



#8329 National Capital Area  
United Way &  
Combined Federal Campaign

# Glad Tithings

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



Ken Smith, Director

## Ken Smith's Principles in Practice

### Planning, Part I

If you want to make the best use of your time, you need a plan. And that plan must be founded on the priorities and goals you have established.

Creating a plan and executing that plan are two different things, but without a plan we simply pass through life without direction or purpose.

Proverbs 16:9 says that in his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps. Should we skip planning because God chooses where we go regardless of our plan?

Not really. I think what God is saying is that as we plan, He will improve on that plan by directing the details—making our plan even better. Also, we need to recognize God has a perfect plan for our entire life, and our job is to discover more and more of that plan.

If we want to live our lives in line with God's will, we need to plan and we need to align our planning with our understanding of His perfect plan for our lives.

*(continued on page 2)*

### Join CSM at June 15 Golf Reception

It's time to begin planning—and recruiting golfers—for CSM's annual Golf Marathon. On June 15 at 6:30 p.m., join us at the Army Navy Country Club in Fairfax for heavy hors d'oeuvres. You'll have a chance to win great prizes, participate in a putting contest and learn more about our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Marathon, scheduled for September 16 at the Fairfax National Golf Club in Centreville.

This is a great opportunity to bring your friends and form a foursome. Our goal is for each golfer to

raise at least \$1,000 in support of the ministry—and we're hoping for 36 golfers this year. Golfers tee up at 6:30 a.m. and have until 1:00 p.m. to finish the 50 holes with two balls per hole. Of course, food, drinks and golf carts will be provided to speed each golfer around the links and lunch afterward.

To sign up for the June 15 reception, or to learn more about the marathon, call the CSM office at 703-591-5000.

### Life Management Seminar August 20

If you've been thinking about taking the Life Management Study, but want to know more about it before making a commitment, the Life Management Seminar on August 20 is a good way to investigate further. Scheduled for half a day at The Falls Church in Falls Church, Virginia, the seminar will give you some helpful tips on managing your time and an overview of the 13-session Life Management Study class. You'll begin at 8:30 a.m. with Ken Smith and Pastor Rob Seagears and finish

at 1:00 p.m. After a busy morning, you will have learned strategies to help you say no, avoid procrastination and get more rest.

Call CSM's office at (703) 591-5000 today to take advantage of the advance registration fee of \$25 per person. Clergy and full-time Christian workers attend free. Not sure if you can make it? You are welcome to come and pay \$30 at the door. This is your chance to get a quick head start on getting organized and taking control of your life.

**JUNE 15**  
**Golf Reception**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
**Army Navy**  
**Country Club**  
**Fairfax, VA**

**AUGUST 20**  
**Life**  
**Management**  
**Seminar**  
**8:30 a.m. to**  
**1:00 p.m.**  
**The Falls Church**  
**Falls Church, VA**



# Planning, Part I *(continued from page 1)*

## Learning God's Plan

To understand God's plan, we need to spend time listening to Him. Listening is a form of prayer, also known as meditation.

We begin by knowing God wants to supply our needs. In Matthew, Chapter 6, Jesus tells us not to worry about what we should eat or drink or wear. Instead, He says we should seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all the other things will be given to us as well. Verse 34 specifically states: "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

If we want to discover God's plan for meeting our needs, we must first seek His kingdom. As we spend time listening to Him, we will understand more and more of His plan. As we understand His plan, we can more accurately decide on a daily, and even hourly and minute-to-minute basis, what our plan should be and what steps we should take. Not only will we make fewer mistakes in the process, but we'll be able to recover more quickly from the mistakes we do make.

## No Plan is a Plan

It's important to recognize if we fail to develop a plan, we are still planning. We're planning to operate on a seat-of-the-pants basis, essentially planning not to plan. We are consciously refusing to go through the process of understanding or discovering what God's plan is. And that is very unwise.

The Bible clearly states God wants the very best for us. If we believe that's true, and we believe He has a plan for our lives, then we must believe that plan reflects His best. If we can discover the very best plan just by involving ourselves in a planning process, what reason or justification do we have for not completing the planning process?

The issue is simple. Will we decide to plan, exercise the discipline to plan, listen to God for His insight and then develop the best possible plan to accomplish what God calls us to do?

## Refining a Plan

Planning involves revision and refining as we see what will work and what won't. Then we will want to make it work better.

Thomas Edison is reported to have said after his 10,000<sup>th</sup> attempt to invent the electric light bulb that he was not at all discouraged. He had discovered 10,000 ways that didn't work. But after he invented the light bulb, he didn't stop. He continued to discover ways to improve on his invention. He had the confidence or faith to keep trying until he invented the light bulb. But he also had the wisdom to refine his product so it could be put to practical use.

So it is with planning. We don't stop with an initial plan. The more planning invested in a project, the less work needed when it's time to act. Developing a thorough, well-thought-out plan makes the job easier.

It is possible to spend too much time in planning and not enough in doing. Focus on high priorities and don't make plans for low priority projects.

Most people, however, err on the other side—spending too little or no time planning. There never seems to be enough time to plan. But the reality is there's not enough time NOT to plan. Anyone who is going to accomplish worthwhile things in life must learn to plan. The better you plan, the more productive you will be.

## Living in the Now

You will never develop a plan in a vacuum. To develop a good plan, you will need to draw from the past as well as focus on the future. Both the past and the future are eternal. The present is the smallest possible measure of time. As quickly as it exists, it is gone.

We need to live in the present, trusting God for the future. God wants us to do today, or right now, what He asks of us, and then He says the future will take care of itself.

We are not to be oblivious to the future. We must keep an eye on it. But our emphasis is on being obedient in the present so the future can be what God wants it to be. To be obedient in the present, we must also be aware of the past as it bears on the present and the future.

We need an accurate picture of the past to understand the present and to face forward toward the future. When we plan, we must focus on where we want to be—that's our motivation. Then we need to study where we've been so we can understand where we are and how we got there. That's the basis for navigating most accurately into the future.

## Staying Flexible

Does planning limit flexibility? Only if we have a rigid and legalistic attitude.

Planning is really the pathway to freedom, a means to achieve maximum flexibility. A valid planning process will reveal many of the trouble spots ahead in the path of life and enable us to avoid them or at least minimize them.

In fact, many of the things that appear to be trouble spots are really opportunities for great blessing. We need to plan our way through them. Another way to look at planning is "thinking ahead."

When we plan, we need to focus step by step on the goal we want to accomplish. We need to reduce the goal or project to realistic proportions and remain flexible with our plans.

CSM is a ministry dedicated to assisting Christian individuals, families, ministries, and Christian-owned businesses in achieving their potential in the area of stewardship. CSM's Board of Reference includes: Ron Blue; Dr. Bill Bright (1921-2003), Campus Crusade for Christ; Larry Burkett (1939-2003), Crown Financial Ministries; Reid Carpenter, Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation; Howard Dayton, Crown Financial Ministries; Dr. Ted Engstrom, president emeritus, World Vision; Roger Erickson, president, Christian Business Men's Committee International (retired); Harry Greene, President, Good News Jail & Prison Ministry; the Rt. Rev. Alden M. Hathaway, Bishop of Pittsburgh (retired); Dr. Charles Hummell, faculty advisor, Intersarsity Christian Fellowship (retired); the Rt. Rev. David Colin Jones, Suffragan Bishop of Virginia; Dr. Beverly LaHaye, founder/chairman, Concerned Women for America; Hon. Ed Meese III, former U.S. Attorney General; and the Rt. Rev. Dr. John Rodgers. The Pastor's Board of Reference includes Rev. James Ahlemann, Rev. Larry Andes, Rev. George Beaven, Rev. Steve Brimmer, Rev. Amos Dodge, Rev. Paul Frey, Rev. John Guernsey, Rev. Tom Gulbranson, Rev. James Hamacher, Rev. David Harper, Rev. Tom Herrick, Rev. John Hutchinson, Bishop Harry Jackson, Rev. Neil Lebahr, Rev. Canon Martyn Minns, Rev. Clancy Nixon, Rev. Bill Roberts, Rev. Dennis Rupert, Rev. Tom Tarrants and Rev. John Yates. Serving on CSM's Board of Directors responsible for day-to-day ministry operation are Jim Cope, Frank Lewark, Jack Maier, Rob Seagears and Ken Smith.

## Ministry News

Many thanks to all of you who attended the spring banquet and brought friends. We cleared \$32,000 for the ministry and had a wonderful evening of fellowship and fun along with an inspiring message from Harry Greene, president of Good News Jail & Prison Ministry.

Be sure to sign up for the June 15 reception for golfers interested in our September 16 Golf Marathon. Form a foursome at the reception—or bring three of your friends for a ready-made golf gang.

During the last trimester, we had six Life Management Study classes with 50 participants. Of course, the Internet LMS is available at any time—register at [ilms@csmin.org](mailto:ilms@csmin.org).

Looking ahead, we've scheduled another half-day Life Management Seminar at The Falls Church in Falls Church, Virginia on August 20 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity to get a taste of LMS along with some good tips for time management.

In June, Ken is speaking in Richmond, Virginia, at the men's retreat for All Saints Episcopal Church of Dale City, Virginia.

There's good news from our ministry partner, Gustavo Alayza in South America with *Ya es Hora!* His church in Lima is beginning a four-week Life Management course as well as a two-hour introductory session to LMS. These two efforts are expected to lead to a full-length seminar later this year.

Do you know someone looking for challenging and rewarding part-time work? CSM is still looking for a part-time Ministry Coordinator to work 30 hours per week in the CSM office in Fairfax, Virginia. Contact the CSM office at 703-591-5000 for details. Our deepest thanks to Jean Moore who's been helping out while CSM searches for the right person.

## LMS Classes Meet in Virginia

Two Virginia churches—All Saints Episcopal in Dale City and The Falls Church in Falls Church—hosted Life Management Study classes this spring. CSM held a third class at its office in Fairfax. The 13-week series, centered on Biblical principles, helps students find God's plan for their lives and begin to live it out by improving time management.

New classes will be forming in the fall, but if you can't wait, you can begin today with the Internet LMS by logging onto <http://www.csmin.org>. Your \$95 registration fee covers the student manual, workbook, a copy of Ken Smith's book *It's About Time!* and trained facilitators. Begin gaining control of your schedule, banishing debt and turning your life around.

## CSM Banquet Clears \$32,000

It was great to see about 150 CSM supporters at our spring banquet on March 31. Harry Greene gave a moving talk, and the banquet raised \$32,000 to support Christian Stewardship Ministries.

Our MC was Pam Priester. Derek Poteet and Jane Sanborn shared testimonies, while Bruce Scott presented the appeal. Rob and Linda Seagars sang, and Denise Nebb coordinated registration for the banquet.

CSM is now in the process of identifying a speaker for next year's banquet—someone you won't want to miss!

## Prayer Corner

### PRAISE GOD FOR...

- ◆ All those who made the spring banquet a success—both in the number of guests attending and funds raised.
- ◆ Spring banquet volunteers.
- ◆ LMS students who graduated in April.
- ◆ Those who are currently enrolled in LMS classes.

### PRAY FOR...

- ◆ Attendance at the June 15 reception for prospective golfers for our golf marathon.
- ◆ Sponsors for the September 16 Golf Marathon.
- ◆ Attendance at the Life Management Seminar on August 20.
- ◆ Formation of Life Management Study and *It's About Time!* Classes.
- ◆ Churches to sponsor the Life Management Seminar.
- ◆ Development of an LMS orientation video and a leaders' training video.
- ◆ Current LMS students.
- ◆ Continued expansion of the ministry in Peru and throughout South America.
- ◆ The Lord's direction for selecting the 2006 banquet speaker.
- ◆ Continued financial stability for the ministry.

## Legally Speaking: Making Medical Decisions

By Dan Smith

Living wills, while helpful, are not the answer to every end of life medical question. For example, in Virginia, living wills come into play when a person has a terminal condition and the attending physician determines there's no hope of recovery and death is imminent.

Sometimes, such as in the widely publicized case of Terri Schiavo, it's debatable whether these conditions have been met, and therefore whether a living will would be applicable. Other healthcare decisions may need to be made when a patient is not dying, but still cannot communicate his or her wishes.

So what do you do? You may have several options.

You can execute a health care or medical power of attorney designating an agent to make medical decisions on your behalf when you are unable to communicate. This includes making life-terminating decisions such as continued use of resuscitation measures or feeding tubes. Another option in some states, such as Virginia, is an Advance Medical Directive form that you may use to appoint an agent for health care.

Key to using either of these strategies is communicating with the person you choose to make decisions for you. That person needs to know your wishes regarding life-prolonging measures and when and to what extent you do or do not want these measures used.

If you've already executed a medical power of attorney, you need to review it to be sure that it contains provisions required under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) to allow your agent access to your complete medical records. Older documents do not include the required language.

## Jim Cope: Combining Short-Term Initiatives and Strategic Planning

CSM's newest member of the Board of Directors, Jim Cope, brings a focus on strategic planning as a member of the CSM Executive Council as well as operational oversight as a Board Director.

Jim and his wife Nancy took CSM's half-day time management seminar 12 years ago. Since then, Jim has employed the priority system he learned there—God first, then family, followed by work, and then ministry as “a foundation for decision making in how to use my time.” A few years ago one of their employees needed financial counseling, CSM was there to help, and Jim again became involved with the ministry. He joined the Executive Council, a group of business people dedicated toward strategic planning for CSM.

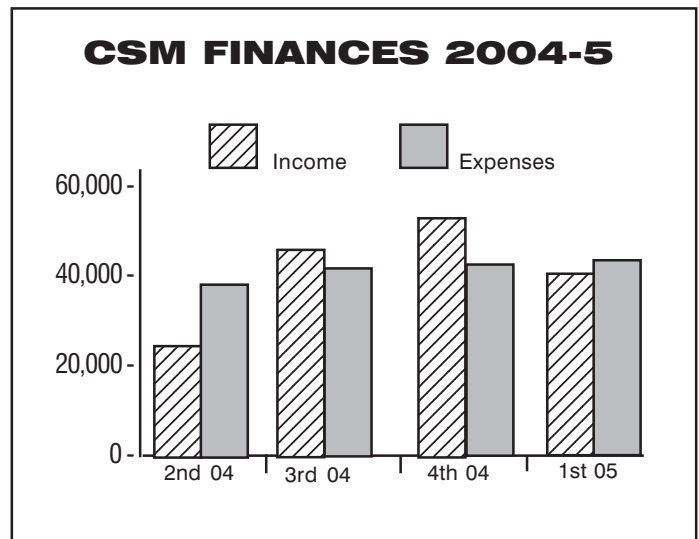
Jim says his new role “allows me to bring the strategic side of planning in greater alignment with CSM's operations, which tend to have more of a short-term or mid-term time range.” One of his goals is to make a broader spectrum of Christians aware of CSM, which he believes is “in the best position to teach Christians how to use their time” of any Biblically-based organization in the country.

Jim and Nancy established and own Cornerstone Office Systems, a business founded on Biblical principles. Cornerstone sells office supplies, furniture and office machines to the federal government and businesses, primarily in the Washington, D.C. area. They live with their daughter and twin sons in Fairfax, Virginia, and worship at Truro Episcopal Church.

## Thanks to Banquet Volunteers

CSM is deeply grateful for the financial and volunteer support of all those who made the spring banquet possible. We hope we have everyone listed, so please forgive us—and let us know—if we missed you by mistake. Banquet volunteers included:

Judy Curry	Denise Nebb
Kathy Gammill	Bill Pile
Harry Greene	Derek Poteet
Betty Graves	Pam Priestler
Sandy Gray	Vic Ransom
Myrna Harris	Glen Sanford
Chuck Henry	Jane Sanford
Kathy Henry	Bruce Scott
Frank Lewark	Linda Seagears
Wanda Lewark	Rob Seagears
Jack Maier	Pat Smith
Sharon Meisel	Rick Wright



## Joyful Dividends

Hi Ken,

...I originally purchased your book at a Family Life Marriage Conference. It was part of their family pack. It had to be about 10 or more years ago. After reading it the first time I wrote to you and since then have received your mailings. I'm so glad for that. It is the only way I would have known about your ILMS. Since I live in California, it's not likely I could attend your seminar in person.

I'm still a work in progress and thankful for your ministry. It will give me the accountability I need. And I am also learning more from the readings of the course....

Tracy Matheny

## CSM—Around the Clock

Just sign on to [www.csmin.org](http://www.csmin.org) and you'll have CSM resources at your fingertips around the clock. Sign up for the LMS or the Internet Life Management Study classes, view the online version of *Glad Tithings* or catch up on other ministry activities and opportunities. Check out the advertisers who support this ministry as well.

You can also order ministry resources including copies of *It's About Time!* and the accompanying small group study guide and leader's guide. The materials can be purchased separately or together on the website or by calling our toll-free number 800-IDL-TIME or our local number 703-591-5000.

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