jesus."⁶ This structure is of course the presbytery and general assembly. Calling the PCA a connectional

church means the Communion of the Saints should be manifest for all the world to see. Churches should not just be interested in building their own congregations, but should be interested in displaying a concern for the wider metro and state communities by planting new congregations, joining in united worship services, pooling resources to minister to the needs of the poor and needy, and evangelizing and discipling people with the gospel. With the multi-ethnic society in communities growing so rapidly, the gospel speaks to breaking down the walls of hostility and bringing into existence the manifestation of the Communion of Saints as a foretaste of the glories of heaven.

Finally, the ministries of the General Assembly can aid and assist local congregations to experience the worldwide Communion of the Saints as they send missionaries out to the nations of the world. Today it is even more a reality for both young and old to experience the Communion of



Saints as many groups travel for short term ministries to believers in other countries. Phil Ryken edited a book called *The Communion of Saints: Living in Fellowship with the People of God*, one of the best and most comprehensive studies on the subject. Ryken says, "A Christian can go anywhere in the world and immediately experience the love and embrace of brothers and sisters whom he or she has never met. Stronger than the bonds of blood relationships are the ties that bind one Christian to another, even when they cannot speak the same language." Further along there is this statement regarding Revelation 7:9-10, "This is the culmination, the end toward which God is moving all human history—the worldwide community of saints worshipping

before his heavenly throne... The history of the church is the story of the progress of the communion of saints."⁷

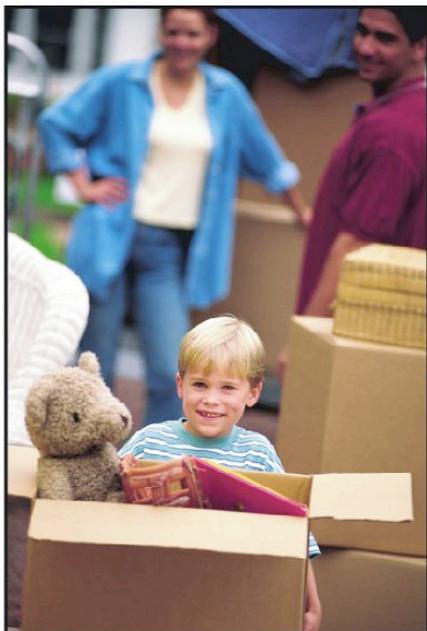
Today, the church and the PCA have not been able to experience fully what it means to be in the Communion of Saints. Our challenge is to continue to pray and strive to bring it to fullness through the gifts and graces of the Lord Jesus Christ. A "working connectionalism" is hopefully the goal of every congregation in the PCA, so that Paul's words in Ephesians 4:15, "we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ," provides impetus toward corporate maturing in true communion. **e**

- 1 Philip Ryken, *City on a Hill: Reclaiming the Biblical Pattern for the Church in the 21st Century* (Wheaton, IL: Moody Publishers, 2003), 18.
- 2 *Ibid.*, 77.
- 3 Rodney Clapp, *A Peculiar People: The Church As Culture in a Post-Christian Society* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996), 188.
- 4 Edmund Clowney, *The Church: Contours of Christian Theology* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1995), 16.
- 5 Charles Dunahoo, "Keeping the Church Front and Center," *Equip to Disciple*, issue 4 (2007): 11.
- 6 *Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms*, (Lawrenceville, GA: Christian Education and Publications, 2007), 26-2.
- 7 *The Communion of Saints: Living in Fellowship with the People of God*, Philip Ryken, ed. (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2001), 154-155.



CLERGY MOVE CENTER®

A specialty division of Stevens Van Lines



Endorsed by ministries that require exceptional service for their relocating clergy, educators, church workers and member families

- **Assigned counselor to guide you through the move process**
- **Family-owned van line, moving families since 1905**
- **Interstate discounts and other moving program benefits**
- **No obligation estimate**

For total peace of mind on your next move, call our team of AMSA Certified Move Counselors

Aymi Dittenbir, Kristin Lyons, Sunny Sommer, Jean Warnemuende, or Vicki Bierlein



1-800-248-8313

in case you're asked



Making visible GOD'S INVISIBLE KINGDOM CONFERENCE ...the next big thing

I have been asked when is the next Women in the Church conference, or the next directors of children's ministry conference, or the next youth worker's conference, or leadership conference, or men's conference? The answer is simple—November 13-15, 2008. Hopefully, you have already been hearing about the conference on kingdom discipleship sponsored by Christian Education and Publications. It is called "Making Visible God's Invisible Kingdom." This will be

If we are paying attention to what the critics, the cultural analysts, and even those within the local church are saying, Christians are not making much of a difference today. It hurts to hear that the church is becoming less and less relevant, or the church is becoming more and more isolated from its environment, or that the church has lost its vision for making a kingdom impact. Can you believe that anyone would say that the bride of Christ is ineffective, irrelevant, or outdated? You might say I am talking about the organized church not the body of Christ. However, if we have the right perspective and doctrine of the church and the kingdom, we realize that each local church (the institutional church) is to be a microcosm of the church universal, the body of Christ. It is to be a local church with a kingdom perspective, which means that Christ is to be a part of every aspect of a believer's life and reality, "in all things Christ preeminent."

This conference is being built around CEP's philosophy and theology of making kingdom disciples who in turn will pass on the kingdom world and life view perspective to the rising generations.

This conference is being built around CEP's philosophy and theology of making kingdom disciples who in turn will pass on the kingdom world and life view perspective to the rising generations; who will be equipped and disciplined to live in this fast changing hostile environment without compromising or capitulating to the enemy. Presently, the church is not doing that well in its assignment.

a strategic conference in the life of the PCA and CEP not only because of its purpose, speakers, and subject but also because it is a conference that has been long in the planning. We have been and are praying for a broad spectrum of leaders from across the PCA to attend.

The conference is for both men and women who work and serve at all levels of the church's life, from the pastor and wife to the elder and deacon and their spouses to those who are involved in all the various ministries in the local church.

Studies are revealing some alarming trends. For example, people are becoming less and less knowledgeable of the Bible. People are not able to give a reason for their hope in

Christ or explain to anyone who asks why we believe what we believe. We are also being told that the lifestyle of the average Christian is not unlike the non-believers around us. More and more families are breaking apart. Children are not being trained and equipped for the spiritual warfare confronting them. We are hearing too many church attendees say that they do not get the connection between what they hear in church on Sunday and the rest of the week.

While it might be easier to be a Christian in church or Sunday school and with our friends who are there with us, it is a struggle to know how to live for Christ Monday through Saturday. As a result, more and more young people may hear the truth but only to ask, "So what?"

As one who participated in the organizing of the PCA, I can say that we wanted a church that makes a difference. We wanted to be under the authority of the Word of God. We wanted to give a credible profession of faith with obvious integrity. We wanted to say to a younger generation that truth is real, truth matters, and God's truth is a foundation upon which we can build our lives to withstand all the storms of life.

What we hope to see happen in this conference is 1,000 people from across the PCA come together and sit under the ministry of people like Chuck Colson, a champion for the past 25-30 years on the subject of the kingdom of God and a world and life view. Colson has given clear sounds from the trumpet regarding that theme. A special conference edition of his new book, *The Faith: What Christians Believe, Why They Believe It, and Why It Matters*, will be presented to each participant. Colson says, "Christians must see that the faith is more than a religion or even a relationship with Jesus; the faith is a complete view of the world and humankind's place in it. Christianity is a worldview that speaks to every area of life, and its foundational doctrines define its content. If we don't know what we believe—even what Christianity is—how can we live it and defend it? Our ignorance is crippling us."

Our prayer is that this conference will be like a choir practicing for a great performance. However, the performance will not be in the church sanctuary but rather in the downtown symphony hall.

Christian Smith will also be one of our speakers. Smith grew up in the PCA and serves on the faculty of Notre Dame University. He is one of the rising academic stars in the sky, especially in the field of religion and sociology, and a foremost expert in the field of teenagers and emerging adults. Smith describes the religion of the typical American teenager as moralistic, therapeutic deism.

Smith's work is important for us to understand because we in the PCA will either know how to confront the world and its false ideologies or we will be confronted and not know how

to respond. When I speak on this topic to youth and other adult leaders and say, "I realize that my descriptions may not fit our PCA youth and young adults," I am saddened to hear that I am describing the very people they are working with in their local churches.

Anthony Bradley from Covenant Theological Seminary and Allen Curry from Reformed Theological Seminary will also speak. These men bring a perspective on the church and culture that will challenge and inspire us for the days ahead. Seminar leaders such as Kathleen Nielson, Mark Lowery, Barbara Thompson, Jane Patete, Susan Hunt, Sue Jakes, Steve and Sandy Smallman, Barksdale Pullen, Dave Matthews, and others will help develop the themes from the plenary speakers and demonstrate how to build a coordinated ministry in the

Christianity is not an impotent religion. God intends it to be alive and dynamic and bearing witness in all areas of life every day of the week. I believe the church as an institution has lost its kingdom vision or never really embraced it.

local church to actually make kingdom disciples. Such a task cannot be done effectively unless all the parts come together as a whole; hence, the main purpose of the conference.

Realizing that the results are up to the Lord, we are praying that those who attend will be challenged, inspired, and encouraged to be self-conscious kingdom disciples, using their gifts and opportunities to pass on the faith. We are praying specifically for one hundred of those attending to commit themselves to working with the CEP staff in 2009 to further the kingdom discipleship process, not only to grow personally but to be better equipped to make kingdom disciples.

Christianity is not an impotent religion. God intends it to be alive and dynamic and bearing witness in all areas of life every day of the week. I believe the church as an institution has lost its kingdom vision or never really embraced it. As a result, the body of Christ has not been an effective witness and influence, even when trying a number of extremes such as equating the church with the kingdom and focusing only on the social gospel or isolating the church from the kingdom and trying to legislate by law morality on people around us.

So, in case you're asked, if you want to be that kind of kingdom oriented person, this conference is for you. Details can be found at www.pcacep.org/discipleship08. Register early. We have limited space. **e**

CHILDREN IN COMMUNION

This may sound like a dangerous topic in our circles, but there is so much we are missing. We do not allow children to take the elements, but why do we ignore them while the rest of us participate? Let's think through some history.

In Jewish homes throughout the centuries, the Passover was one of the most important celebrations of the year in which a family participated together. While it is the father who would review Hebrew history and tradition on this night, a very unique responsibility was given each year to the youngest child, remembering that at least for one year each child would have been the youngest. It was a treasured position for the youngest child to be able to ask this most important question: "Why is this

night different from all the others?" The father would then tell the family the story of Israel's history from the time of Abraham.

This tradition serves several purposes. It teaches the family every year about who God is and what He has done for His people. It keeps sacred the traditions that hold a family together. It utilizes a teaching method of question and answer. The meal, and all that goes on at the Passover, teaches the truths of who Christ is and what He has done (even though the Jews do not see that). It also places the children in a position of honor; they are given the privilege of asking this all-important question.

What does this have to do with the church today? There is a big emphasis currently on "intergenerational worship," but what does that mean? What place do children have in worship, other than feeling like ignored spectators?



Communion can be one of those important times when a child can be made to feel a part of the service while being taught what it is all about. Think of it this way, can you imagine the excitement each child in the church would have as they anticipate some upcoming Lord's Supper when they would have the privilege of asking the question before the congregation: "Why is this celebration different from all the others?" This then becomes the opportunity for the pastor to teach again the truths of what communion is and why we do it as we do. This teaches not only the children, but also the adults. It helps the children to understand how important they are to God and also helps them to understand that one day they too will be able to participate fully in the elements as full members of the covenant community, of which they are already a part.

Why not try this for a few months and see if it does not give a deeper meaning to this important part of our worship. **e**

— Dennis Bennett

Coordinator of Training and Resources

CATECHISM:



The Catechism for Young Children:

- **Caroline Baucum**
Lauren Baucum
First Presbyterian Church
Enterprise, Alabama
- **Bonnie M. Gibson**
Philip M. Gibson
Trinity Presbyterian Church
Asheville, NC



Senior Citizen's Day - September 14, 2008

How young people relate to older people and how the older relates to the younger is a good thermostat on the health and strength of a nation. It has been said by many that a lack of respect for the elderly is a sign of a nation in upheaval.

As a church committed to covenant theology, family is an important concept that is a much broader term than simply a reference to the so called "nuclear family," a mom and dad and 2.5 kids. Growing old has numerous ramifications and many of them are not biblical. The generational divides that we hear about so much today, which seem to accent the boundaries of the various generations, have a biblical response. Older men are to teach younger men and older women, younger women. God intends for family members to show respect for one another. Just as the older teach the younger, the younger are to be an example in their youth to the older.

While the church cannot afford to gloss over the generational groups today, it cannot at the same time allow one generation to be isolated from another. David prayed in his old age that he would have the strength to pass on the faith to the next generation. That implies that the next generation would relate to and listen to him.

Sunday, September 14, 2008 is Senior Citizen's Day in the PCA. Our desire is to see our PCA churches focus on the covenant aspect of its church members. Below is a list of eight ideas that we suggest as possibilities to assist you in observing that day. *Serving and Challenging Seniors* is a manual developed by Dr. George Fuller, who assists CEP with the ministry of training. This resource is available either

through a senior citizen seminar by Dr. Fuller or the CEP bookstore and also contains many suggestions.

1. Offer praise to God for all the generations, especially the seniors, in the Sunday worship.
2. Provide special education and training classes for seniors and announce them on that day.
3. Encourage seniors to be available to be involved in the church's ministry.
4. Pick up on a theme listed in Fuller's manual: "The purpose of Older Adult Week is to help congregations recognize aging as a natural part of living, involving life from birth to death, and to affirm the worth of persons in all stages of development and at all functional levels."
5. Consider preaching on a passage such as Psalm 71, Psalm 78, or Ecclesiastes 12 on that day. A message on honoring your father and mother would also be appropriate.
6. For the more creative, you could plan an intergenerational event during the Sunday school time.
7. Check the chapter "Mobilizing for Ministry" by the late Edmund P. Clowney in Fuller's manual for suggestions.
8. Give an award for longevity in service and/or faithfulness in present service to a senior member of the congregation.

Older people have much to offer and thanking the elder generation continues to express a desire to have good relationships with older people, including parents. **e**

— Richard Aeschliman, Resource Coordinator

2008 Women in the Church Leadership Training Conference

Atlanta, Georgia • February 28th - March 1st

As the PCA grows, so do the opportunities for women in the church! The annual equipping event Christian Education and Publications provides for women in the church is the Leadership Training Conference.

It is thrilling to see the great interest and diversity of age and regions that mark the attendees. The focus of Leadership 2008 was "The Big Picture: Our Purpose and Privilege," with women from twenty-six states and two Canadian provinces in attendance.

Since this is a conference for PCA women in the church, we began by defining our context as women in God's family, and by lifting high the King and His church. This year, Dr. Roy Taylor, Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the PCA, led the opening session. Dr. Taylor used I Timothy 3:14-16 to remind us that living as Christian women in the church is a symphony and not a solo. As Reformed, Bible believers, we are part of something bigger; we are part of the church universal and the church triumphant. As women in the church, we are to love, live, and take the Gospel message to a needy world in word and deed.

Having women meet with others from their region played a central role in this year's focus. The time spent in their eight US and Canadian regions were some of the most productive and appreciated elements of the weekend, according to the participants. In each region, representatives of the Women's

Advisory Sub-Committee (WASC), joined by CEP's WIC trainers, modeled and equipped women for regional discipleship and community building.

Alan Johnson from Old Peachtree PCA in Duluth, Georgia, taught the joy and value of the "Centrality of the Word" in hearts and ministry. Workshops, panels, and woman to woman discipleship rounded out the rest of the weekend. Susan Hunt, former CEP Director of Women's Ministries and current CEP WIC Consultant, ended this outstanding weekend calling the women to "Live out the Purpose and Privilege as Women in God's Church."

We were excited and encouraged to have PCA Ruling Elder Preston Hicks, from Lexington, KY, attend with his wife. In his local church, Tates Creek PCA, Preston is the liaison between the session and women's ministry. (See his response to the conference on page 15.)

CEP, the 2008 recipient of the Women in the Church Love Gift, hosted the denominational dinner in which the PCA administrators and coordinators, their wives, and some staff joined the women in prayer for the PCA and its various ministries. This is a night that always elicits excited responses and this year was no exception - it is "our privilege!"

The 2009 Leadership Training Conference will be held at Covenant College, March 10-12, and will be followed by the 2009 Mercy Conference, jointly sponsored by Mission to





North America and CEP, held at New City Fellowship Church, March 12-15. Look for more updates on www.ppacep.org as information for both conferences becomes available. CDs of the plenary sessions and workshops of the 2008 Leadership Training are also available. See www.ppacep.org for details.

Here is what some attendees had to say about this year's conference. We trust these will encourage local church leaders, pastors, presbytery CE Chairman, and women's ministry leaders as you evaluate the value of this disciple-event.

"I have been spreading the good news of God's kingdom work through this [women's] ministry work of the PCA. I am praying for other elders to participate in future meetings—the experience certainly enlarged my vision of the educational work (fostering and facilitating biblical thinking and covenantal living) of the WIC organization." Preston Hicks, Ruling Elder

- "I found the focus on the church, not just women's ministry to be so refreshing."
- "I benefited greatly from the 'connectiveness' of Leadership Training – I can buy DVDs of speakers, but they don't bring the interpersonal connections."
- "I have renewed appreciation and love for God's Word."
- "Hearing Mo Up De Graff tell us about Ridge Haven in our assigned region gave me enthusiasm to pray for its ministry."
- "WIC is more than a program. I was taught the purpose and privilege of being in a covenantal, connectional community of believers. I had a chance to see and fall in love with the BIG Picture of our denomination."
- "Our PresWIC met during the leadership weekend, and we were all in agreement that as a PresWIC we want to train and help our local churches understand leadership and discipleship. We are writing to begin the process of inviting a Women in the Church trainer to lead this event for our churches."
- "Leadership Training is where I really received the majority of the great teaching from godly women and many PCA pastors. Thank you for the input into my life so that I may pass it on to others in my local church and in my region."
- "I am inspired by your love for the Church and the PCA, for your desire to see Women's ministries flourish. I am energized by the truths God is laying out before me and

the foundations that the PCA has established based on God's Word to guide us in having God centered women's ministries. I see God working in my heart and mind to begin to equip me to lead and shepherd woman in biblical truth."

- A pastor writes, "Thank you for making the women at Leadership Training aware of the blessings that God is bringing to others through their ministry. I am a Teaching Elder who desires to see connectionalism flourish in all aspects of our ministry, including women's ministry."
- A Director of Women's Ministry writes, "I left Leadership Training feeling refreshed for the task of ministry and with a great many ideas. I have found that Leadership Training has become a necessity each year. I arrive 'ministry weary' and leave feeling ministered to, encouraged, and with a tank of resources/ideas that I draw from each year. What will I do if I cannot go one year!! I know God will provide, but it has become that precious."
- I wanted you to know also that this year's regional meetings were some of the most helpful times of the conference. I told my Women's Advisory Sub-Committee Representative (WASC) that, thanking her for modeling to us the community building that we should be doing with our own women in our own churches. You could just see the "connections" happening as ladies exchanged names, contact info, and e-mail addresses from across the room with one another as ideas were shared and needs were met in front of our faces. She told me that this model was given to the WIC Leadership team in preparation for the conference. Thank you!!! Your modeling enabled my WASC member to model, and now I pray I can model it to my women. So exciting!"**e**

To God be the Glory!
— Jane Patete, Women's Ministries Coordinator



2008 Women in the Church Love Gift

An opportunity to touch your future

Since the founding of the PCA, the Women in the Church have played a vital role in supporting the ministries of the various committees and agencies. Each year, a Love Gift presentation has been prepared and made available from the Christian Education and Publications office highlighting the particular project for the year's designated offering. Contributions are sent to CEP's Love Gift Fund during the year and presented to the receiving agency or committee at the annual WIC Leadership Conference dinner.

At this year's conference, a check for \$92,000 from the 2007 Love Gift was presented to Gary Campbell, President of the PCA Retirement and Benefits, Inc. The Love Gift will be used for RBI's Survivor Assistance ministry. Upon notification of the death of a PCA Teaching Elder or his wife, Survivor Assistance will fund and immediately send a check for \$1000 to the surviving spouse and any dependents regardless of their income to help alleviate immediate financial pressure that may accompany the death of a spouse.

The 2008 designee is Christian Education and Publications. As a ministry of CEP, WIC has been instrumental in enabling CEP to move forward with its women's, youth, and children's ministries. The 2008 Love Gift, *You Can See*



It in Their Eyes, carries forth CEP's mission of making kingdom disciples who pass on the faith to the next generations. The six and one half minute presentation is available both in DVD and VHS format, along with supporting materials for distribution by the local church's women's ministries. Ideas and suggestions for using the

Love Gift are also available from the CEP bookstore or the WIC office by calling 1-800-283-1357. Suggested ideas for presenting the Love Gift include during a monthly women's meeting, a family night church dinner, a Sunday evening service, at the conclusion of the Sunday AM worship service, or a presbytery PresWIC event or retreat.

You Can See It in Their Eyes is a challenge to the church to keep front and center on its agenda the need to carry out God's instruction to pass on the faith to the next generations. "From Generation to Generation" was the overarching theme of the 2006 WIC Denominational Conference, attended by over 4,000 women from across the church; and CEP, including its WIC ministry, continues to be committed to that task.

Visit the Love Gift website at www.pacep.org/lovegift to preview the video, order a copy for your church, or to individually donate. **e**

The 2008 Love Gift, *You Can See It in Their Eyes*, carries forth CEP's mission of making kingdom disciples who pass on the faith to the next generations.

YXL youth excelling in leadership conference

Let's be honest. Our denomination is fond of using initials to refer to most everything. Let me illustrate what I mean. I attend IPC (Ingleside Presbyterian Church). I read the ESV. I work for CEP, which is a permanent committee of the PCA in an office next door to MNA, down the hall from RBI and RUF, in the building next to MTW. As if that is not enough, each year many of our TEs, REs, and their wives attend GA, which AC and WIC have significant roles in making happen. Add in the BCO along with the WC and we have about two thirds of the alphabet covered. However, there is one other set of initials that I would like to introduce: YXL.

YXL stands for Youth Excelling in Leadership and is a denominational conference designed to help high school students better understand Christian leadership through the development of a Reformed world and life view.

The best way to find out about YXL is to come July 7-12 to Covenant College or June 21-28 to Glorieta, New Mexico, and experience it first hand. The second best way is to talk to people who have gone like Barry Noll, associate pastor of youth and family at Christ Presbyterian in Tulsa, OK, or Kyle Kockler, associate pastor of families and youth at Grace Covenant Presbyterian in Blacksburg, VA. The third best way is to check out our websites: www.pacep.org/yxl and www.yxlglorieta.org. The final way is to finish reading this article to find out about three of the areas that make YXL unique.

1. **YXL is not for everyone:** We have found that the depth of teaching, the intensity of worship, and the challenge

of our leadership activities mean that not every student is suited for the YXL experience. Therefore, each student who comes to the conference must be approved by their pastor, youth pastor, or session. Our hope is for churches to identify students who are leaders or who exhibit leadership potential. Ideally, if you attended a YXL conference you would find two to five students from 30 to 50 churches represented. While we do have some youth groups who come together, most of our students are being sent as individuals or in groups of two or three from their churches. Due to this philosophy, YXL conferences are smaller in number than many of the youth camps around the country.

2. **YXL is a network and partnership:** Christian Education and Publications gives direct oversight to the running of YXL to Covenant College, while YXL Glorieta is under the oversight of teaching and ruling elders from around the country. Because both conferences are committed to the same philosophy of leadership development, together they form the YXL network. Covenant College partners with CEP each year to make the YXL on its campus a success. One exciting aspect of this partnership is a special college scholarship which is given to attendees of YXL.
3. **YXL is unashamedly focused on leadership development:** Every sermon, seminar, and small group is designed to help students biblically understand what being a Christian leader means. Likewise, all of our activities are designed to put students in situations where they must



commit

put into practice what they are learning. This year, our theme is "Commit," where students will explore their level of obedience to Christ. YXL Glorieta's theme is "Rise Up," focusing on the implications of the resurrection on our daily lives.

With the myriad of great youth events in America, the last thing students need is just another youth conference. However, I believe YXL is not just another youth conference. YXL is not the largest conference. We do not have a lake with ski boats or meet at the beach. We do not have the hottest Christian musicians, comedians, or speakers. But, students who come will be challenged to go out into the world and live as faithful disciples of Christ. *e*

Hope to see you there.

— Danny Mitchell
Youth and Family Ministries
Coordinator



OR BUST!

MEN'S UPDATE

By Man in the Mirror, Inc.

ACTION POINTS for Committed Dads

Turn off TVs, iPods, cell phones, and computers and gather your family around the dinner table for a good, old-fashioned card game or board game. You don't need electricity to have energy in the room.

Take note of what your teenager spends his time doing and start a conversation by asking open-ended questions like, "What makes you so good at ___?" or "Why do you like ___ so much?"

"Give action" to your young child; get down on his or her level to play cars, have a tea party, build with blocks, etc. If you have your kids for the weekend, tell them to bring along their favorite game to play. Talk to them about it during the week and build anticipation and excitement for the weekend.

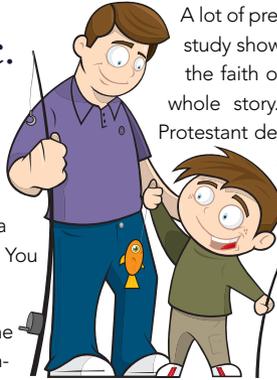
What's your favorite sport or hobby? Think of ways you can use the language and concepts of that activity to help keep you motivated and on track as a father.

Pew Research Better Than Reported

A lot of press has been given to a recent Pew Research study showing that 44% of American adults "have left the faith of their childhood." But that's not really the whole story. 16% out of that 44% simply left one Protestant denomination for another, meaning only 28% of adults have left the faith of their childhood. Add to that that some of those 28% left atheism or other religions for Christianity, and the picture looks even brighter. So perhaps the best way to say it is, "72% of all American adults have stayed in the faith they were brought up in, including those who changed denominations within the Protestant Church." Now it sounds pretty good, doesn't it?

The full article is available at <http://pewforum.org/>

Factoids for Prison Ministries to Men The U.S. has more people in prison than any other country. Approximately 1% of all adults in U.S. are in jail or prison, 2,319,258 out of almost 230 million American adults, or one out of every 99.1 adults. In one state, the crime rate has increased only about 3% in the past 30 years, while its inmate population has increased by 600%. *e* Source: Pew Center for Research



50 Days of Prayer

A Joint Publication of CEP & MNA

For the past several years, Christian Education and Publications and Mission to North America have partnered to produce the *50 Days of Prayer*, a devotional and guide in preparation for the upcoming General Assembly meetings held in June of each year. Pastor Michael Ross of Christ Covenant Church in Matthews, North Carolina, has been the author of six of these volumes. Each book contains a daily devotional and suggested prayer items for the PCA at the General Assembly level. More than

10,000 have been sold in previous years.

This year's guide is now being used by over a thousand members. The 2008 volume, entitled *Men, Message, and Ministry*, takes you through the Pastoral Epistles. Ross states that intent of the book is "to call our people to prayer for the PCA pastors, elders, and deacons as they face the challenges of ministry to a new generation of Americans."



"This year's book is in honor of the founding fathers of the PCA—the ones who taught the present generation of men about the gospel message and ministry," said Ross. Seven of the 30 men who started the PCA have been chosen to write,

offer advice, and exhortation to the rising generation of church leadership. They include Frank Barker, Jim Baird, Paul Settle, Morton Smith, Terry Gyger, John Kyle, Kennedy Smartt, and Charles Dunahoo.

The devotional prayer booklet is available from the CEP Bookstore by calling 1-800-283-1357 or visiting the CEP Bookstore website at www.cepbookstore.com.

Though originally designed to be used starting May 1st and running through General Assembly in mid June, it can be started at anytime during the year. If you missed the May 1st deadline and do not have a copy for you and your family, contact the CEP Bookstore. *e*

Pioneer Clubs—

Rooted in God's Word

Reach and **disciple** children with Pioneer Clubs. Each of our weekly club programs—Pioneer, Exploring and Discovery—is **rooted** in sound, biblical principles as well as an understanding that God's Word has authority over all aspects of life. The Bible is the core of everything we do and is the tool we use to introduce children to Jesus Christ.

Recommended by the Presbyterian Church in America, Pioneer Clubs® helps children learn to make Christ Lord in every aspect of life.

Grow your ministry
TODAY!

www.pioneerclubs.org/explore/pca.htm

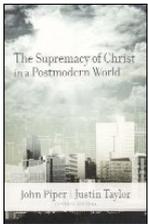
800.694.CLUB (2582)



M8P05

The Supremacy of Christ in a Postmodern World,

John Piper and Justin Taylor, eds., Crossway Books, 2007, 191 pages, \$11.99 (#8969)



This is an important book. I begin by saying without any equivocation that it should be read by pastors, church leaders, and students. The chapters represent lectures given by six men, all well known pastor-theologians, at a 2006 conference sponsored by Desiring God. To quote one of the editors, Justin Taylor, “The speakers at that conference – and now the contributors to this volume – were David Wells, Voddie Baucham Jr., John Piper, D.A. Carson, Tim Keller, and Mark Driscoll. Whether addressing culture, truth, joy, love, the gospel, or the church, each seeks to sharpen our thinking and motivate our ministry by considering how each of these intersects with the truth of Christ in our contemporary world.”

While each chapter is power packed, thought provoking, insightful, and challenging, I will select only three of the six to mention but not at the expense of demeaning the other three. Space is the factor. Read it all!

David Wells writes the first chapter. He is no stranger to us as the author of many books, with *Above all Earthly Power: Christ in a Postmodern World* as his latest. His emphasis reminds the reader that our theology must be missional because it must communicate with truth to the culture in which we find ourselves. Each of the writers is clear on the challenge we face to contextualize our theology, as well as the constant reminder that to be contextual one must have a strong grasp of biblical theology and a knowledge of the audience we intend to reach.

Wells focuses on two major themes that are definitely impacting our culture. The first theme is what he calls “the emergence of the postmodern ethos” and the second is the total diversity of western culture. How those two things express themselves fall out along the following lines: the emphasis is on spirituality, and that is used

antithetically to religion. Growing out of that emphasis is what he suggests is the collapse of reality into “self.” His conclusion is that the way to respond to those two trends is to focus on the supremacy of Christ and biblical reality. Wells does not pull any punches. For example he says, “Evangelicalism, now much absorbed by the arts and tricks of marketing, is simply not very serious anymore.” Growing out of that light approach to truth and reality, “therapeutic spiritualities that are non-religious begin to look quite like an evangelical spirituality that is therapeutic and non-doctrinal.”

Wells reminds us that we are not the first audience to face these kinds of challenges; however, he makes it clear that we do not face them by caving in to them. Yes, learn what we can from them but do not fall into their postmodern traps lest we be tempted to pursue spirituality or religion or truth or reality within ourselves instead of the Sovereign Lord. This is evidence by the 56% of Americans who claim to look within themselves rather than to God when crisis arises.

What we end up with, says Wells, can best be described as a pagan approach to spirituality. Paganism, Gnosticism, and anti-religious attitudes can only be addressed with the truth of the Gospel.

Keller focuses his lecture on how to get the gospel across in a postmodern world, which means we must be willing to rethink how we do ministry in a time of significant culture change. As he presents his six ways in which he thinks the church has to change, he asks, “if we might be insulting God with our small ambitions and low expectations for evangelism today?”

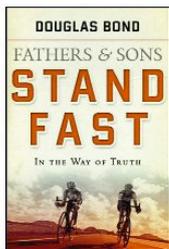
Keller uses Mark 9 as his point of departure. The disciples asked Jesus why they could not cast out the demons, and Jesus responded that

continued on page 22

Paganism, Gnosticism, and anti-religious attitudes can only be addressed with the truth of the Gospel.

USER FRIENDLY BOOKS

FROM P&R PUBLISHING



Fathers & Sons

Vol. 1- Stand Fast in the Way of Truth

DOUGLAS BOND

Bond's latest book addresses all of the strong temptations and difficult trials that young men face today. Ideal for personal study or

father-son discussion, *Fathers and Sons* is an invitation to pursue manly godliness in the adventure of life.

—Philip G. Ryken

\$14.99, Sale \$11.99



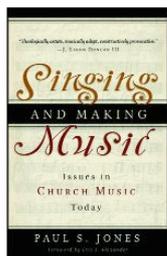
Father of Dragons

L.B. GRAHAM

Aljeron and Valzaan journey to awaken the Father of Dragons, to enlist his aid and his children's aid against Malek's armies. The forces on both sides are

being drawn together towards a great battle.

\$16.99, Sale \$13.59

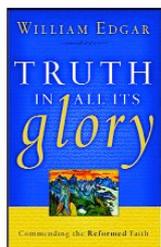


Singing and Making Music

PAUL S. JONES

Thirty-three provocative essays on corporate worship, hymnody and psalmody, issues, and composers and composition.

\$16.99, Sale \$13.59

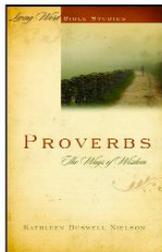


Truth In All Its Glory

WILLIAM EDGAR

An introduction to Reformed Theology, this guided tour of the Reformed faith highlights the glory of God's truth and grace.

\$14.99, Sale \$11.99



Proverbs

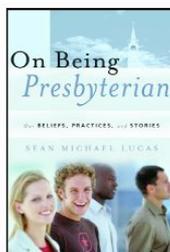
KATHLEEN BUSWELL NIFISON

"Nielson uses her great love and understanding of literature to lead us into rich study of 1 Ioly Scripture."
Bryan Chapell

\$12.99, Sale \$10.39

Colossians & Philemon

\$12.99, Sale \$10.39

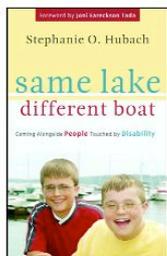


On Being Presbyterian

STAN MICHALI LUCAS

Written in a non-technical style, it is an unique resource for assimilating and equipping believers.

\$14.99, Sale \$11.99

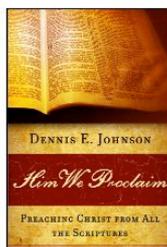


Same Lake Different Boat

STEPHANIE O. HUBACH

Same Lake, Different Boat is a transformational work designed to renew our minds to think biblically about disability in order that our lives, our relationships, and our congregations might wholly reflect Christ.

\$14.99, Sale \$11.99

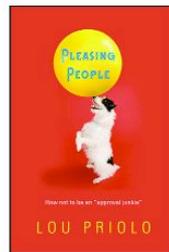


Him We Proclaim

DENNIS E. JOHNSON

Advocates the Christ-centered, redemptive-historical, missiologically-communicated, grace-grounded method of Bible interpretation.

\$24.99, Sale \$19.99

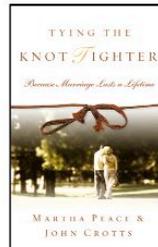


Pleasing People

LOU PRIOLO

Pleasing People takes aim at a problem common in all of us: the desire to be liked by others.

\$14.99, Sale \$11.99

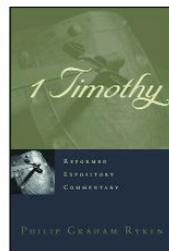


Tying The Knot Tighter

MARSHA PEACE & JOHN CROFTS

The authors have broken down nineteen areas of marriage by briefly summarizing the Bible's teaching and offering a series of penetrating questions to help readers take inventory of themselves and their marriage.

\$9.99, Sale \$7.99



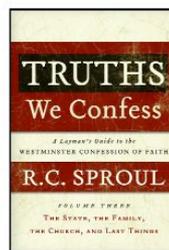
1 Timothy

PHILIP GRAHAM RYKEN

"Following on from his *Galatians* volume, Phil Ryken provides us with another cornucopia of insight and knowledge."

Derek W. H. Thomas

\$29.99, Sale \$23.99



Truths We Confess

A Layman's Guide to the Westminster Confession

R.C. SPROUL

An invaluable aid for digesting and teaching the eternal truths of Scripture.

Vol. 1- The Triune God

\$22.00, Sale \$17.60

Vol. 2- Salvation and the Christian Life

\$25.00, Sale \$20.00

Vol. 3- The State, family, Church, Last Things

22.00, Sale \$17.60

P&R BOOKS available at discounted prices from



www.cepbookstore.com or call 1-800-283-1357 for ADDITIONAL quantity discounts

continued from page 20

Keller challenges the church to realize that we are now on a mission field which requires us to be willing to do ministry differently.

they could be driven out only by prayer. “Ordinary methods did not work for ‘this kind.’” Like the other contributors, Keller challenges the church to realize that we are now on a mission field which requires us to be willing to do ministry differently. He lays out what he believes the church must do to accomplish its missions. For example, “Evangelism in a post-modern context must be much more thorough, progressive, and process-oriented.”

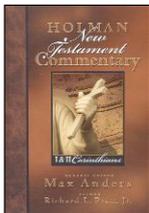
Using Jonah as an example, Keller says, “His people are neither to withdraw from [pagan culture] nor assimilate to it. They are to remain distinct but engaged.”

You will appreciate each chapter in special ways. I appreciated the chapter by Mark Driscoll, whose life and ministry has reflected an interesting journey from beginning with the emerging philosophy to a strong biblical message today. However, one of my favorite parts of the book was the interview with the authors and John Taylor. As one statement relates to Mark Driscoll, David Wells said, “Actually it was funny, as I was listening to Mark, because he sounded so far out, so testing the boundaries, pushing the envelope. Now when I say those

very same things, I sound staid and tame. It’s not right—I want to be hip, man!” In reference to how our world has changed and what we must do, Wells said, “...where people in the pews understand less and less or bring less and less of a Christian worldview with them—it becomes more and more imperative for preachers to make sure that the truth they are preaching intersects with what is going on inside people’s minds.”

In that same question and answer, Keller pointed out in response to several questions that the emerging church represents a kind of post-conservatism, which is moving away from evangelical orthodoxy and has much in common with post-liberals. He says clearly that “the Emergent church is moving away from orthodoxy.”

Need more be said to convince you of the importance of this book and your reading and studying it? It deals with issues that are challenging biblical reality; issues that are characteristic of the postmodern paradigm the emerging church movement has seemingly embraced at the expense of biblical foundations and authority. **e**



1 and 2 Corinthians: Holman New Testament Commentary, Vol. 7, Max Anders, general ed., author Richard L. Pratt, Holman Reference Publishers, 2000, 449 pages, \$15.99 (#8970).

While intending to mention this volume before, I only recently picked it up from the stack of books to review and began to read different passages. Richard Pratt is a familiar name to us, being a teaching elder in the PCA. This is only one volume in the commentary series, some being more helpful than others, and it is worth knowing about and having available for preachers and teachers. While not being a distinctive exegetical commentary format, these commentaries are easy to follow, even without

knowledge of the original languages.

I mention *1 and 2 Corinthians* by Pratt here because Corinthians are important books for Christians to study today. The setting in which they were written has so many similarities to ours today. The issues that the apostle Paul addresses, the challenges he faces, including accusations and very relevant moral issues, make both 1 and 2 Corinthians a must for preaching and teaching today in making kingdom disciples.

While we are featuring the theme of the church in this year's *Equip to Disciple* magazine, Corinthians speaks to so many issues. For example, Pratt begins with a quote from John Murray, former professor of theology at Westminster Theological Seminary: "The church of the apostolic days embraced all nations, and kindreds, and peoples, and tongues. There is no evidence in the New Testament for the diversification of distinct denominations, and anything tending to such diversification was condemned. The emphasis falls upon the oneness of the faith and the oneness of the fellowship of the saints."

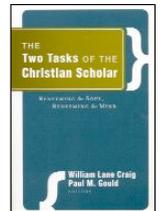
In the introduction, which sets the stage for

what follows, Pratt writes, "Today the church has many problems. Some of them are small, and we can afford to take them in stride as we focus on other things. But the church also has some large problems which it needs to address directly and immediately. One of these is disunity." He goes on to say, "In individual churches, we see strife over building programs and mission statements. People divide over minor theological issues, and even over personal incompatibility. Sometimes church politics cause factions within our ranks." Pratt then says, "Paul opened his letter to the Corinthians by declaring, 'Hello, we've got a big problem.'" **e**

The issues Paul addresses, the challenges he faces, including accusations and very relevant moral issues, make both 1 and 2 Corinthians a must for preaching and teaching today.

The Two Tasks of the Christian Scholar:

Redeeming the Soul, Redeeming the Mind, William Lane Craig and Paul M. Gould, eds., Crossway Books, 2007, 200 pages, \$15.19 (#8971).



Having re-read two books by Charles Malik this past fall, *The Two Tasks* and *A Christian Critique of the University*, I was pleased to be sent a copy of *The Two Tasks of the Christian Scholar*. It is a book containing eight chapters in honor of the late Charles Malik, commemorating his 100th birthday. Each chapter was as challenging as reading Malik's originals. Actually, chapter two is Malik's address and booklet written in 1980 in connection with the dedication of the Billy Graham School of Communication at Wheaton College. The message that he sounded at that 1980 dedication has continued to challenge us to this day and will until the Lord returns. His point was that we cannot be satisfied with simply saving people's souls or focusing on that theme. We have to see the need to save a person's mind, just like the apostle Paul taught. Doing one without the other will result in a failure to accomplish either one.

Many of his words encouraged me in writing *Making Kingdom Disciples: A New Framework*. As

a matter of fact, I quote him in that book. Malik was a Lebanese Christian statesman, having served as the Secretary of the United Nations, a Christian businessman, father, a diplomat, and a philosopher. His son Habid Malik, who is a professor at the Lebanese University in Lebanon, wrote one of the chapters in this book. His testimony is a great tribute to his father.

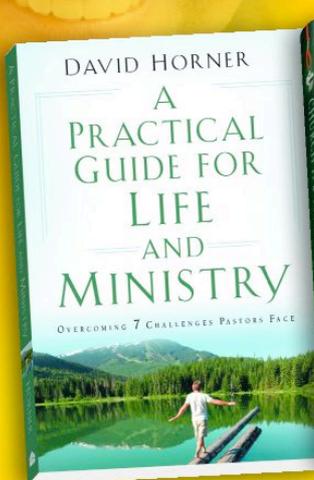
Malik's great concern was what he saw in the West's embrace of dualistic thinking, where faith and fact, faith and science, education and religion were all separate things. Not only was this true in academia, but it was and continues to be true in the teachings of many churches and Christian schools today. Paul Gould says in his chapter, reflecting Malik's sentiments, "Christianity hovers dangerously close to this irrelevance if the life of the mind is neglected inside the church and the truth of Christianity is not defended win- somely and vigorously outside the church."

Quoting Malik again, "All the preaching in the world, and all the loving care of even the best

Christianity is not simply a mindless, emotional, totally mystical religion.

It is a mind religion. We are to love the Lord with our mind, heart, body, and soul.

Invigorate Your Life *and* Ministry



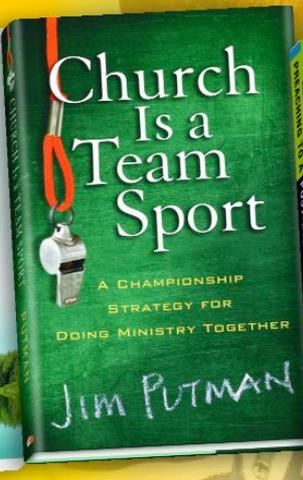
A Practical Guide for Life and Ministry

OVERCOMING 7 CHALLENGES PASTORS FACE

David Horner

9780801091957

288 pp. • \$17.99p



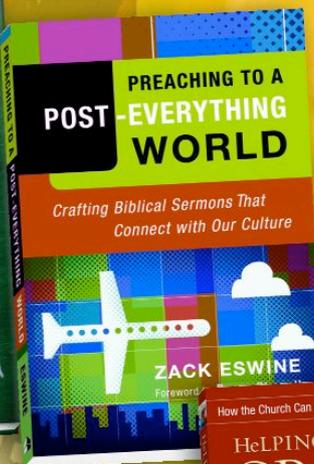
Church Is a Team Sport

A CHAMPIONSHIP STRATEGY FOR DOING MINISTRY TOGETHER

Jim Putman

9780801013027

256 pp. • \$17.99c



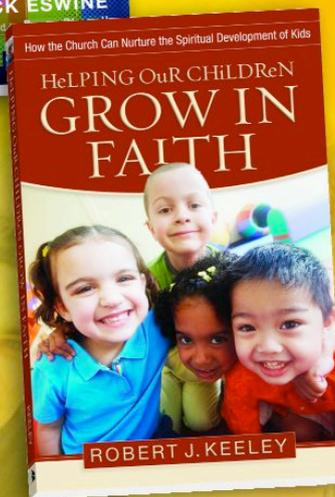
Preaching to a Post-Everything World

CRAFTING BIBLICAL SERMONS THAT CONNECT WITH OUR CULTURE

Zack Eswine

9780801091940

288 pp. • \$17.99p



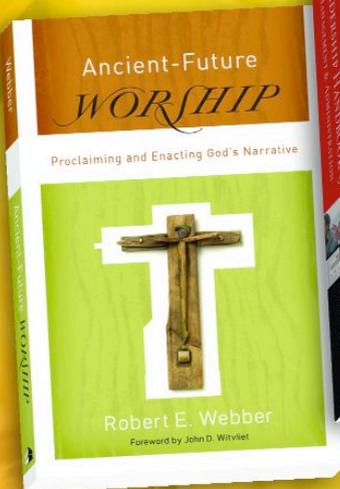
Helping Our Children Grow in Faith

HOW THE CHURCH CAN NURTURE THE SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OF KIDS

Robert J. Keeley

9780801068294

160 pp. • \$14.99p



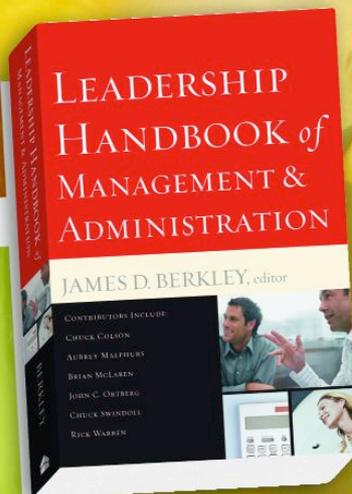
Ancient-Future Worship

PROCLAIMING AND ENACTING GOD'S NARRATIVE

Robert E. Webber

9780801066245

192 pp. • \$14.99p



Leadership Handbook of Management and Administration, rev. and exp. ed.

James D. Berkley, editor

9780801068140

560 pp. • \$19.99p



BakerBooks

a division of Baker Publishing Group
www.BakerBooks.com

Available at your local bookstore,
www.bakerbooks.com, or by calling
1-800-877-2665

parents, between whom there are no problems whatever, will amount to little, if not to nothing, so long as what the children are exposed to day in and day out for fifteen to twenty years in the school and university virtually cancels out, morally and spiritually, what they hear and see and learn at home and in the church. Therefore the problem of the school and university is the most critical problem afflicting Western civilization.” Obviously, Malik was critiquing his concern over the dichotomy established between faith, religion, and spirituality on the one hand and secular thinking on the other.

We readily concur with his analysis, realizing that Christianity is not simply a mindless, emotional, totally mystical religion. It is a mind religion. We are to love the Lord with our mind, heart, body, and soul; and in the Scriptures, mind and heart are referring to the same general thing. We are to be transformed by changing the way we think, as Paul wrote in Romans 12.

Since Malik’s critique, others such as Mark Noll’s *The Scandal of the Evangelical Mind*, George Marsden’s *The Outrageous Idea of Christian Scholarship*, and Alvin Plantinga’s *God and Other Minds* have challenged such a duality. The challenge is placed before us to integrate into a wholeness our faith and good Christian scholarship. One example cited by Gould is that while 80% of the general population believes the Bible is the actual word of God or the inspired Word, only 48% of professors hold this view. Therefore according to Malik we have both a spiritual problem and an intellectual one as well.

This is not only a book that critiques, it contains suggestions on how to go about fixing the problem. For example, Walter Bradley suggests nine things that could and should be done to unify and integrate faith and learning. We must help students see that Christianity is more than simply going to church but that our Christian faith is the basis or foundation for all that we are and do.

Not only will you experience the challenge

that is set before us in the area, and not only will you appreciate learning about available resources, you will delight in reading Habid Malik’s chapter testifying to the influence that his father has had in his life. Redeeming the soul and redeeming the mind requires sensitivity to the people we try to reach, and Malik’s life testified to his commitment to doing just that.

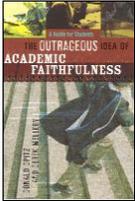
I found the discussion questions at the end of each chapter to be unusually good. While I appreciated each chapter and writer, I especially commend the first and last chapters by Gould and William Lane Craig. Craig reminds us using a quote from Alvin Plantinga, the most outstanding Christian philosopher today; that what is happening in our contemporary Western intellectual world actually boils down to “a battle for men’s souls.” Of course this sounds the call for Christian scholars to prepare themselves and be willing to step up to the plate. The book agrees with a statement made by J. Gresham Machen that “false ideas are the greatest obstacles to the reception of the Gospel.”

Gould not only stated that Christianity is dangerously close to irrelevance, Craig says that evangelicals are living on the periphery of responsible intellectual existence. As Noll has reminded us, the scandal of the evangelical mind is that there is not one. Craig likewise says that he has been “scandalized by the lack of integrative thinking on the part of Christian colleagues.”

Craig states, “Many Christian academics seem content to possess a profound knowledge of their area of specialization and yet have little better than a Sunday school education when it comes to their Christian faith, on which they have staked their lives and eternal destiny.”

If you are challenged to become a kingdom disciple by changing the way you think and developing a Christian mind, this would be a good book to read and discuss with other Christians, especially using some of the discussion questions at the end of each chapter. *e*

We must help students see that Christianity is more than simply going to church but that our Christian faith is the basis or foundation for all that we are and do.



The Outrageous Idea of Academic Faithfulness: A Guide for Students, Donald Opitz and Derek Melleby, Brazos Press, 2007, 144 pages, \$11.19 (#8893).

Even though the Bible tells us to be able to give a reason to those who ask us why and what we believe, so many college students are not disciplined to do that.

If this title sounds similar to George Marsden's *The Outrageous Idea of Christian Scholarship*, it is no mere coincidence. Marsden says, "This book provides clear and accessible guidelines on how to relate one's faith to academics. I hope it will be widely read." Walt Mueller writes, "This book addresses numerous timely issues related to the place of academics in the life of the Christian student. Nothing I have seen yet addresses these particular issues with a combination of theological depth and easy accessibility that mark this book." Therefore, I am in good company when I say, by all means read this and give it to your teenagers, especially those headed for a college or university.

The authors call for "academic faithfulness," and by that they simply mean what Malik does in the earlier review about the unity of faith and learning, the integration of faith and intellect. Even though the authors state that the Christian life is much more than academic faithfulness, much of the rest depends on this area. They claim that this is a book about discipleship, and discipleship is a life long process. They state that their desire is for the reader to experience "the unending challenge of exalting Christ as Lord of your thinking." One of the best ways to experience this is to learn together.

The writers make clear that when they refer to academic faithfulness, they are not talking about academic arrogance. Arrogance is the opposite of having a Christian mind. As I read this book, the one on Malik, and the one by David Dockery, though they are often referring to the university's or college's failure to teach people how to think conceptually and clearly, I was also reminded that the sole responsibility does not lie with the higher learning institutions. Responsibility must be in the lower levels and particularly in the churches. In

testimony after testimony, many college students and particularly later graduates, demonstrate a lack of ability to defend their beliefs. Even though the Bible tells us to be able to give a reason to those who ask us why and what we believe, so many college students are not disciplined to do that. This lack of ability plays havoc with their faith.

The authors point out that when Paul in Colossians 2:8 says, "see to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ," that students are not always equipped for that battle. They cannot always recognize those deceptive philosophies before the damage is done.

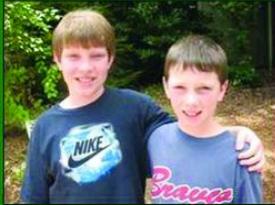
The church has to take its disciple making assignment seriously. Christians, young and old, must be taught and helped to develop a Christian perspective, a Christian world and life view, a Christian philosophy of life that will enable them to avoid the pressure to separate or fragment their lives as far as faith and knowledge are concerned. In college, students must be able to ask about any particular discipline in the curriculum: Is there a Christian perspective on this subject? And if so, what is it?

I appreciate the way the authors frequently reminded us throughout the book that knowing also involves doing, a point we try to make regularly. To know something, to really know something, requires and creates transformation, not only of thinking but living as well. I also appreciate their emphasis that knowing is also relational—good perspective on Christian epistemology. They write, "the biblical idea of knowing includes our response to what is learned. To truly know something means not simply understanding it, but acting on that understanding."

continued on page 28

Camp Brave Heart at Ridge Haven June 30 - July 5

A Camp to guide children and youth to walk with Courage through the journey of grief due to the death of a loved one.



"The LORD your God is with you,
he is mighty to save.
He will take great delight in you,
He will quiet you with his love,
He will rejoice over you with singing."
Zephaniah 3:17

Christ-centered camp for grades 3 - 12 with age appropriate speakers
Hiking, rope course, climbing tower, archery and making a memory box in
honor of their loved one and much more

Ridge Haven offers many other Summer Camps:

Junior (3rd - 6th); Junior High (6th - 9th);

Senior High (9th - 12th)

Great Adventure Weeks and Appalachian Trail Adventure

Martha M. Furman, LPC, LMFT has been in the counseling field since 1979, after receiving her masters from Covenant Seminary. She is currently in private practice in Roanoke, VA. Martha has worked with Gentle Shepherd Hospice facilitating grief support groups for all ages for over 11 years. Martha has developed and will facilitate Camp Brave Heart.

For more information about Camp Brave Heart or Ridge Haven Conference and Retreat Center (located in Western North Carolina near Brevard), please visit our website www.ridgehaven.org You may register for Camp Brave Heart and other Camps and

Conferences online or call toll -free **877-862-3916**

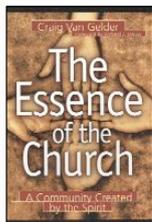


continued from page 26

Here is another point they make that bears reading and discussing. “Our relationship with Jesus can’t rest on the emotional high. It must be nurtured the way any relationship is—by spending time together. And this is what the church is all about. Christians gather together to spend time in relationship with Jesus Christ.” (Also read the lead article on the Communion of the Saints in this edition of *Equip to Disciple*.) They further remind us that this relationship cannot be on hold while we are at places other than the church. Such is true at work, at play, as well as church. If the church is

doing its job in making kingdom disciples, then each Christian knows that being a Christian is a 24/7 experience.

Echoing John Stott, they challenge students while developing a Christian mind and healthy relationships to listen to the Word and listen to the world. And the bottom line is that the key to developing academic faithfulness requires all the above. But above all, academic faithfulness requires much prayer. Buy this book! Read it and discuss it! Give a copy to any teachers, preachers, professors, and students. **e**



The Essence of the Church: *A Community Created by the Spirit*, Craig Van Gelder, Baker Books, 2000, 207 pages, \$17.60 (#5435)

While this book has been available for sometime, published in 2000, we have been waiting for the right moment to bring it to our readers’ attention. Having known of Van Gelder during his days at Reformed Theological Seminary and having followed his career since graduation, I find him to be creative, stimulating, thought provoking, and a strategic thinker. He has written and edited a number of books revolving around the concept of the missional church. I appreciate his interest in the church, especially in a day when too many are ignoring, negatively criticizing, and demeaning the importance of the church.

As indicated in the first quarter *Equip* review of *The Dictionary of Mission Theology*, the time has arrived to do some rethinking about the church. We have expressed our concern that far too many Christians fail to understand the church. While we believe it is not synonymous with the kingdom, the church is the heart of the kingdom and plays the most crucial role in equipping Christians to live with a kingdom perspective.

This book, as the title indicates, deals with the essence of the church. Richard Mouw states in the foreword that at a time when pluralism and new

paganism dominate the scene, we need to think more holistically and intentionally about missiology. He highlights, and we concur, that Van Gelder’s handling of the church, its nature, its ministry, and its structures challenges us to come to a better and clearer perspective on the church and its place in God’s kingdom.

Van Gelder sets out with four goals in mind:

1. To translate available scholarship and research into applied perspective for ministry, especially for pastors who will think deeply and practically about the church.
2. To integrate diverse perspectives from a variety of disciplines, including mission theology and the doctrine of church.
3. To focus on the church within the context of North America.
4. To work from an understanding of the triune God as being central to our understanding of the church.

These are good goals that the book seems to fulfill. I do wish that Van Gelder, as well as others writing in this area, would place more attention on the kingdom, its relation to the church, and how the church is God’s key training

The church is the heart of the kingdom and plays the most crucial role in equipping Christians to live with a kingdom perspective.

ground for kingdom living. Nevertheless, this is an important book.

Van Gelder indicates that we often do not know how to think about the church, which causes us at best to think of the church only from a structural and denominational paradigm. Often how we think about the church in North America, as the book indicates, causes us to focus on secondary issues. For example, while we believe the concept of denomination is still a vital and strategic paradigm, it can often keep us from thinking theologically about the church. This applies to our missiology as well. Hence we are in need of some course corrections in order to see the church as God would have us see it.

Van Gelder highlights how we tend to think of the church in functional terms, often hearing things like seeker-sensitive church, purpose-driven church, user-friendly church, or the church for the 21st century. This causes us to think of the church in terms of what the church does without addressing the more important issue of the nature of the church. This further leads to referring to the church with a set of “ministry functions such as worship, education, service, and witness, important as those elements are.” Therefore, the book reminds us of the importance of rethinking or reconsidering the nature of the church before proceeding to define its ministry and organization. I would say that while form follows function, Van Gelder would also encourage us to see that the nature of the church precedes its form and function and that process is vital to the understanding and study of the church, and missions as well.

This book seeks to correct several misunderstandings, such as the failure to relate missions and evangelism to the larger framework of God’s mission and the failure to relate the life and ministry of the church to God’s mission in the world. These kinds of misunderstandings tend to impact several areas. How do we set priorities? Do we focus on members or reaching out in evangelism? How much do we budget for overseas missions

and how much to do we keep at home?

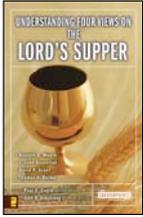
What is the solution? Learning to think about the missional nature of the church based on the missional triune God will keep us from thinking narrowly about missions, as well as the church’s role. This type of thinking will help us produce a “missiological ecclesiology.” It will keep us from the dilemma created by the modern western missiology where the church is thought of in a mere functional manner. It will help us see the church not as an institution started by missionaries. “We in North America need to thoroughly work this perspective into our understanding of the church’s nature, ministry, and organizational life. This view of the church, best described as missiological ecclesiology, is the focus of this book.”

I found this book to do what the author intended; to help us engage the complexity of the situation we now encounter in North America and to help us think about the very missional essence of the church in a way that will mobilize church people to see their own missional role in the world, both in the church and the kingdom. In other words, how Christians can be in but not of the world. While the church is called to represent the redemptive power of God on earth, its members need to know how to “discern how the power of God’s reign can best relate to the specific contexts.”

This book could help us avoid becoming so contextual in our understanding of missiology that we allow the context to determine the message. On the other hand, the book will help us see more clearly how the very nature of the church requires us to think contextually regarding the church’s mission and bring it to our doorstep.

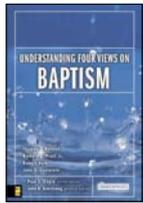
I would say, do not read this book if you are not willing to think. Don’t read this book if you are satisfied with the status quo regarding the church and missions. By all means, do not read this book if you are not willing to be challenged to live and think differently. But if you are...by all means read and study it. **e**

While we believe the concept of denomination is still a vital and strategic paradigm, it can often keep us from thinking theologically about the church.



Understanding Four Views of the Lord's Supper,

Paul E. Engle, series ed., Zondervan, 2007, 224 pages, \$11.99 (#8967).



Understanding Four Views of Baptism,

Paul E. Engle, series ed., Zondervan, 2007, 224 pages, \$11.99 (#8968).

The Old Testament saints had many ways to live and relive the great works of God, such as the Passover. The saints today have two basic ways to do the same in the sacraments. But why are there so many different positions on each of these subjects?

These two books, part of Zondervan's *Counterpoint Series*, are perhaps the best way to study these issues because each position is written and defended by those who hold it. The other views then have a chance to refute the position, and finally the original author has the final rebuttal. This approach eliminates the typical "straw-man" arguments that many times are used to defend one's own position.

The first book includes resources, such as a listing of statements on the Lord's Supper from creeds and confessions, quotations from noted Christians, a resource listing of books on the Lord's Supper, and discussion questions for

each chapter to facilitate small group and classroom use. It covers the Roman Catholic view (transubstantiation), Lutheran view (consubstantiation), Baptist view (memorialism), and the Reformed view (spiritual presence). The defenders are Russell Moore, John Hesselink, David Scaer, and Thomas Baima.

The baptism volume covers the Baptist view by Thomas Nettles, the Lutheran view by Robert Kolb, the Christian Church/Church of Christ view by John Castelein, and Richard Pratt writes on our Reformed view.

There are many books in this format by several different publishers. To see more of these balanced approaches to many topics see the Doctrine/Multiview section of our catalog or go to our website at www.cepbookstore.com. **e**

—Dennis Bennett

Coordinator of Training and Resources

Rose Publishing

We normally review books, but here is an exception. I would like to refer you to Rose Publishing's website, www.rose-publishing.com. While we don't agree with some of the positions taken in some of their products, you should see the pamphlets, charts, and PowerPoint presentations they offer.

For example, they offer the "Reformation Time Line," which displays the key people and events of the Reformation. This time line is available as a foldout pamphlet measuring 38.5" x 5.5" and retails for only \$3.99. It can also be purchased as a wall chart (19" x 26") for \$13.99. If you would like to teach through the Reformation, a PowerPoint presentation is available with over 150 slides of the people and events for \$39.99. There are MANY other helpful works here, such as Denominational Comparison; The Armor of God; How We Got the Bible; Christianity, Cults and Religions; Bible Maps – Then and Now, etc.

After you have looked over their product line, call our bookstore at 1-800-283-1357 and order any of these items for 10%-30% off retail price. **e**

—Dennis Bennett

Coordinator of Training and Resource

DO NOT LAY UP FOR YOURSELVES
TREASURES ON EARTH... BUT LAY
UP FOR YOURSELVES TREASURES IN
HEAVEN... FOR WHERE YOUR
TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART
WILL BE ALSO. — MATTHEW 6:19-21 (ESV)

For more than 25 years, the Presbyterian Church in America Foundation has helped individuals and families that are serious about stewardship use their resources to help expand the Kingdom.

Please contact the PCA Foundation to learn more about how, through our current and deferred giving services, we can help you carry out your stewardship responsibilities and charitable desires.

PCA FOUNDATION SERVICES

Advise & Consult Funds
(donor advised funds)

Endowments

Charitable Remainder Trusts

Charitable Lead Trusts

Church Designated Funds

Estate Design

Bequest Processing

"You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."

— II Corinthians 9:11 (NIV)

Contact us for more information on any of the services listed above:
800-700-3221, pcaf@pcanet.org or www.pcafoundation.com



PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH IN AMERICA
FOUNDATION

*Stewardship Service Providers
You Can Trust.*



©2007 PCA Foundation, Inc., 1700 North Brown Road, Suite 103, Lawrenceville, Georgia, 30043

OFFICIAL CURRICULUM
— of the —
PCA and OPC



GREAT COMMISSION PUBLICATIONS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION WITH A PURPOSE!

GCP assists you in impacting the lives of children, youth and adults for the glory of God.

Check out the faithfully Reformed resources for your church – starting with the *Show Me Jesus* curriculum for toddlers to teenagers.

*Equipping disciples
for over 50 years!*

Order a catalog or
FREE preview packet today!

www.gcp.org
800-695-3387

