



# Men's Resource Guide

**January  
2010**

**Resources to  
equip you to  
live for Christ**

*"I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."*

*Philippians 3:10-14*

# A Building Faith— growing in your walk with God

A lot of men enjoy building things. Whether it's a backyard deck, a playground for your kids or grandkids, creating a business plan or making plans for retirement—"building" is often something that we men enjoy doing at some level.

When it comes to matters of faith, we'd like to encourage you to let God do some building in your life this year. That's why we have a new format for "Men's Gathering." We want every second Friday of every month to be a significant early morning event for you. Let's come together and open our lives to God and His Word so that He might do some construction work on our hearts. We are especially thankful that Pastor Moody is challenging us to "move beyond superficial Christianity."

We want to challenge you to think about the life of the spirit in terms of building—something that's not entirely finished quite yet. We are together in this process of letting God build something new in us. So view this as a time to come together once a month to be a witness and testimony to God working in you and us.

This resource guide is designed to help you explore some new resources to help you in this work of new construction. Perhaps you'd like to read a new book on prayer or theology. Maybe you'd like to find a place to start serving in the church. Or perhaps you like to have some media links or contact with other men through some partner organizations. If any of these are true, this resource guide is for you. We will be coming out with a new issue of this each month. Be sure to pick up your new copy at every month's Gathering.

So welcome to our new Men's Gathering and all of our new men's ministries at College Church. We are all about engaging men who need Christ, encouraging men to pursue Christ and equipping men to live for Christ. So let the building begin!

## PASTOR'S PAGE

### PASTOR JAY THOMAS:

Jay Thomas ministers to our college-aged men and women at College Church through our College Group and currently is the Interim Director for ministry training. He joined the ministry staff at College Church in the spring of 2003. Jay was born in Bangalore, India and reared in the greater San Francisco area. He earned a B.A. in biblical studies from Wheaton College and an M.Div. and Th.M. from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Rebecca, have four children. OK, that's the thumbnail sketch.



Jay was converted as a young child but growing up in Marin County, CA had its deficits, one being worldliness. If William Sonoma were to design a planned community, Marin would be it—full of affluence, beautiful things and people, highly educated and sophisticated, but materialism, self made religion, brokenness, superficiality and despair abound. In his first year at college, at the University of California (he does not need to say Berkeley, because Berkeley is the University of California and campuses like UCLA or technically satellite schools), Jay was taken hold of by God, called to ministry in a fell swoop of divine irony and summarily transferred to Wheaton College where he began to fall in love with the Bible, theology, and became confirmed in pastoral ministry.

Jay interned for a few years at College Church while he got his pastoral feet wet and courted his future wife, Becky Litfin. They went on to seminary from there. Seminary was great. Thinking he was going on to get a Ph.D, the Lord directed him in yet another twist of fate back to College Church, where he has been the college pastor for coming up on seven years, and for the last year has also directed our ministry training program. Jay believes in the pastor-theologian model. He believes that pastors should be well rounded. But, he feels particularly gifted and called in two areas: preaching/teaching the Bible, and raising up a next generation of pastor-theologians. He hopes God will enable him to do that for Jesus' glory until the day he dies – maybe in warmer place one day (wink).

Jay's hobbies include running, reading, cultural engagement, architecture appreciation, hanging out, humor, family and theology.

## **BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS:**

My colleagues have given you a lot, so let me just say this.

1. Buy a bunch of Banner of Truth Puritan Paperbacks and go to town.
2. Read Calvin's Institutes.
3. Read good fiction that provokes thoughts of truth and how the gospel is patterned in the world.
4. Maybe even make your way through the list of what is called Classical Literature.
5. Don't forget to read your own life and interpret it through the greatest book, the Bible. Interpret that life. Submit that life. And pray that the chapters keep getting sweeter, more beautiful and more God exalting.

## **HELPFUL WEBSITES:**

[www.thegospelcoalition.org](http://www.thegospelcoalition.org)

[www.two-age.org](http://www.two-age.org)

[www.monergism.com](http://www.monergism.com)

[www.desiringgod.org](http://www.desiringgod.org)

[www.biblicaltraining.org](http://www.biblicaltraining.org)

[www.igracemusic.com](http://www.igracemusic.com)

[www.theresurgence.com](http://www.theresurgence.com)

[www.ruf.org](http://www.ruf.org)

## **GET INVOLVED:**

*Want to get involved serving in ministry at College Church? Here are a few places you can plug in and the person to contact.*

**STARS**—Our Disability Ministry needs volunteers on Wednesdays, Sundays, Friday, and for their Shepherd’s Arms Respite Program.  
Contact Dawn, [dclark@college-church.org](mailto:dclark@college-church.org) or ext. 265.

**Upward Basketball**—As part of our sports ministry, Upward is an evangelistic basketball league. Upward is looking for coaches, refs, scorekeeper, and other helpers.  
Contact Harper, [hguerra@college-church.org](mailto:hguerra@college-church.org) or ext. 123

**Serve with Your Son**—We would like to extend an opportunity to you to serve alongside your teenage son(s), as there is no other bond like serving together. The church would like to ask you to consider committing to one Sunday a month, where you and your son(s) would be on call to come to church and shovel, snow-blow or salt for the benefit of the congregation’s worship. The commitment is small, but very important. If you have any questions, please contact Howard Kern, ext. 136 or [hkern@college-church.org](mailto:hkern@college-church.org) and if you would like sign up to be a part of this team, please contact Jessica, [jtate@college-church.org](mailto:jtate@college-church.org) or ext. 109.

**Kids’ Harbor**—Our ministries to infant through sixth graders. There are opportunities at all hours on Sundays and also on Wednesdays. There is a crucial need for more volunteers during the 11 a.m hour.  
Contact Cindy, [cnickell@college-church.org](mailto:cnickell@college-church.org) or ext. 128.

### **Student Ministries**

**KMs**—Our ministry to junior high students.

**HYACKs**—Our ministry to high school students.

Contact Jessica, [jtate@college-church.org](mailto:jtate@college-church.org) or ext. 109.

**Community Dinner with Friends**—Our weekly dinners for the church body. People are needed to cook, clean and serve. A great way to serve as a whole family.  
Contact Beth, (630) 510-0486.

**Ushers**—Help people find seats, take offering and offer other assistance during Sunday morning worship.  
Contact Jim, (630) 653-2909.

**Library**—As a great resource to our congregation, the Library needs help on different days at different times with many varying jobs which include running the check-out counter on Sundays, book processing and shelf straightening during the week, writing of book reviews and website updating.  
Contact Lisa, lkern@college-church.org or ext. 138.

## MISSIONS

**Outreach to Internationals**—There are many easy ways you can get involved in reaching the more than 19,000 international students who are studying in Chicago. It's as simple as being **friendly and hospitable**. To get involved in an upcoming activity or learn more about the ministry: Contact Ryan, rskinner@college-church.org or ext. 110.

**Outreach to Immigrants and Refugees**—There are numerous ways you can get involved with immigrants and refugees in the DuPage County area. Become a Friendship Partner, an ESL Aide or a volunteer in the kids' summer programs. **Provide for practical needs** like free tax preparation, conduct a class on basic car maintenance or financial planning, hire an immigrant, meet a new family at the airport or provide local transportation. Donate services or products to World Relief's annual silent auction. The possibilities are endless.  
Contact Marilyn, mpapierski@college-church.org or ext. 191.

**Short Term Missions Teams (STAMP)**—We are looking for men to help **lead and participate** in STAMP, World Impact and Fellowship for Theological Training Teams. For more information and applications, see our website: <http://www.college-church.org/missions/STAMP.htm>  
Contact Marilyn, mpapierski@college-church.org or ext. 191.

**Missions Team**—The Missions Team is looking for men skilled in videography, photography, graphic design, statistics, media production and web design to assist the team in **development of media publications**.  
Contact Ryan, rskinner@college-church.org or ext. 110.

## **COACH GATHERING:**

Coaches are invited to join us on January 27 at 7 p.m. in Welsh Hall for a special gathering of coaches designed to help men and women model godly character and communicate the hope of Christ in a winsome and natural way among their players and parents. Whether you are a coach in the park district, Upward Basketball/Soccer, high school, college or beyond, you won't want to miss this event. We will address such questions as: What does it mean to coach from a Christian perspective? How can you be intentional without being preachy? Is there a biblical perspective to coaching? What are some critical elements to being a Christian coach? Are there resources to assist in this journey? Mark your calendars for January 27!

## **RESALE SHOPS:**

### **Twice is Nice:**

Twice is Nice Resale Store is owned and operated by College Church. All proceeds are generously donated to the Outreach Community Center in Carol Stream.

The store is located at 893 East Geneva Road in Carol Stream (in the complex on the northwest corner of Geneva and President)  
Phone: (630) 260-0942

### **STARS Resale Shop:**

A ministry outreach of College Church: the proceeds of the STARS Resale Shop support the STARS disability ministry.

The store is located at 1072 College Ave in Wheaton, right by the old College Station train station, just east of President.  
Phone: (630) 682-1499

Do you have ideas to share with the other men that we can list in this resource guide? Comments, suggestions or feedback can be directed to [christews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:christews@sbcglobal.net).

# QUESTIONS FOR TODAY:

*Moving Beyond Superficial Christianity*

## **Session 5**

*See Your Family as Representative of God's Family*  
(Ephesians 5:32)

### **Questions for Small Groups:**

1. How can the husband-wife relationship practically proclaim Christ's love for the church?
2. How can a father-child proclaim God's fatherly care?
3. Brother-sister proclaim the Christian bond?
4. How can investment in family be not an idol but as a sign?

# NOTES:

Today's session is being recorded.

It is available on CD upon request.

You can complete an order form at the table in the Lobby, or complete an Audio Request Form at the Information Table in the Narthex on any Sunday morning.

The cost for each CD is \$3.

The CDs can also be mailed for an additional \$2.50.

Or purchase all the recorded messages on one CD in MP3 format for \$3.

Be sure to join us for our next meeting  
on February 12.

**MEN'S GATHERING 2010 DATES**

February 12

March 12

April 9

May 14

June 11

**MEN'S MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Jim Elwell

Greg Maas

Jeff Mann

Pastor Garrett Nates

Phil Passon

Randy Seager

Chris Tews (Chair)