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# Glad Tithings

“Moreover it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.” (1 Cor. 4:2)



Ken Smith, Director

## CSM Calendar

**August**  
**Life Management**  
**Seminar**  
Date and location  
to be determined

**September**  
**Formation of LMS**  
**classes**  
Washington-area  
churches

**September 21**  
**CSM Annual Golf**  
**Marathon**  
Fairfax National Golf  
Course  
Fairfax, VA

**April 24, 2008**  
**Spring Fundraising**  
**Banquet**



*Ken Smith's Principles in Practice*

## The Importance of Learning Patience

My now dear departed and much loved mother told me, at around the age of 70, she would never pray for patience. I asked her why and she said she didn't want to learn the difficult lessons the answer to that prayer would entail. Oh, if only she had known the consequences.

As a new Christian, I was eager to follow most of the advice I received from my godly mother. Fortunately I didn't follow her guidance on patience.

I think I was born to be in a hurry. I spent the first third of my life "making" things happen. I could not wait for anything to happen without my trying to speed it up. As soon as I identified something important, I wanted to make it happen more quickly.

I surrendered my will to God in 1976 at the tender age of 36. Around that time, God showed me James 1:2-4: "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."

Not long after that I asked Him to begin to teach me patience. I began to pray for patience, and boy did I discover what Mother meant! I was immediately faced with opportunities to learn those lessons Mother didn't want to learn. Nonetheless, I continued to pray for patience. I cannot begin to describe the blessings that prayer has produced.

As time passed, I gradually became aware that some things were better left to develop on their

own rather than as a result of my pushing, pushing, pushing to make them happen on my timetable. I began to discover that I could get things done with a lot less pain if I would but slow down and let God determine the pace.

Webster defines patience as the capacity, habit or fact of 1) bearing pain or trials calmly or without complaint; 2) manifesting forbearance under provocation or strain; 3) not hasty or impetuous; and 4) steadfast despite opposition, difficulty or adversity.<sup>1</sup>

Similarly, in scripture, patience is linked with endurance. According to Nelson, it is defined as forbearance under suffering and endurance in the face of adversity. Two Greek words are translated as patience: *makrothymia* (Hebrews 6:12, James 5:10) and *hypomone*

(Matthew 18:26,29). The former word generally expresses patience with regard to people. It is also translated as longsuffering, one of the qualities of God (Romans 2:4, II Peter 3:9) and is listed by the apostle Paul as one of the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22). The second word, *hypomone*, usually expresses patience with regard to things. This is the quality that enables a person to be "patient in tribulation" (Romans 12:12). The Christian has for his example the patience of Jesus, who "endured the cross" (Hebrews 12:2). The Christian is challenged to run with endurance the race that is set before him (Hebrews 12:1).<sup>2</sup>

There are also two kinds of pain: necessary and unnecessary. I define necessary pain as the pain we must experience to grow in our relationship with

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In Memoriam  
William E. Findler  
1948-2007

## Patience (cont. from page 1)

God. Unnecessary pain is the pain we experience by not making the effort to know or do God's will. In my experience, we are much more likely to avoid unnecessary pain if we run the risk of lagging behind God's timetable rather than running the risk of getting ahead of Him.

Perhaps the primary benefit of learning patience is that we can do what God wants us to do, and become who He wants us to become, without having to experience a lot of unnecessary pain. By definition, pain is part of the process of learning patience, but once we have learned it, we can avoid future additional pain in that area of our life.

How do we learn patience? The first step is to realize that patience is very valuable, whether we want to go through the pain to acquire it or not. In fact, the less patience you have, the less likely you may be to want more.

The second step is to ask God to give you the big picture. When a challenge associated with impatience comes your way, try to see what God wants you to learn through it. Try to look beyond the present, to the more significant future.

The third step is to resist discouragement. The wedge of discouragement is the devil's favorite weapon. The key to overcoming discouragement is 1) to anticipate that it is usually part of the program when you're committed to doing God's work in God's way in God's time, and 2) to be faithful in maintaining an intimate relationship with the Creator of the universe on a regular daily basis.

The fourth step is to consciously decide to *not* press forward with things you want to do until it is clear the timing is right. Instead of rushing out to implement the next great idea you have, plan to give it a little time to simmer. If, after an appropriate pause, it seems like a good idea to continue, do so until you meet with resistance. At that point, consider the possibility that God wants you to exercise patience. It may be that He wants you to press on and overcome the point of resistance. But it may be that He wants you to recognize the resistance as an indicator to slow down until the time is right. (A word to the overcautious: If by nature you are reluctant to move forward and take initiative, you may need to learn more about perseverance than patience).

Right now in my life, God is calling me to exercise patience with our current expansion of CSM. We've developed the expansion plan. We have an overall sense of God's timing. We are receiving the financial and personnel resources, and CSM is on the move. Nevertheless, some things are not happening as quickly as I would like.

In conjunction with that expansion, we are producing five videos and have a timetable for each. We just discovered that one

of the videos must be delayed. Although our plan was to have the entire package done by a date certain, we modified the timetable as it relates to that one video until God provides more of the answer. We will pray. And we will wait for direction. I would much prefer to wait on Him than to get ahead of Him.

"And now", as Paul Harvey would say, "the rest of the story."

My mother lived a full and contented life in the Lord until her last three years. She moved into a very nice retirement community at 85. Things went well until she was 90. By then her body had deteriorated though her mind was still clear. She could no longer see to read. She could no longer enjoy eating. She was incontinent and could no longer go with me for rides. Her closest friends and relatives had all died. My wife Pat and I were her only regular contacts with the outside world. She was increasingly unhappy as she sat in her wheelchair day after day with nothing to do but think and pray. I still remember her sitting with her too heavy head propped up by her right hand, just sitting and staring out the window of her prison.

Mother and I often talked of death and dying. For those last three years of her life, she wanted to die, but God would not take her. I asked her one day not long before she died, why she thought God had permitted her to lose her independence, to live longer than she wanted to, to be so miserable. Her answer: "To learn patience."

Don't wait until the end of your life to learn this valuable lesson. Let God bless you now by developing the patience you need and He wants you to have to deal with all the issues in your life in His time, not yours.

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<sup>1</sup> Webster's Third New International Dictionary, Unabridged copyright © 2005 by Merriam-Webster, Incorporated

<sup>2</sup> Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Copyright 1986, Thomas Nelson Publishers

## Time Management and Living for Eternity

by Jim Dempsey

The inability to manage time is one of the biggest problems we face as a society. Time management is less a "tips and techniques" problem than it is a strategic problem. The real issue is understanding God's purpose for our lives, living by Biblical priorities and making plans that reflect God's will for our lives.

Business consultant, author and speaker Nido Quebin said "One of the greatest reasons people can't mobilize themselves is that they try to accomplish great things. Most worthwhile achievements are the result of many little things done in a single direction."

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## Ministry News

First, it is important that we share with God what is on our hearts and what we hope to do. Proverbs 16:1 states, “To man belong the plans of the heart.” Second, God responds to our prayers. “Many are the plans in a man’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails” states Proverbs 19:21. Third, we humble ourselves and listen to God. Proverbs 16:3 says, “Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your plans will succeed.” And last, God tells us what He is going to do, “The Lord works out everything for His own ends,” according to Proverbs 16:4.

The most important question related to time management is: Are you doing all you can to make your life count for Christ and in turn, is it having an eternal impact?

Professor Joseph McRae Mellichamp lists some easy principles for proper time management and how we can make sure what we do will last forever. Those principles are as follows: 1) Monitor your life goals – write them down and be accountable for them; 2) Control your time – classify activities, use calendars and learn to say, “no”; 3) Use technology – computer, internet/e-mail, telephone; 4) Organize your workplace – file maintenance, proper processing; and 5) Become a well-rounded “square” -- find balance in four critical areas; your spiritual, mental, social and physical life.

To get a better handle on the whole area of time management and ways to better impact eternity, consider taking the Life Management Seminar sponsored by Christian Stewardship Ministries. The LMS class is a 12-week serious study incorporating ways to improve your effectiveness and make yourself a more effective part of the body of Christ. For further information on an upcoming class, call 703-591-5000 or visit our website at [csmin.org](http://csmin.org). Registrations are being accepted now for classes beginning in September.

*(Excerpts taken from Articles on the website, LeadershipU.com)*

## Prayer Corner

### PRAISE GOD FOR...

- ◆ The LMS curriculum development team.
- ◆ Development of CSM’s video ministry.
- ◆ Increasing demand for the Life Management Study Skills class for adult Sunday school classes.
- ◆ Possibility of translating and localizing LMS worldwide.
- ◆ God’s continuing provision for the financial needs of the ministry.

### PRAY FOR...

- ◆ Success of the ministry expansion campaign.
- ◆ Expansion of LMS in Washington, throughout the U.S. and around the world.
- ◆ Success of the September 21 Golf Marathon.
- ◆ The right person for CSM to hire as director of marketing.
- ◆ God’s guidance in selecting additional board members as CSM expands.

It’s not too late to sign up for the CSM Golf Marathon on September 21 at the Fairfax National Golf Course. This is one of CSM’s major fundraisers. Golfers enjoy challenging themselves to play 50 holes in half a day while the supporters they’ve recruited pledge so much per hole as a donation to CSM. Call the CSM office at 703-591-5000 right away for details.

Registration is taking place now for the next 13-week LMS course, which begins in September. CSM will be offering this course in churches throughout the metro Washington, D.C. area. Those beyond the Washington area can sign up for our Internet Life Management Study 24/7 at [ilms@csmin.org](mailto:ilms@csmin.org).

Ten students took CSM’s six-week small group Life Management Study Skills class at Truro Church in Fairfax, Virginia in May and June. Twelve students also took the class at South Point Christian Church in California, MD. This Sunday school class is specifically designed for older teens and adults with each session created to fit in a 45-minute time slot. If you think your church might be interested in sponsoring a 6-8 week class, please contact the CSM office.

We’re excited about another new opportunity CSM hopes to offer soon. A team of curriculum developers from Christ Chapel Academy in Woodbridge, Virginia, is working with Ken Smith to convert the LMS materials into high school and college curricula to enable the ministry to introduce life management skills to high school seniors, college freshmen and eventually seminarians.

In addition, CSM is hard at work on video production. A new promotional video “CSM—Ministry in Action” is ready, and we’ve nearly finished work on the LMS Orientation video, the LMS Leader’s Training video and a video explaining the value of the LMS as a leadership development tool for churches. Next is the Practical Application Workbook video that shows practical, hands-on ways to change lives through the LMS. On the drawing board is a video designed to explain to educators the new curriculum being developed for high school and college students.

Sheryl Kenoyer is the CSM Marketing and Sales Coordinator for the Life Management Skills Study Class which is designed for Sunday School classes. She will be contacting LMS graduates to ask them to contact their churches as well as becoming class leaders.

More possibilities ahead—a church denomination is seeking to license the small group 13-week LMS study to translate into other languages, adapting it to suit different cultures. Finally, Gonzalo Mallea and Norm Ludlow of Barcroft Bible Church in Fairfax, Virginia have volunteered to translate the small group LMS student manual, workbook and leader’s guide into Spanish. This would be in addition to the Spanish translation of *It’s About Time!* and the Internet Life Management Study in Spanish.

Many thanks to Sheryl Kenoyer, our new Ministry Coordinator. She’s off to a running start and already helping things run smoothly and efficiently. She’s also serving as ILMS coordinator and working with two active students plus Damon Chong in Hawaii who just graduated. We’re delighted to have her on board.

Looking for more information on CSM? Check out our website at [www.csmin.org](http://www.csmin.org). We welcome your comments.

## Joyful Dividends

Aloha from Hawaii!

Yes, I'm still trying to incorporate LMS into my daily life. I've found that during especially busy times in my life I return to the concepts and principles I learned through Christian Stewardship Ministries. The lessons about scheduling and avoiding overcommitment continue to resonate and remind me that God wants me to focus on him first and then to fill in the gaps after that. The Internet LMS course I completed took me on a journey, but the cornerstone was always Christ. Martha and Mary (Luke 10: 38-42) had the benefit of Christ in the flesh and blood to remind them about what was really important. We have the next best thing in the ministry of CSM. I'd encourage any Christian who wants to see the Kingdom of God manifested to take advantage of CSM's resources and to also financially support Ken Smith and his very unique but essential mission!

In Christ always,  
Damon Chong

## CSM Needs a Color Laser Printer

Are you upgrading your printer? If you have a color laser printer with documentation that you no longer need, CSM could put it to good use, and you could get a tax deduction. Call the CSM office at 703-591-5000, if you would like to donate your printer.

## Tien Pasco: Bringing Video to CSM

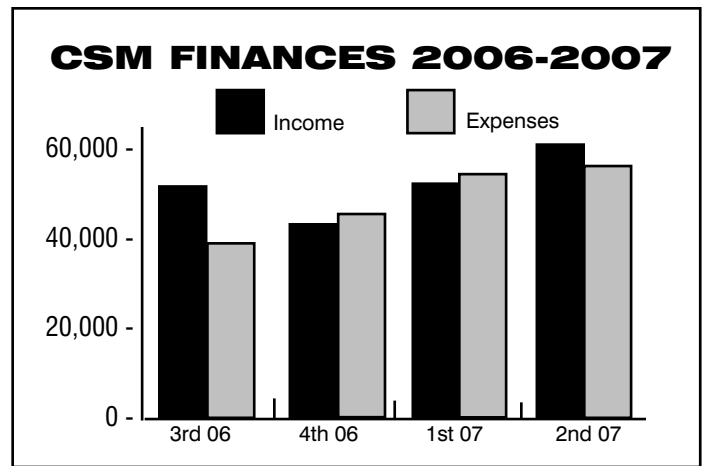
After taking the Life Management Study class last fall at Washington International Church, television producer Tien Pasco offered to share her talents with CSM. Since then she's been involved in the spring banquet video, the LMS Orientation video and the LMS Leader's Training Workshop. Now she's putting her 10 years of video production experience to work on writing the script for the Practical Application Workbook video. Later she will help with other aspects of the production.

From taking LMS, Tien realized that God has a plan for her life. "LMS gave me the tools to understand that plan more and more," she said. "I've found freedom in learning to be more obedient." She's also gotten better at learning to say "No" and using her time more efficiently so she no longer feels overstretched.

At Washington International Church, Tien is one of the leaders of the prayer ministry. Meeting monthly, the prayer group gathers with other churches in the Washington, D.C. area to pray for revival in the city as part of the Jericho Movement.

Currently, Tien is associate producer for J.W.M. Productions, which is producing documentaries for the History Channel's "Digging for the Truth" series. She's working on shows about archaeological sites in Cambodia and China.

Tien and her husband Brandt live with their son and daughter in Washington, D.C.



## CSM Offers Life Coaching

Couples and individuals can get help managing their lives and finances with one-on-one life coaching from Ken Smith. Available on a sliding fee scale, coaching can take place in person, by telephone or over the Internet. For more information contact CSM at 703-591-5000 or visit the website at [www.csmin.org](http://www.csmin.org).

## Win One Million Dollars September 21 at the CSM Golf Marathon

One lucky golfer at the 7<sup>th</sup> annual CSM Golf Marathon could walk away from the tournament with \$1,000,000! That's the prize for a hole in one on one of the 50 holes that marathoners will play to benefit CSM on September 21 at the Fairfax National Golf Club in Centreville, Virginia. Another hole offers a chance for a 2008 Toyota Highlander.

If you want to play in the marathon, call 703-591-5000 right away to sign up. The terms are simple: line up supporters who promise to give a single donation or a per-hole amount. We will have breakfast and then play 50 holes from 6:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. using two balls for each hole. Along the way, enjoy snacks and drinks—and a lot of laughs. Midway, we will have lunch and receive prizes and awards.

Every CSM golfer will receive an attractive, high quality leather duffle bag emblazoned with the CSM insignia, valued at \$100, or a CSM Izod windbreaker, golf shirt or other Land's End golf clothing. Other prizes include free golf vacations, golf clubs, two roundtrip tickets on American Airlines anywhere they fly and a four-day/three-night golf vacation for two at Myrtle Beach.

Everyone who raises \$1,000 or more for CSM will receive either Ping golf clubs and equipment or gift certificates redeemable for golf equipment or other sporting goods. The more money raised, the greater the prize value! Free rounds of golf will also be awarded for skills demonstrated during the marathon.

This is a great opportunity for fun while raising funds for the ministry. Call and reserve your spot in the tournament today.

*Glad Tithings* is a newsletter of Christian Stewardship Ministries, a nonprofit public foundation. To receive *Glad Tithings* regularly, send your name and address (with a zip code) to CSM. Gifts are tax deductible, greatly needed and deeply appreciated. The newsletter's annual cost per person is approximately \$20. *Glad Tithings* staff: Ken Smith, publisher; Susan Hall Fleming, Fleming Communications, editor; Rosemary Henry, desktop publisher; Gabrielle Fardwell, Pat Smith and Chuck Wadey, proofreaders; Jean Moore, proofreader and data entry; Sheryl Kenoyer, proofreader and production manager; Master Courier Service, transportation; D. J. Chuang, web page designer and webmaster; Independent Speedy Printing, printer; and Washington Intelligence Bureau, distributor. Christian Stewardship Ministries, 10523 Main Street, Fairfax, Virginia 22030. Telephone 703-591-5000, fax 703-273-1795, e-mail [gladtithings@csmin.org](mailto:gladtithings@csmin.org), web site <http://www.csmin.org>. Any portion of this newsletter may be quoted or reproduced without further permission, provided excerpts are in context, by adding the following credit line: "Reprinted from Christian Stewardship Ministries' newsletter *Glad Tithings*, Fairfax, Virginia, [www.csmin.org](http://www.csmin.org)" and furnishing a copy of the publication with the excerpt to CSM. © 2007 by Christian Stewardship Ministries.