

the BEACON

"The unfolding of thy words give light; it gives understanding to the simple"

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BEARERS OF
 LIGHT
 MINISTRIES

FULFILLING GOD'S VISION

This is the first issue of our newsletter "The Beacon" for the year 2004. We are very excited about what this New Year holds and know that He has much ahead for us and those whose lives will be touched through this ministry.

We first want to give God the glory for all that was accomplished this past year. Twenty two seminars and classes were conducted during the year. Three new ministers were ordained into the gospel ministry. As a result, many lives were transformed through our teaching, discipling (School of Biblical Living/Pneuma Bible Institute) and apostolic ministry. None of this would have been possible without Him and you, our partners.

Enclosed in this mailing you will find a new and updated ministry brochure that God has so graciously provided us. We want to thank those who gave of their time, gifts, talents and services to make this possible. We hope it will bless you as it has blessed us.

In this issue we want to focus on a new role that God has added to our ministry. It is an Apostolic calling and responsibility that we did not ask for, and yet, find ourselves saying yes to the Lord. We have asked Him for His guidance and anointing to fulfill this role

In 2002 through the leading of the Holy Spirit and counsel and confirmation from others, BOLM was inspired to use their 28 years of ministry experience to provide Apostolic covering for independent Ministers, Missionaries, Churches and Ministries that would like to develop an accountability relationship.

Through this relationship and related services, BOLM will assist all their Ministry Partners in fulfilling their God inspired callings and visions in a protective, nurturing and restorative environment.

New and young pastors as well as those who have been in ministry for years find this accountability relationship to be a comfort and encouragement to them.

Why is God raising up a fresh new Apostolic movement in the church today?

Jack Hayford in the November/December 2003 issue of "Ministries Today" states in an article entitled "Practicing What We Preach" that 'favoritism, greed, shoddy morals and shady ethics have found a comfortable home in the church. Today the church's call is to judge itself - not with criticism, but with purifying grace. It's still true: "For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God" (I Peter 4:17). If it doesn't begin with our own self-government, I believe we can count on it from elsewhere. The judgment will come from outside, as society's legal, judicial and media agencies hold hypocrisy up to the eyes of a world that needs the light we are called to shine forth, not the shadows of our shame.'

Rousas John Rushdoony states in his book "The Institutes of Biblical Law" - "Where churches of the Old and New Testament have set up a false meaning to the law, that false meaning is attacked by Prophets and Apostles, but never the law itself. Because God is one, His grace and law are one in their purpose and direction."

C. Peter Wagner in his book "Apostles and Prophets: The Foundation of The Church" states "The household of God has been built on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone (Eph. 2:20). Jesus revealed Himself to be the cornerstone of the church; but He has built His Church and continues to build it through Apostles and Prophets, men and women who are empowered by the Holy Spirit for this purpose."

FULFILLING GOD'S VISION (CONT'D)

You can see by the previous statements that fulfilling an Apostolic role is not to be man's choice or decision, but by a specific calling and anointing by the Holy Spirit and confirmed and recognized by the body of Christ. We certainly didn't ask for this position because of the enormous responsibility that is assigned to it by God's Word. In one way, we look at this divine appointment like a Father to the children God has given to him. And what Father doesn't want the best for his children with a strong desire to see them all glorify God through their lives.

If we can help those who have answered a call into the Gospel ministry to fulfill their God inspired callings and visions in a protective, nurturing and restorative environment with strong accountability and oversight that glorifies God, we will have fulfilled our apostolic role.

Please keep us in prayer as we step out in faith to fulfill this very important role in the church today.

Xen & Dawn

FEED MY SHEEP

Commitment: A Lost Art

Webster defines commitment as a pledge or promise to do something and dedication to a long term course of action; engagement and personal involvement.

Have you sensed as I, the unwillingness of the society that we live in today to make a commitment to any course of action? It seems that we all want to be free spirits without anything to keep us from doing what WE want to do when WE want to do it. Where is our commitment to values, integrity and morality?

We are living in a day and time when we have a 50% marriage failure rate. Many would rather live together without being legally married in order for them to be free to leave if it doesn't work out to THEIR expectations. What about husbands and fathers who abandon their wives and children without any concern for their support, without any regards for the emotional trauma and scars that can affect their spouses and children throughout their lifetime, thereby setting an example that commitment is not important?

Even in the workplace employees and employers fail in the area of commitment to one another, their jobs and responsibilities, quality of products and mutual respect. In politics, commitments to the citizens of this great country made by those in the political arena are made to be broken depending upon how it affects them and their political careers with little or no regards for the people whom they have let down by their failed commitments.

FEED MY SHEEP (CON'T)

For those of us who are believers, have we been guilty of failing God and those around us because of our unwillingness to make commitments? Even when we do make a commitment we often fail to follow through with that commitment. Some would fall into the category of those who are willing to make a commitment if they benefit by doing so, without any regard for what God would have them do or how it would affect others.

The Word tells us in Matthew 16:24-27 ---"If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in His Father's glory with His angels, and then He will reward each person according to what he has done."

As I read this Scripture, I know that I must ask the Holy Spirit to examine all of my thoughts, attitudes, behavior and words to be very sure they line up with the Word of God and my commitment to Christ. Frankly, there are things that He has revealed in my life over the years that are very humbling and suggest that I am not where I thought I was or where I should be in my walk with the Lord. To be very honest, I don't feel that I am the only one that God has revealed this to. I believe this is God's challenge to all of us. I believe we have been lied to by our flesh and the enemy to compromise our commitment to the Lord by fitting into the world's mould instead of God's.

I am deeply troubled with what I see in our local churches and throughout the body of Christ. I see commitments to responsibilities that are treated lightly. We promise to fulfill a role in the church and then don't without saying a word to those whom we made the promise to and see no wrong in it. Sometimes we are asked to fulfill a role that we know God would have us consider, and say we will pray about it with no intention of ever doing it. Even when we hear God speak to us, we resist saying "Here am I Lord send me." Why? Because, our freedom in this world is more important than obeying and pleasing God. And yet, we praise and worship God on Sunday morning and whenever the church doors are open and tell Him how much we love Him and are committed to His ways and not ours. Oh! How we must grieve God's heart by our double-mindedness.

In Matthew 28: 19,20 ---" Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you---"

What do these verses mean to us? To many it applies to everyone but them, to some it applies to just those in the five fold ministry (Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers). But the Word doesn't say that. It says GO to all of us irrespective of our positions in the body of Christ. Why do we not see that the GO in this text means more than going

FEED MY SHEEP (CON'T)

on a foreign field as a missionary or becoming a pastor. It means taking the gospel to our workplaces, communities, schools, families and wherever the Holy Spirit would lead us. This means not just in words but living a life that reflects Christ, not the world. In order to do this, we must fulfill our commitment that we made to Him at Salvation. There is no need to pray and ask God if we should do this, He has made it very clear in His Word that we MUST. It is a matter of obedience. It is a matter of denying ourselves and resetting our priorities to make the Lord our number one priority on this earth, not our freedom to do as we please, as the world does.

Just think for a moment, if Jesus had failed to fulfill His commitment to the Cross for you and I, where would we be today? (John 3:16)

In closing, let's take another look at the Word of God and how He honors our commitment to Him.

II Chronicles 16: 9 – “For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him--”

Psalms 37:5,6 – “Commit your way to the Lord, trust in Him and He will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.”

Let us all review our priorities and how we handle commitment in our lives. We cannot allow ourselves to make life in this world our priority and focus. If we do, we will compromise our commitment to Him and our testimony to the world around us. He cannot bless our rebellion towards His Word. If we are His, then He must be our top priority and the One who deserves our primary commitment and related service. By so doing, the world will come to know Christ by the lives that we live through our commitment to Him.

Xen

COUNTING THE COST

As we enter into this New Year of 2004, it is extremely important for us to keep casting the vision that God has revealed and continues to reveal to BOLM.

In so doing, those of you who currently support this ministry are inspired and motivated to continue your support and new contributors will be added. As a result, through our combined efforts we will see God's vision for BOLM fulfilled.

That is why we try to inform you through our quarterly newsletter “The Beacon” as to what God is accomplishing through this ministry throughout the year.

If you are not currently a supporter of BOLM, won't you take a moment to ask the Lord if He would have you to

PRAYER FOCUS

Praying is the best school in which to learn to pray, prayer the best dictionary to define the art and nature of praying.

E.M. Bounds

Please pray for the following:

- Interceding for a restoration of Biblical: manhood, womanhood, fatherhood, motherhood, marriage and family life
- Open doors for ministry (domestic and foreign)
- Protection to help us stand firm against the enemy
- Anointing for consulting services, ministry, teaching, and writing new materials and publications
- Financial needs to be met
- Divine health, strength, wisdom, guidance and protection
- Lives to be transformed through our preaching, teaching, consulting services, and publications
- Fulfilling our Apostolic role to Ministers, Missionaries, Churches and Ministries
- Light of Life Ministries and its outreach locally and around the world
- Light of Life Christian Fellowship and its outreach to the community
- School of Biblical Living
- Pneuma Bible Institute
- Women of Hope Project (Afghanistan)

Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: For unto Thee will I pray. My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto Thee, and will look up. – Psalm 5:2,3

COUNTING THE COST (CON'T)

become a financial partner? Your contribution of \$10.00 or more per month (33 cents per day) or a one-time gift of \$120.00 or more will help us to touch more lives with the Gospel. Gifts of any size are always welcome and appreciated.

We are so thankful for the faithfulness of each one of you who are currently giving to this ministry and we trust that God will encourage you to continue your current level of giving or even increase it. You are the ones who make it possible for BOLM to fulfill its vision and calling. God Bless You!

Please find a faith pledge card and return envelope enclosed for your responses. All contributions to BOLM are tax deductible.

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NUGGETS OF TRUTH

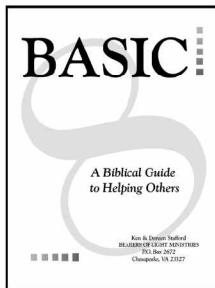
THE GREATEST MAN is he who chooses the right with invincible resolution; who resists the sorest temptations from within and without; who bears the heaviest burdens cheerfully; who is calmest in storms, and most fearless under menace and frowns; and whose reliance on truth, on virtue, and on God, is most unflinching.

Channing

MINISTRY SERVICES AVAILABLE

- BIBLICAL COUNSELING CONSULTANTS (Giving counsel to counselors and helping churches and ministries to establish counseling services)
- SCHOOL OF BIBLICAL LIVING (Training in Biblical principals for living and service)
- SEMINARS (Conducting relevant topical seminars to build up the Body of Christ)
- BOOKS (Counseling materials and publications to challenge and strengthen the Body of Christ)
- APOSTOLIC (Providing services, resources, ministry and accountability for independent Ministers, Missionaries, Churches and Ministries)

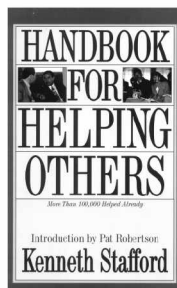
PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE



BASIC 8

A Biblical Guide to Helping Others

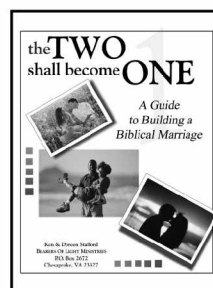
\$15 per copy*



Handbook For Helping Others

Guidelines for Biblical Counseling

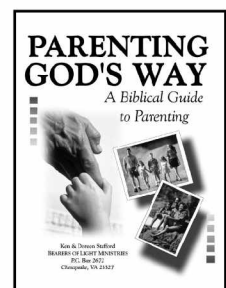
\$12 per copy*



The Two Shall Become One

A Guide to Building a Biblical Marriage

\$13 per copy*



Parenting God's Way

A Biblical Guide to Parenting

\$11 per copy*

*Please add \$5 per copy for shipping and handling. For bulk orders, call 757.495.2577 for shipping costs.

Be sure and indicate in your request which book(s) you desire.

Your check should be made payable to "BOLM" and include the cost of the book(s) plus shipping