



#8329 National
Capital Area
United Way



#21969
Combined Fed-
eral Campaign

Glad Tithings

Our mission is to equip Christians worldwide to apply biblical principles of life and time management and personal organization, that they might become leaders in effecting cultural change.



Ken Smith, Director

Ken Smith's Principles in Practice

What Can You Do For Your Pastor?

God tells us that He has a plan for each of us, but sometimes those who work for Him—fulltime pastors—need the most help in discovering it.

Pastors often begin their professional lives with small congregations, small church budgets, limited resources and usually much more month than money in their personal finances. Even in larger churches, the associate and assistant pastors often don't receive much training or instruction about how to manage their own lives, much less how to manage a church.

It's absolutely amazing that seminaries and Bible Schools don't include life and time management and basic administrative skills in their curricula. Thus, almost every pastor lacks training and awareness in the very area that will dictate his success or failure.

Unless a new pastor has prior management experience before entering Bible School or seminary, he may not realize that when he graduates, in addition to saving souls and training disciples, he will be managing an organization. If he serves on the staff of a larger church, he may not have an opportunity to learn the basics of running a nonprofit institution. Thankfully, some denominations do have, or are developing, training in church planting that includes this foundational instruction.

All too often, without

time management skills and management training, pastors—and their congregations—experience great pain. Pastors who discover how to overcome their deficits in these areas generally find that the key is not in trying to cope, but in consciously deciding to surrender.

God does have a plan, even for pastors! To discover the plan, they often need to take their eyes off their own needs, off the demands of their families, off the demands of their church members and off the demands of their job. They need to discover that the kingdom of heaven is not in the distant future; it is in the here and now. They need to realize that sermon preparation is not Quiet Time. They need to learn to say no to the demands placed on them by others. They need to lower their expectations of what they can accomplish. They need to learn to delegate, to empower their members, to be under-committed rather than over-committed. They need to learn how to overcome procrastination, inertia and fear of failure.

To do this, they need prayer support. They need encouragement to realize their potential by developing and maintaining the intimate relationship with the Creator of the Universe that may have drawn them into ministry in the first place.

And you, dear reader, are the person through whom God intends to provide that support and encouragement.

CSM is almost totally dependent on the financial support of our readers. If you wish to support CSM financially, please click here.

(continued on page 2)

CSM Calendar

2008

Dec. 13

**LMS Leader's
Training Workshop**
CSM Office in Fairfax,
VA
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

2009

**Formation of
LMS Classes**
Early January
Washington metro,
Virginia Tidewater,
Atlanta Metro,
Pennsylvania, Arizona,
other areas

April 23

**CSM Annual
Fellowship Dinner**



What Can You Do For Your Pastor?

(cont. from page 1)

Instead of focusing on what your pastor is not doing, is doing wrong, or doing the wrong way, focus on the fact he is a child of God, just like you. See yourself as God's provision for him, rather than seeing him as God's provision for you. Adopt your pastor as a personal prayer project. Pray that he can withdraw from all those demands and expectations placed on him. See him as a subject for ministry. Help him overcome over-commitment by encouraging him to say no. And then don't be offended when he does say no...to you!

If he has personal financial needs, help him financially beyond what the church provides. If he has marital problems, enable him to seek professional marriage counseling. If he has health problems, be sure the resources are there to help him meet them. Discourage gossip, criticism and murmuring.

If he does not have the spiritual strength or maturity he needs, pray that God will provide it. Encourage him to establish a meaningful quality daily time to spend with the Lord. Encourage him to take time off, for himself and for his family. Encourage him to set limits on the amount of time he spends at work. Run the risk of indulging him and see how God will use that to draw him closer to Himself.

And by all means, let him know about our 13-week Life Management Study, which is designed to help him discover the basics that he wasn't taught in seminary or Bible School.

Remember, most happy, content pastors have a strong, intimate relationship with God. A happy, content pastor is much more likely to foster a happy, content congregation. Position your pastor to have the time to develop his relationship with the Lord. Pray that he will do so. You and your fellow church members will be among the biggest beneficiaries.

Once you have helped and encouraged your pastor, and he develops the management skills he needs and moves on to a larger church, get ready to start all over again. Welcome the "new guy" from the beginning, and give him the same support so that he, too, can fill in gaps and grow in managing his life and your church. In that way, you'll be a blessing to every pastor God sends your way.

