



Jerry Lambert,
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THE JOY OF GIVING

Some people don't know what they're missing. They ride through life settling for less.

One day while I was talking with the owner of a bicycle shop, he expounded on the advantages of purchasing a good bike from a reputable dealership. He told me many families just buy a bike for their child from a discount department store. The bike comes unassembled and requires Dad to install all the parts. Often this is attempted without even reading the directions!

The child may end up with a bike that "works" but it is nowhere near its potential. Handlebars are out of adjustment, pedal bearings are too tight, wheels are poorly aligned, brakes are improperly set, the seat is too high or too low, the gears are not shifting

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otherwise would not be offered to them.

Group 7: OB Nat'l Youth Dept.

Ministry departments must guard against maintenance... must press beyond their comfort zones...must listen to the Spirit...must be purpose-driven! *GOU* is fresh and new...it is driven by a passion for evangelism, disciple-making, leadership development, and the Great Commission. Excess revenue over expenses helps fund the department budget.

Group 8: Open Bible Churches

God will use *GOU* to change a generation of Open Bible young people...and that will do more than change our corporate climate...it will change our culture. Like a droplet of water in the Open Bible pond, the *GOU* ripple effect is already evident.

right, etc. Imagine how this bike may ride! The same is true with sharing our resources, whether it is giving a current gift to ministry or planning your estate...simply giving to good causes. Somehow a poor mental attitude, or simply ignorance of the principle that it is "more blessed to give than to receive," is like a ride through life on a

bicycle that is a chore rather than a pleasure. A quality life and a proper sense of

self-worth are the rewards of getting involved in sharing. Studies show people who act out of concern for others markedly improve their lives regardless of their own material circumstances.

A well tuned life includes a good measure of generosity. You don't know what you're missing if you are not giving. Don't settle for second best.

The Kingdom impact of *GOU* is incredible! Six alumni of the *GOU* trips have served or are currently serving with YWAM in South Africa, India, Bolivia, and Argentina. One has started a ministry to support an orphanage in Uganda. Other young people are headed to Bible college.

So hold on to your seats Open Bible. *GOU* has loaded the bases and the clean-up hitter is marching to the plate. These young people won't settle for anything less than another grand slam...out of the park and over the wall! Do you have faith for 8,000 souls instead of 800? I do!



STEWARDSHIP STORIES

Merry Makers

Some people are kind, polite, and sweet spirited until you try to sit in their pews.

The Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.

Quit griping about your church: if it were perfect, you couldn't belong.

He who dies with the most toys is still dead.

Blessed are the flexible for they shall not be bent out of shape.

A blonde girl enters a store that sells curtains. She tells the salesman, "I would like to buy a pink curtain in the size of my computer screen."

The surprised salesman replies, "But, madam, computers do not have curtains!!!"

And the blonde said, "Helloooo...? I've got Windows!!!"



Jeff Farmer,
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Bible Churches

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Clergy Appreciation Month



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Jeff's JOURNAL

Insider Notes, News, Trends, and Resources from the President's Office

GOU: "Out of the Park & Over the Wall"

Nearly twenty years in the business world taught me the importance of getting double or triple impact out of the same task...service...or product. To do so is to be light years ahead of the guy that does one thing and gets one result. This principle holds true in marketing, manufacturing, and managing money: make sure what you do benefits on multiple fronts...not just one.

Inventors, entrepreneurs, engineers, and time management consultants discovered this long ago. [Notice I said "discovered," not "created." The Godhead said, "Let us make man." His choice was not to make man mono-dimensional, or even bi-dimensional (like animals, with bodies and souls), but He made man tri-dimensional, i.e., spirit, soul, and body.]

Hamburger stands used to compete for business selling meat and bread. Now, through value-added marketing, McD's includes toys in the Happy Meals and a multi-color playground to capture your kids, as well as your burger business. I love to buy collectibles low and sell them high. Using this triple impact principle I will watch for a Coca Cola advertisement, for instance, that also has a Christmas theme

(double value) and perhaps is illustrated by Norman Rockwell (triple value). Now three separate groups are bidding for my one Coke advertisement.

What about ministry impact? Our National Youth Department under the leadership of former Director Randy Bixby and Church Ministries Assistant Rob Leitheiser have hit one "out of the park and over the wall." Their newly created *Global Outreaches Unlimited* program (*GOU* – now two years old) is touching not two or three, but at least eight separate groups – each in a powerful and significant way. One program – eight groups! Here's the principle at work:

Group 1: The Lost

Approximately 800 decisions for Christ.

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P rayer & Intimacy with God
L eadership Development
A dvancement Funding
N etwork: Communication & Technology
T he Great Commission
E thnic Ministries
R esource Churches & Leaders
S ingleness of Purpose



Teri Beyer,
Secretary/Treasurer



October is Clergy Appreciation Month (CAM). It's the perfect time to honor the hardworking servants of God – pastors, associates, chaplains and missionaries, who lead, teach, and encourage us.

Focus on the Family provides a special CAM Planning Guide which contains...

- Why CAM?
- Detailed planning tips for memorable CAM celebrations
- Inspiring testimonies from CAM events
- Creative ideas for gifts of appreciation

And you can view or download the CAM Planning Guide (PDF format) for FREE! Just log on to: www.clergyappreciation.org

Don't delay...let the CAM Planning Guide help you prepare for the best Clergy Appreciation Month ever!

TO BORROW OR TO RENT – THAT IS THE QUESTION

Sometimes a church needs a non-church-owned vehicle to transport people or property. Such usage raises numerous liability issues. Assume the vehicle's use is requested by the church, driven by the vehicle's owner, and while on its charitable mission is involved in an accident. The vehicle is owner-insured for liability damages, but has no comprehensive insurance. The vehicle is badly damaged and the fault lies with the driver of the vehicle. Who bears the responsibility to fix this vehicle? Does the church have comprehensive and liability insurance on all vehicles used on church business at the church's specific request, even those not church-owned? Even though the vehicle has owner-provided liability insurance, what if that insurance is not

enough to cover the damages? If the church has liability insurance, it may be used as a secondary source of insurance, but if the church doesn't, it could be liable for the excess damages. What if the owner of the vehicle suffers increased car insurance payments due to this accident? Does the church bear any responsibility to defray those extra expenses? What if the owner of the vehicle thinks it does? These are only a few of the questions that could be asked. The consequences of using a non-church-owned vehicle for church business can be devastating both financially and relationally. Renting vehicles and making sure your insurance has broad and adequate coverage for rented vehicles just makes more sense.

CHURCH LAW

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Group 2: The Sick

Physical healings on three continents.

Group 3: Open Bible Youth

Over 320 youth have participated in foreign and urban missions with actual hands-on experience in evangelism and discipleship training. God will call men and women to a lifetime of ministry because of these trips.

Group 4: Eugene Bible College

GOU is staffed primarily by EBC students who first receive experienced leadership development training, then get to practice it with the youth. The time these two groups spend networking and bonding together produces a natural recruiting opportunity for the college.

Group 5: International Ministries

Imagine the long-range impact on the IM Department! Open Bible youth and EBC students have now ministered in Mexico,

Africa, and South America...with plans to go to other nations. Some will become future missionaries; most will be touched forever and give generously. Missionaries are assisted and encouraged with the arrival of energetic, visionary teams who stage outreaches and assist local churches and pastors with service projects, evangelism, and vacation Bible schools.

Group 6: The Local Church

Churches and pastors are major recipients of GOU ministry. Young people return home with fresh testimonies and new passion...plus outreach training! Wise pastors channel and direct this experience by mobilizing new ministry in their churches. Parents of the youth embrace a new value for missions and become greater supporters of the Great Commission. Local youth leaders, youth workers and youth pastors (especially of smaller churches) can provide a ministry opportunity to their young people that

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Prayer & Evangelism

When our will wholeheartedly enters into the prayer of Christ, then we pray correctly.
Dietrich Bonhoeffer

God does not exist to answer our prayers, but by our prayers we come to discern the mind of God.
Oswald Chambers

No praying man or woman accomplishes so much with so little expenditure of time as when he or she prays.
Charles E. Cowman

Prayer at its best is the expression of the total life, for all things else being equal, our prayers are only as powerful as our lives.
A. W. Tozer

Dealing in generalities is the death of prayer.
J.H. Evans

If a church does not evangelize, it will fossilize.
A.W. Pink

Everything about the church is contrary to our culture. Our sanctuaries, our music, our sermons...they are for us, not our culture.
George Otis, Jr.

By all means, proclaim the gospel and if necessary, use words.
St. Francis of Assisi

A recent Gallop poll found that in the United States 90% of the people like Jesus, but just 40% of the people like Christians. The problem isn't with Jesus but with us.
Gallop

Evangelism is helping people belong before they believe.
George Hunter

Book Briefs

An Urgent Appeal

The National Revival Network,
Navpress, 2003
64 pages

What is true revival? Do we need revival? In January 1998, nearly 40 denominational leaders issued a nationwide call to prayer to the Church in America. The "call" reads in part: "We strongly urge all churches and all Christians of America to unite in seeking the face of God through prayer and fasting, asking our Father to send revival to the Church and spiritual awakening to our nation." It is in the spirit of this call that *An Urgent Appeal* was written...a call for the Church to come to agreement on what revival is, its need for revival, and a collaborative effort to pray for it. This thought-provoking document will encourage pastors, local church leaders, and concerned Christians everywhere. A leader's guide is included to aid in group study.

Revival 101

By Dale Schlafer,
Navpress, 2003
70 pages

Get this booklet: 1) because of Schlafer's passion for understanding how Christ ignites His church; 2) because of the exhaustive bibliography on revival. Schlafer, declares, "It is my desire when you finish this book, you will determine to pursue your relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ with greater fervor...you will pursue the subject of revival and awakening...and the Author of all revival will to spur you on to an interest in and a passionate desire for both individual and corporate revival." Each of the six chapters concludes with a list of "Questions for Reflection," making it an excellent resource for small groups. "Through exciting true stories, this basic primer on revival will cause you to burn for a fresh touch of Jesus, and show you how to prepare for it."

Health Hints

Minding Your Mind*

Getting older can mean a gradual loss of nerve cells in the brain, often affecting the way information is stored and retrieved.

There are exercises that can help keep your mind sharp. Try the following:

- **Exercise your mind.** Crossword puzzles, mind games, and challenging reading or educational classes can all help you keep your brain agile and strong.
- **Exercise your body.** Physical exercise seems to correlate with better mental function, perhaps because of improved circulation.

- **Eat a diet rich in antioxidants and omega-3 fatty acids.** Vegetables and fruits are the best sources of antioxidants, although tea and dark chocolate contribute as well. Fish, flax seed, and walnuts provide omega-3.

- **De-stress.** Learn and practice regular relaxation techniques such as [prayer] and meditation.

- **Take a multivitamin that contains B vitamins.** The B vitamins folic acid, B6, and B12 are known to be related to cognitive function.

* Dr. Weil