

## North Central CBA E-Central E-mail



Great Commandment Passion, Great Commission Focus

April 2010

## Leadership Begins With Character

Betsy and I watched the much anticipated press interview with Tiger Woods. Since then the question seems to be, "Has Tiger really changed?". In our estimation we seemed to think that he was more humble than he used to be. Whether our observation is accurate or not only time will tell.

There is another issue that has been raised regarding Tiger. Does one's private conduct have any correlation to winning golf tournaments? This is what I would say in regard to that question. Tiger did state that even though he has been extremely successful in his professional life, living a lie in his personal life has robbed him of happiness. It would seem, if I correctly understand, Tiger is admitting there is a correlation to what he defines as real happiness and personal conduct. Winning golf tournaments was not enough.

Tiger also learned from a number of companies that hired him to serve as a spokesman, character matters. The way they have conveyed this is to cancel their contractual arrangements with him.

There is another person who has drawn some attention of late in the Evangelical community, John Piper. He has asked the leadership of Bethlehem Baptist for permission to take several months off. In reading his open letter he revealed that if he was going to finish well, he needed to take steps that would keep him in right relationship with God and his family. This was so important to him he did not want the church to pay him during this period. The

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church saw the importance and value of what Piper desired, and they are going to pay his salary. It seems clear to me that for John Piper, being proactive in guarding conduct is a very high value. It says that character is more important than money or position.

As I consider these, there is a reminder for us as we think about the Church and leadership. My concern at this point, is there seems to be very little discussion about character. Barna and others have suggested that one of the reasons for the problems the Church is facing in our culture is due to a lack of leadership. It seems that what is needed is an infusion of entrepreneurial, Type - A individuals to solve the problem. I may be misunderstanding them but that is the impression I come away with.

In my most recent Bible reading the focus is on Saul and David. In this portion there is a passage that speaks volumes. It is what God said to Samuel as he was looking for Saul's replacement. Although Samuel was truly God's man, he was also a man of his culture. Culture looked for kings based on physical appearance. If the person was tall and good looking, then it stood to reason he would be a good king.

As Samuel is introduced to the sons of Jesse, he assumes from what he sees when the eldest appears, that he is the replacement. However, God says to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as a man sees: man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7) In Acts, 1 Timothy and Titus where there is reference to individuals serving within the church, the primary focus centers on character. Gifting refers to the position but character identifies the person.

In our desire to be effective as leaders, I believe we must never forget that what we do or how we perform is only validated by who we are when no one is looking but God. True leadership begins with character.

*Don Shaw*  
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church.

Give us a call at 715-538-2298.

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WEBSITE

**CHILD ABUSE REPORTING laws by State on our website under RESOURCES**

**New Staff Background Checks**

NCCBA is now able to perform background checks for member

## PASTOR CARE

# The Power Of Secrets

You have probably seen it on T.V. a thousand times, in old Western movies. Someone, either the good guy or the bad guy, takes a small barrel of gun powder, makes an opening in it, and leaves a trail of gun powder placing the barrel at the end of the trail. At just the right moment, he lights the other end of the trail with a match or cigarette or well-placed bullet. Fire and smoke race along the gun powder toward the barrel. When the barrel is reached, there is a tremendous explosion, dramatically changing the outcome of the entire situation. The difference between the gun powder on the trail and in the barrel is simple-in the barrel it is confined, on the trail it is out in the open.

The "stuff" of secrets is very much like gun powder. When it is confined (kept secret) it is extremely powerful and dangerous. When it is out in the open (revealed, no longer secret) it is still dangerous and powerful, but not explosive, and not nearly as powerful.

We have seen this reality played out for us recently in the Toyota fiasco. The tremendous financial and character damage experienced by that company is largely the result of keeping the problems secret. Everyone knows that building increasingly complex vehicles with new technologies is likely to produce some faulty outcomes, some of them very dangerous. However, the danger and the damage are reduced by openly acknowledging and working to correct the errors and mistakes. Covering them up and keeping them secret only increases the explosive impact when the secrecy evaporates, and only allows the damage to grow and accumulate.

As a therapist, I frequently hear people say to me in the safety of the counseling relationship, "You are the first person I have ever told about this." This kind of situation is especially sad when the person revealing their secret is elderly, and the growing and accumulating damage has disrupted their life for many years. One person, who was over 70 at the time, revealed relatively minor things (skipping school) kept secret at the cost of never allowing entrance into genuinely close relationship-even with immediate family. What a sadness.

churches. Call Don at the office, 715-538-2298.

### MEDIA RESOURCES

#### Father, Son & Holy Spirit: Relationships, Roles & Relevance

This book by Bruce Ware is available from the NCCBA office for \$10. Highly recommended. Email the office at [nccba@trivest.net](mailto:nccba@trivest.net)



#### From the Truth Project: DOES GOD EXIST?

This is an outstanding series that will help prepare your high school kids for college. It is produced by the same group that did the Truth Project. It includes ten sessions on DVD and ten student books. Our price is \$50.89 plus \$10.00 for shipping.

Retail for the same set is \$110.89. If you would like to get a preview of why you should consider this go to [www.trueu.org](http://www.trueu.org) and check out: The Toughest Test in College..

### Antioch School of Evangelism & Church Planting

The point of all this is rather simple. The contents of secrets bring about more damage and destruction when they erupt explosively after some extended period of secrecy than they do when openly dealt with sooner rather than later. There can be no doubt that it is vitally important to use the proper careful and healthy approaches to dealing with dangerous and potentially damaging information. But that is another article. I am not advocating the wholesale shouting of such things from the rooftops. I am advocating the counter-intuitive decision to appropriately disclose rather than hide/keep secret such "stuff." Acting with integrity rather than secrecy will bring about a much healthier and more God-honoring outcome.

After-math of Christmas report: one pound lost has been found!  
Total lost since mid-January-13 lbs, 2 inches off waist. Goal, mid-September: 40 lbs and 4 inches. Have you been working at shaping up? How are you coming?

Encouragingly,  
*Nicholas D. Bell, LMFT*  
*Stillman Valley, Illinois*

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## **YOUTH PASTORS: *Cooperation***

Over our previous articles, we have shared with you about the power of ministry partnership. In the current economic climate, we are convinced that now, more than ever, is the time for cooperation between ministries. Youth pastors like lists, so we have three for you this month!

### **First off, let us state our standards for cooperation:**

1. There will be NO compromise on areas that are non-negotiable. Needless to say, salvation by grace through faith is not up for grabs. But also, when you cooperate, you CANNOT give up anything that is a non-negotiable in your ministry philosophy. If you do, you will only grow bitter.
2. Cooperation must do just that-help both parties. This is to be a symbiotic relationship, not a parasitic one!
3. There must be a joint ministry philosophy and focus. Granted, you do not have to agree on everything, but if your main focus is evangelism and your sister ministry wants to disciple at all costs, you will hit a road block. Also, if you use video clips and songs in your messages, it would be best not to partner with someone who

### **Go to College at Your Home Church**

Would you be interested in being able to offer college level material in your local church? Would you be interested in being able to facilitate in providing a bachelors degree from your local church? Are you interested in being able to develop your current and next generation leadership?

If you answered yes to any or all of these we encourage you to look into this resource.

**Antioch School of Evangelism and Church Planting** is a resource that will help equip your church for all of the above. We have three churches in the region that have become certified--Forest City Baptist, Rockford, IL; FBC Jackson, MN; and FBC Whitehall, WI. For further information contact Don Shaw at 715-538-2298 or by email [nccba@trivest.net](mailto:nccba@trivest.net)

espouses all modern technology as evil.

4. Communication must be open and ongoing. Simply put, during an average week, we will "talk" (i.e. Skype, text, phone call, Facebook) each other at least three times. During busy weeks, that can easily be three times a day!

5. Both parties must ALWAYS do what is best for their ministry context. Some ideas we pitch to each other never "happen" because it simply doesn't work for one ministry or the other. Or it will happen, but just as an event for the one church. This is not a signed contract, but a handshake-partnership. Your responsibility to shepherd your youth ministry flock ALWAYS comes first.

**A quick review of our reasons for cooperation:**

**1. Increased finances.** By cooperating, we have access to each other's budgets. If you were to find a compatible church who has the same youth budget as you, and you do all your "expensive" programs and events together, you effectively double your budget.

**2. Increased resources.** Craig is in an area where Sam's Clubs and Wal-Marts are rare. Through cooperation, he is able to access the deals that those places provide. Similarly, Adam's church does not have a van. So when a van is needed for a combined trip that is taken care of. The side benefit of exchanging resources, of course, is saved money.

**3. Streamlined ministry.** By working together, there is a "polishing" effect on ministries. Questions come up like: Why do you do things that way? Should we try something different? What lessons have we learned from past years? Many times, no significant changes are made, but everything is questioned, and through that, our ministries only become stronger.

**Here is a brief overview of our main youth ministries, and how sharing takes place between us:**

**1. Weekend worship:** Craig has a special Sunday morning worship time for students and their families, targeting younger believers. Adam is working to develop a similar service. Both are pulling from shared ministry contacts to make this be a successful enterprise

**2. YAM Backpacking trip:** This is our leadership training program. We open the program first-come, first-serve to students from both ministries. We have 9 spots available and a scaling list of

achievements for students to accomplish, including shared discipleship books for them to fill out throughout the program.

**3. Wednesday Night Youth Group:** While you may think it is hard for youth groups to cooperate, we do! We plan out our teaching schedule together (with the ability to flex locally as needed) and even coordinate special outreach times. We do this so that when our students come together at camp, quizzing and YAM, they have more common bonds.

**4. Camp:** This is the apex of cooperation. Shared scholarships. Shared adult volunteers. Shared resources. Oh yeah, did I mention that we already have 23 students registered for camp, who will be paying under \$150 to go? (And yes, that includes all food and transportation!) Cooperation works!

**5. Bible Quizzing:** We know, to many of you, quizzing seems bland and antiquated! That's why we worked together to improve and make it work for our ministries. First off, our quizzing is NOT primarily about how many verses quizzers memorize. Instead, our focus is on having fun and hanging out doing "God stuff". For quizzers that value the competition, we set a high standard and push them. But for those who want to have fun, we make sure they have reasons to be in quizzing: (i.e. memorize a few verses, come to a few quiz meets and go to the water park with us.)

To a certain extent, consider the above a shameless plug. We are looking to find at least one more youth pastor who wants to join us and help us triangulate our ministry. We would love to invite you into our partnership if you sense a similar ministry focus. It is our belief that having one more church on board could help us lower costs and become even more ministry-efficient. We've done a lot of the hard work, already! Will you come and join us?

Similarly, if you are still looking for camp options this summer-especially those of you in MN, WI and ND-that will not break your families' budgets or make your church go broke, I encourage you to think about joining us at camp in Bemidji, MN from July 4-9. Our registration rate from now through June 1 is just \$130. We would love to coordinate the details with you to make this work, so please let us know!

While we realize we probably don't have any "fans" out there, we would love to hear from you on your stories of cooperation or if you have interest in joining us for camp or pursuing a partnership in ministry with us. In the very least, let's at least open up a dialogue and cooperate that way!

Adam Zappetta, First Baptist Church; New Richmond, WI

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Office Phone: 218-927-2728 ext. 2#

[www.twitter.com/CraigMorris](http://www.twitter.com/CraigMorris) (Follow me, please!)

To view Camp Brochure, [click here](#) or go to the NCCBA website and click Resources, then Youth Ministry

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## CHAPLAINCY:

# Could Your Church or Men's Group Help?

One of our CBAmerica Chaplains just deployed to Afghanistan wrote and asked for items his soldiers need to make their living more comfortable. Here is the list and his name and address. You can send items in special flat rate boxes from the Post Office.

As requested by some, here are some items we need if you/church (or other local churches) would like to send Care Packages. Please understand that we are already receiving boxes from some churches and organizations that send letters, pictures, & generic supplies such as toothpaste, hygiene items, CD's, etc... but what we really need are the items below. Some are expensive items, but regardless, we are presenting the needs and God will use someone to fill the needs. We don't expect you to burden yourself with all of these. Simple do what you can, if you can, and when you can.

Needs:

Pillows

Linen for Twin Size beds

Towels

Touch On/Off Desk/wall Lights

Batteries - All sizes (specifically AA and AAA) Air Fresheners for Barracks and rooms Carpeted Mats/Rugs Desk lamps - Clip on type

Desk fans - Clip on type Converters (220 to 110w) Nails (all types)

Screws (all types, especially 2") Battery Powered Tools and Chargers

Circular Saw

Cordless Drill  
Sawzall  
Tape Measure  
Wet/Dry Vacuum  
Under Armor desert tan T-shirts (all sizes) Shower shoes/flip-flops  
(all sizes) Sunscreen Bug spray Fly traps Deodorant Copy Paper HP  
Ink - DeskJet 6540, #97 (color) & #96 (black)- urgent, ongoing  
need.

Wants and wishes:  
Powdered Cappuccino - Spiced Chi Latte  
Smores, Pop Tarts  
DVD Movies for Chapel Movie Nights  
Starbucks Coffee (whole bean)  
Coffee grinders  
Portable CD players/radios

Mailing Address:  
CHAPLAIN (CPT) Brian T. Hargis  
HHC, 1st BSTB  
Camp Spann, Afghanistan  
APO AE 09368

For more information about chaplaincy you can contact Al Russell  
at [chapruss@earthlink.net](mailto:chapruss@earthlink.net) or by phone at 218-776-2813. Thanks for  
your prayers for our chaplaincy ministry.

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## **GOOD IDEA SECTION**

### **Kidz Klub Reviewed & Renewed**

Two years ago, we had a children's club on Wednesday night during prayer meeting. We call it Kidz Klub and it is a 90-minute program that had game time, Bible teaching, and craft. Last year we lost a couple leaders who were involved heavily in the program. After not finding any replacements from among our congregation, we decided to take our children over to the one-hour AWANA program at a church across town. We provided leaders to help the other church with the extra children. It was a good year and the children enjoyed AWANA. However, both children and adults felt that while AWANA is a fine, biblically based program, the one-hour time slot felt rushed compared to what they were used to. The adults expressed a desire to have a longer time in which to build relationships with the children.

Last summer, I met with the Kidz Klub leader, and we had a

brainstorming session. We evaluated the problems and needs that were present:

Many of our working parents do not arrive home until after 4:30. For the families who cannot use the schools daycare program, children are left unsupervised until parents come home. As the pastor, I wanted to help but could not help with leadership in Kidz Klub because of my responsibilities for leading Wednesday night prayer meeting. A meeting with the school principal revealed that many of the children need assistance with homework and for various reasons are not receiving it.

Evening Kidz Klub often involved children walking home at night in the cold of winter.

We looked at our situation and discussed how we could take full advantage of the particular opportunities the Lord has given us. Our church is located across the street from Minnehaha Elementary, our town's only elementary school. Our church has developed a good relationship with the school's principal due to our church's involvement in hosting Cub Scouts den meetings. Parents could pick up their children on their way home from work rather than having the walk home after 8 PM.

After much discussion, we concluded that an after-school Kidz Klub would resolve some of the problem and meet the needs. Children in grades 1-5 could walk over to the church after school dismisses at 2:35 pm. Kidz Klub runs until 4:30, nearly a full two hours in which to build relationships and promote Christ-honoring values. We would run Kidz Klub with four distinct 25-minute segments: Bible Zone would be a, Homework Zone, Project Zone, and Sports Zone. I shared this idea with the school principle. She was very supportive and allowed me to set up a table and hand out flyers at lunch. Here's how we promoted it on the flyer:

"Kidz Klub is an after-school program designed to provide a safe, spiritual, educational, and fun environment. The children who attend Kidz Klub will participate in four "zones" with children in their own age group. In Homework Zone, students enjoy a healthful snack and receive assistance in completing homework and preparing for upcoming tests/quizzes etc. Bible Zone provides a spiritual emphasis in a non-denominational format. In Sports Zone, children release some energy while developing athletic skills. Project Zone aims to help children build basic woodworking and craft skills. A weekly dues of 50 cents will help with the costs of snacks."

At the bottom of the flyer, we have the parents/guardians sign a

medical release in order to attend. While none of us claims to be a professional tutor, the school principal was happy to hear that Homework Zone would assist children in completing assignments and preparing for upcoming tests and quizzes. Bible Zone uses a point system and monthly "Kidz Klub Store" to encourage Scripture memory, bringing visitors, participation, etc. For Project Zone, we have a gentleman in the community who excels in woodworking come and teach the children basic woodworking skills in a room dedicated to this. He has done a fantastic job and the children enjoy working on the fun wood projects he provides. Our Sports Zone leader does a great job in teaching the children new sports and games as well as emphasizing overall physical fitness. We have at least two staff members with each group of children at all times. Healthy snacks and juices are provided rather than cookies and Kool-Aid.

So far, our modified Kidz Klub has been a success for our ministry. It has been rewarding to be use of the Lord to meet real needs in a way that seems to fit our ministry and our message very well.

*Joe Whiting, Pastor  
Grace Baptist Church, Two Harbors, MN 55616*

### Upcoming Events

<b>BREAKAWAY</b>	April 17-18, 2010	<a href="#">Details at SYF website</a>
all-niter for Illinois teens Rally, gospel presentation, food & games		
<b>Pastors Seminar</b>	April 21-22, 2010	Schedule
<b>Pastors &amp; Wives Retreat</b>	April 22-23, 2010	on our <a href="#">website</a>
<b>NCCBA Annual Meeting</b>	April 23, 2010	Heidel House Resort Green Lake, Wisconsin
<b>Youth Pastor/Leader &amp; Spouse Retreat</b>	April 23-25	Heidel House Resort, Green Lake WI

### NCCBA Churches In Need of a Pastor

Please pray for the following churches and Search Committees:

- Ganson Street Baptist Church--Jackson MI YOUTH PASTOR
- First Baptist Church--Colfax IA YOUTH PASTOR
- First Baptist Church--Elk Horn IA
- First Baptist Church--Luverne MN
- Cavalier Baptist Church--Cavalier ND
- Keystone Baptist Church--Chicago IL

### Contact Our Office

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