



NEWSLETTER

Spiritual
Leadership
Development
NEWSLETTER

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for the members
of the Germantown
church of Christ as
we lead by being
Christian servants.

The Newsletter

This month's SLD Newsletter provides an update on some events within the Spiritual Leadership Development (SLD) Ministry.

Several activities are forming within the SLD Ministry. Many of the congregation have become active in the SLD Ministry and I have received numerous kind comments. Please continue to pray with me that this ministry will help individuals and families in their spiritual growth.

Glenn

L2L

Lads-to-Leaders (L2L) activities are coming to a completion! The young people have done an excellent job in their events and we are now looking forward to the L2L National Convention in Nashville April 14-16.

There will be a meeting for all adults going to the L2L National Convention after worship services on Sunday night, April 9th. The purpose of the meeting is to help prepare us for our stay at the convention. The meeting is very important as you will be provided information about the L2L convention schedule and hotel procedures; including, how to obtain your hotel room keys!

Important Dates

- ◆ L2L National Convention Information Meeting
→ April 9th
7:00 p.m.
Auditorium
- ◆ L2L National Convention
→ April 14th - 16th
Opryland Hotel—Nashville

Marching to Zion!

Leadership Camp	
Boys	July 10 - July 14
Girls	July 31 - August 4

To the Boys and Girls in Grades 3 through 6:

Tell your parents and grandparents you want to attend the Leadership Camp this summer! You're never too young to learn about leadership!

By attending the Leadership Camp you will learn about men and women in the Bible who were leaders and how you can become a leader. You will also "experience" some of the events in the Bible that made these men and women great leaders. The site for this action-oriented camp will be on the back property at the church building.

The Leadership Camp will be from 9:00 a.m. until noon. Monday through Friday (Wednesday 9:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.). The cost is \$25 for the whole week!

What to bring each day:

- ◆ Bible
- ◆ Back pack
- ◆ 2 bottles of water, kool-aid, gatorade, etc.
- ◆ Lunch and snack
- ◆ A rested mind and body
- ◆ The greatest of attitudes

You will need to wear clothing that is cool and loose as the camp will be outside and hot! Wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty. Also, bring a cap and sun-tan lotion, if needed.

We will go on a field trip on Wednesday. You will learn more about God and His creation that day. Men and women, who are the greatest of leaders, know that God is in control!

Watch for the sign-up sheets on a table in the south hall. Registration for children of members of the congregation will begin Sunday, March 19th. Registration for others will start on Sunday, April 23rd.

*Come and be in the Lord's Army as we are **Marching to Zion!***

This month PAGE 2 of the SLD Newsletter covers additional activities within the SLD Ministry along with a look at the spiritual leadership quality of VISION.

The Challenge

Congratulations to 9 men of the congregation who have completed *The Challenge*! This 10 week course consisted of 10 challenges, which were specifically focused on an individual's spiritual leadership development. Each of these men stepped up to the task and gave a great effort in progressing in their spiritual growth.

Please let these men know how much you appreciate their self-discipline to challenge themselves over a 10 week period. Also, I want to thank their families for allowing these men to take hours away from their family time together. The benefits from *The Challenge* will continue into the future!

The men are:

Bob DeTorres	Chris Hicks	Jason Speed
David Escue	Jon Pace	Adam Stewart
Chris Gilbert	Zach Shappley	Jodi Whitfield

The next Men's Leadership Challenge is scheduled to begin in early 2007.

10 Men, 10 Weeks, 10 Challenges

Leading the Assembly

The *Leading the Assembly* class is a practical how-to class. The class is for Christian men and young men who would like to increase knowledge and experience in leading the assembly during worship services.

Class sessions will include a lesson on an element of worship, examples of leading the element and time for the class participants to practice leading the element. The elements of worship that will be covered in class are:

Reading Scripture
Praying
Comments at the Lord's Supper
Comments for the Contribution

After attending this course the class attendees will have prepared examples for use in leading the assembly during worship services.

The *Leading the Assembly* Class will begin Sunday, April 23rd and will end on Sunday, May 21st.

Sign-up Sheets in South Hall

VISION

Vision may be defined several ways. Although many times in the Bible we find the word vision used as a supernatural appearance that conveys a revelation, in this article we are using the word as **foresight**. One unusual quality of many spiritual leaders is the ability to see ahead and lead the people to a new goal or objective.

Of course, vision is closely tied to the attributes of faith, influence and effective communications. Many Biblical leaders possessed the characteristic of vision as they led God's people. Here are a few examples:

By God's mighty works **Moses** led the children of Israel out of bondage in Egypt. He saw as the goal the Promised Land. In Deuteronomy Moses gives "the second law" or a repetition of the Law to the people as the Israelites are beyond the Jordan; still in the wilderness. Moses envisioned a settled life in Canaan (Deuteronomy 4:1-2).

The settlement of the Promised Land was completed by another leader, who had the characteristic of vision. Even 40 years prior to the start of the conquest of Canaan **Joshua**, who was one of the 12 spies, "saw" that the Israelites should take the land (Numbers 14:6-9).

While in Babylon **Nehemiah** heard a report of devastation to the walls and gates of the city of Jerusalem. He received permission from the king of Babylon to return to Jerusalem and restore the wall. Nehemiah's vision of the restoration (Nehemiah 2:5) was the catalyst for a dedicated and organized effort of rebuilding the wall which was completed in 52 days!

Although these examples of leaders with vision are in the

Old Testament that by no means limits this characteristic to the times of that historical period. Leaders today need vision to help God's people toward our present day goals. There are examples for us today within congregations of the church.

Men selected as **elders** need to be able to understand and communicate the mission of the congregation to the members. Whether in the areas of evangelism, edification, worship or benevolence the overseers should set Bible-based goals for the church.

As members within the body of Christ how can we apply the leadership quality of vision?

Each **individual** Christian needs to read and study the Bible; "seeing" how the Scriptures apply to the principles of life and to the Christian lifestyle. By drawing near to God through His Word Christians are able to have a foresight of how we should live within God's plan for us. Our goal is heaven and our vision should include an image of ourselves following the teachings of Christ and bringing others to Christ (Matthew 28:18-20).

In addition Christian **parents** should have a vision of their children becoming Christians. Children should be instructed in the ways of the Lord (Ephesians 6:1-4) and taught that salvation is found only in Jesus Christ (John 14:6).

In our service to Christ each Christian is a leader. Having the characteristic of vision is important, but we should realize that the great leaders did something with their vision. Leaders must put their foresight into action to reap the benefits of being a visionary.