

Vision: Multiplying the Laborers Through a Weekend Conference

- I. KENT HUMPHREYS STORY OF SIMON FROM KENYA
- II. JERRY'S FIRST CONFERENCE – SAN JOAQUIAN VALLEY, FRESNO, CALIFORNIA: CIRCA 1962
 - Sugar Pine Conference Grounds near Yosemite
 - Signed contract for 100 people at \$10 a head
 - A week before conference had 12 or 15 registered
 - Matt 3:9 *And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.*
 - Prayer: “God, if you are able to raise up seed unto Abraham from the stones, surely and undoubtedly you are able to find 100 people in the San Joaquin Valley to come to this conference.”
 - God provided 110 people from Modesto, Visalia, Fresno, and we introduced Rosalyn Rinker's new book, Prayer, Conversing with God, to the conferees.
- III. DENTON BIBLE CHURCH'S FIRST MEN'S CONFERENCE
 - Tommy Nelson made a surprise announcement from the pulpit and gave a date for a conference
 - No pre-planning had taken place
 - God brought about 100 men to the conference
 - After conference, I met with 10 men individually and asked the question, “In your mind, what is the purpose of a conference?”
 - The answers I received were, fellowship, instruction, and inspiration. My response was, “You need to get somebody else to head up your conference.”
 - Discussion which followed allowed the introduction of the concept that, “The purpose of a conference is training. If the purpose of the conference is training, we will get fellowship, instruction, and inspiration. But if the purpose is FII, then any training we get done will be by accident.”
 - Life's too short for that – I'm on my way to the cemetery (Eph 4:11-12).
- IV. IF YOU COULD ONLY OFFER THREE WORKSHOPS, WHAT WOULD THEY BE?
 - Husband & wife relationship
 - Parent & child relationship
 - Personal purity (today called pornography)

Hebrews 11

4 By faith **Abel** offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh. 5 By faith **Enoch** was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. 6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. 7 By faith **Noah**, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith. 8 By faith **Abraham**, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. 9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with **Isaac** and **Jacob**, the heirs with him of the same promise: 10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. 11 Through faith also **Sara** herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable. 13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. 15 And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. 16 But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city. 17 By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, 18 Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: 19 Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure. 20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come. 21 By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, leaning upon the top of his staff. 22 By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones. 23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment. 24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; 25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;... 31 By faith the harlot **Rahab** perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace. 32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of **Gedeon**, and of **Barak**, and of **Samson**, and of **Jephthae**; of **David** also, and **Samuel**, and of the prophets: 33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions....

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- V. CLYDE POWELL – TYLER, TEXAS – DESCRIPTION OF THE TYLER MEN’S CONFERENCE
- Vision – CMI (Christian Men’s Conference)
 - Trip to Marietta, OK for time with Willis Choate
 - First of three conferences, at a conference ground occurred (time, place, costs, speakers, workshop leaders, song leader, recording, etc.)
- VI. JIM PRESTON – EAST PARIS BAPTIST CHURCH, PARIS, TX
- Established a men’s breakfast for “Promise Keepers” needing encouragement
 - Jim, John, Marion, and Mel arose at 4 a.m. to prepare breakfast for 10 or 12 men at 6 a.m. with a rotation for devotional each week
 - Since 1996 this group called 2:22 (2Tim 2:2) has grown to 45 men last Friday
 - Men’s conference at EPBC is free of charge, with speakers, workshops, meals, and coffee breaks furnished by the church.
 - Attendance at the last five conferences has run 300, 400, 350, 330 and 400
- VII. MARK FULLER, PASTOR OF EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GAINESVILLE
- Attended DBC men’s conference at Mt. Lebanon (Cedar Hill) Nov. 2005 to say thank you to Max Barnett, speaker, for the ministry of OU-BSU in the life of his daughter following their return from ten years in Panama. Brought a guy with him.
 - In December 2005, at a Saturday morning men’s breakfast at the church Mark said, “I’ve got a problem. After the first of the year, I am going to begin meeting with a couple of guys, one on one. And, I’ve never had anybody meet with me one on one. Would you pray about that?” Answer, “Yes, I’ll pray about it.”
 - We examined Roy Robertson’s Timothy Principle, Gene Warr’s Godly Man, and the first three books of The Navigators 2:7 Series. Mark elected to do The 2:7 Series and for the next 18 months we met weekly for an hour and a half on Tuesday mornings to do Bible study, pray, and review verses.
 - Mark started three guys on The 2:7 Series at 6:00 on Monday mornings. Mark made five trips back to Panama (ministry-wise) during that time, but the guys Monday morning guys met even when he was not there. Mark and I had to hurry in order to finish The 2:7 Series before the Monday morning guys did.
 - In Feb. Mark challenged the Saturday morning breakfast group to meet him at 7 a.m. Sunday morning before choir practice at 7:30 if they were interested in Bible study. Twenty-four men showed up and two called saying “Count me in.” This group of men was organized into four men’s Bible studies (2:7).

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- In April Mark presented a questionnaire to the Saturday morning men's breakfast. Question 1: I'd be interested in a retreat at the church Friday night only, Saturday only, or Friday night and Saturday. Thirty men responded yes to the third option.
- Last weekend of July FBC Gainesville had a men's conference: nine workshops, four from FBC and five from Paris/Denton/Frisco. Ran each workshop twice with six Friday night and six and six Saturday morning. Kent Humphries came from Oklahoma City to speak to the 60 men who attended.

VIII. CONCLUSION:

- IF NOT YOU, THEN WHO?
- IF NOT NOW, WHEN?
- WILL YOU HAVE YOUR MEN'S CONFERENCE?

DBC Layman's Conference

November 18 & 19, 2005

Prayer Preparation

• Master Of Ceremonies	• Ray McFarlane	
• Speaker: Friday & Saturday	• Max Barnett	
• Song Leader & Special Music	• Mark Blakeney	
• Keyboard	• Kevin Pile	
• Husband – Wife Relationship	• Willis Choate	
• Using Your Business for Ministry	• Jeff Matsler	
• Becoming a Man of Honor	• Paul Lee	
• Bridges to the Bridge	• Paul Dean	
• Parenting Godly Children	• Richard Habern	
• Cultivating an Equally Yoked Marriage	• Gerard Rosso	
• Scripture Memory for a Lifetime	• Chuck Madden	
• Dealing with Adversity	• Mark Eblen	
• A Pure Life in an Impure World	• Ed Gibson	
• Creationism vs. Evolution	• Gene Herr	
• Parable of the Sower: Evangelism	• Jack Holt	
• Priorities and the Use of Time	• Gaylon Richter	
• Testimony	• Doug Herzog	
• Testimony	• Bill Roberson	
• Photographer	• Bob Swafford	
• Registration \ Name Tags	• John Moore	
• Men's Ministry Director	• Judd Rumley	
• Small Groups Coordinator \ Instructor	• Clark Vaughan	
• Sound & Recording	• Bill Stewart & Brad Ray	
• Cookie Coordinator	• Linda Garretson	
• Coffee Breaks	• Chuck Garretson	
• Conference Director	• Jerry Strader	

**Pray for these individuals
in the following areas:**

- **Perspective**
 - Isaiah 6:1-7
 - Exodus 33:18-23
- **Purity**
 - Philippians 4:8
- **Patience**
 - Ephesians 4:1-3
 - Colossians 4:12-13
- **Preparation**
 - Psalm 5:3
- **Perseverance**
 - Philippians 3:12-14