

# Men's Gathering **Life's Topics—God's Plan**

Resource Guide

**December 2010:  
Church Leadership**



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

*“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”*  
*Romans 12:2*

Men's Gathering 2010-2011

# Life's Topics—God's Plan

All too often the plan of God can seem like something that's far off, remote, detached somehow from the day-to-day demands and the seemingly insignificant actions of an ordinary day. At the same time, the topics of life seem more present—concerns about money, missions, prayer, church leadership, marriage to name just a few—these topics seem to be connected to daily and weekly life and are an integral part of who we are as men and as Christian people.

In reality, God's plan intersects with life. This year's Men's Gathering explores that intersection. We are looking forward to hearing from a variety of men with different experiences and varied perspectives. We want to encourage each of you to bring your own observations and experiences with you to the Gathering each month. Be ready to share, poised to listen to others, grateful for the Word of God, and open to how God might want to change you in the year ahead. Pray that God's Word will come alive in us this year and that we will be a changed people as a result.

Proverbs 11:4 tells us, "Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety." This year our Men's Gathering provides us with an abundance of counselors on a variety of topics that each of us needs to work through repeatedly throughout the course of our lives.

The good news is that we aren't alone to wrestle through this maze called life. Jesus gives us His Word and His Spirit. Men's Gathering is a place for coming together around God's Word to learn and grow. Join us each month for a different topic and a focus on God's plan for our lives.

## FROM OUR ELDERS

*Throughout the year, Men's Gatherings will spot light a few of our current elders. This will provide you an opportunity to get an inside look at these ordinary men and how God has uniquely equipped them to be lay leaders in His church.*

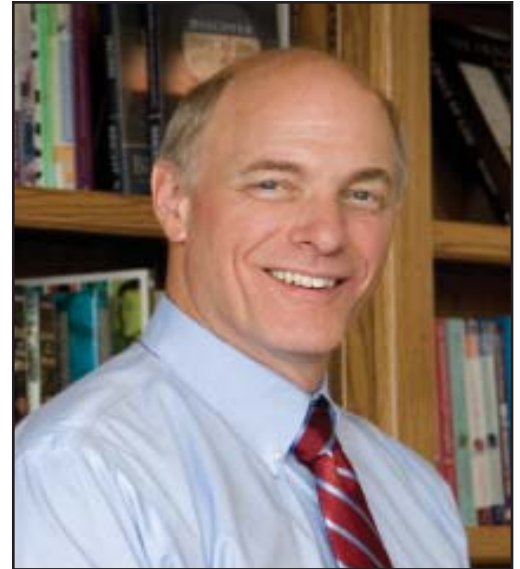
### MARK TAYLOR:

I currently serve as a member of the Council of Elders. Over the years I have served as chairman of the Council of Elders, chairman of the Board of Missions, chairman of the Board of Deacons, and on various other boards and committees. I have also played in the handbell choir for about 25 years. I grew up in College Church and have been a member since I was in junior high.

I have lived in Wheaton all my life except for my college years at Duke University in North Carolina. I met my wife, Carol, in college. We got married a few weeks after graduation in 1973. We have five adult children and ten grandchildren.

I have worked at Tyndale House Publishers ever since I was in junior high school. My parents started the company in 1962, when I was in sixth grade. From the very beginning, I worked after school packing orders of Living Letters. The first shipping room for the company was in my bedroom, and I kept the working inventory of books under my bed. After the company expanded and the shipping room expanded to the garage, I was supervisor of a crew of several other part-time workers. I continued working part-time through high school. When I was a senior in high school I began editing books, a role I continued during my college years. My first full-time job at Tyndale House was as executive director of Tyndale House Foundation. Over the years I moved into various management positions in the publishing company. I have served as president of Tyndale House Publishers since 1984.

One of the joys of my professional life has been the opportunity to serve as a member of the Bible Translation Committee that created the Holy Bible: New Living Translation. This easy-to-read translation has introduced millions of readers to the fact that the Bible does not have to be boring and hard to understand.



## **SPECIAL INTERESTS**

I was a casual jogger for many years—until my knees could no longer take the daily pounding. Now I am an aggressive walker. I walk three miles at a fast pace four or five mornings per week. I have had the same jogging/walking partner for 25 years. In addition to sharing the joy of good cardiovascular exercise we have also become accountability partners to each other.

I like to think of myself as a stamp collector, though I find very little time to work on my collection. My area of special interest is U.S. stamps.

For the past 12 years I have served as a trustee of Taylor University in Upland, Indiana. I currently serve as chairman of that board. In recent years, Taylor has been ranked by U.S. News & World Report as the #1 ranked regional college in the Midwest.

I enjoy carpentry work—an interest that dates back to my college years, when I spent two summers building houses in Fairbanks, Alaska. Through that experience I learned skills that have given me a lifetime of pleasurable opportunities. Carol and I have completely rehabilitated our own century-old house, and we have also helped our kids in various rehab projects. Several years ago I got a power miter saw, which falls into the category of a must-have tool. How did I live without it for so many years?

## **BOOKS**

As a publisher, I live in the world of books. I have written one book—*The Complete Book of Bible Literacy* (now out of print). I also had the joy and privilege of serving as the chief stylist for the New Living Translation. More recently, I served as executive editor of the NLT Study Bible.

Books that I've read in recent months include:

*A Pearl in the Storm: How I Found My Heart in the Middle of the Ocean*,  
by Tori Murden McClure

*The Glass Castle*, by Jeannette Walls

*Half Broke Horses*, Jeannette Walls

*The Road*, by Cormac McCarthy

*Her Mother's Hope*, by Francine Rivers

*Son of Hamas*, by Mosab Hasan Yousef

*Why I Stayed*, by Gayle Haggard

*First Things First*, by Kurt Warner

The One Year Bible (NLT)

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Register at [www.college-church.org](http://www.college-church.org) on the Mens page today!

MEN'S  
CONFERENCE  
2011  
AT COLLEGE CHURCH

"THE TRIUMPH  
OF UNANSWERED  
PRAYER"

JANUARY  
28-29, 2011

PASTOR ERWIN  
LUTZER

What's going on when my prayers go unanswered? The mysteries of prayer, especially unanswered prayer, can raise questions about life, God and us. As we delve into this topic with Dr. Lutzer, we'll learn much about the character and power of God and what that means for us as men--husbands, fathers, sons, workers, friends.

This year's men's conference will take place here at College Church. Benefit from great teaching, fellowship and good food without having to leave town or spend three figures to get there. We are hoping this will make it possible for even more men to join us. Why not invite a neighbor or co-worker?

## **ALSO COMING IN 2011:**

### **WHEN HELPING HURTS**

*When Helping Hurts*, a book written by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert of the Chalmers Center for Economic Development, helps you understand how to holistically minister to the poor. The book is the primary text used in a four-lesson group-study course. "When Helping Hurts" combines sound theology, solid research, foundational principles, and proven strategies that prepare you for Christian transformational ministry among the poor, whether in the local community or abroad.

This course is intended for those who want to minister to the poor more effectively, including members of deacon boards, missions committees, missionaries, and donors.

When: Sundays, January 9, 16, 23, and 30 from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Teacher: Mark Papierski

### **TRAINING FOR MINISTRY:**

This is a class on the biblical view of spiritual gifts and service in the church.

When: Sundays, April 10 & 17 from 2-5 p.m.

Teacher: Dave Setran

### **PRAYERLIFE SEMINAR**

This is a Practical, hands-on course intended to help you connect with God through prayer. It is designed around Paul Miller's book *A Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracting World*.

When: Friday evening & Saturday morning, April 15–16, 2011

Teacher: Bob Allums

## **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.*

**Upward Soccer or Basketball**—As part of our sports ministry, Upward is an evangelistic basketball/soccer league. Upward is looking for coaches, refs, scorekeepers, 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. 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).

Contact Ginny [ghrushka@college-church.org](mailto:ghrushka@college-church.org) or ext. 109.

**Kids' Harbor**—Our ministry to infant through sixth graders. There are opportunities on Sundays and Wednesdays and occasional special services. 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 Ginny, [ghrushka@college-church.org](mailto:ghrushka@college-church.org) or ext. 109.

**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.

**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 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 bringing the gospel to more than 19,000 international students who are studying in Chicago. It's as simple as being friendly and hospitable.

Contact Chris, chardy@college-church.org or ext. 154.

**Outreach to Immigrants and Refugees**—There are numerous ways you can get involved with immigrants and refugees in the DuPage County area: become an ESL aide, join a friendship team around a newly arrived refugee family, relocate to Wheaton Square Apartments or develop a friendship with a immigrant colleague or neighbor. Join in God's work as he brings the nations to our doorstep for His glorious purposes.

Contact Chris, chardy@college-church.org or ext. 154.

**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.

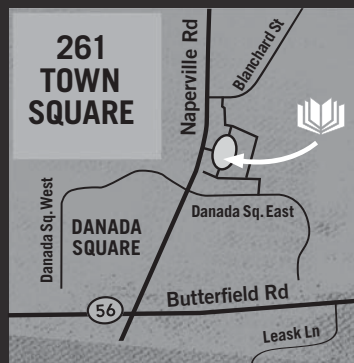
**Missions Team**—The Missions Team is looking for men skilled in videography, photography, graphic design, statistics, media production and web design to assist the team in development of media publications.

Contact Chris, chardy@college-church.org or ext. 154.



# BOOKSTORE NOW OPEN

We're grateful to be a part of this thriving Christian community, and hope you'll find us to be a refreshing and valued resource as you grow in your faith, minister to others, and resource your church. We look forward to any ideas you might share, because as a local business, we're here to serve.



261 Town Square,  
Wheaton, IL

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## **OTHER RESOURCES:**

### **On-Line Biblical Training**

Wheaton College Distance Learning

[http://www.wheatongrad.com/Distance\\_Learning\\_Courses](http://www.wheatongrad.com/Distance_Learning_Courses)

Moody Bible Institute Distance Learning

[www.moody.edu](http://www.moody.edu)

Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

[www.tiu.edu/divinity/academics/mode/extension](http://www.tiu.edu/divinity/academics/mode/extension)

The Simeon Trust

[www.simeon.org/web/course](http://www.simeon.org/web/course)

### **Daily Devotionals**

Men of Integrity

[www.christianitytoday.com/moi](http://www.christianitytoday.com/moi)

Our Daily Bread

<http://odb.org/2010/09/05/always-there>

My Utmost for His Highest by Oswald Chambers

<http://utmost.org>

## **Websites**

Blueletterbible.org

*Online Bible, concordance and commentaries in many translations.*

MenOfIntegrity.net

*Online magazine for men with Bible studies, practical guides and many links to other ministry resources.*

Christianbook.com

*Online Christian bookstore (Much like Amazon)*

Tangle.com [Formerly GodTube.com]

*Online community for Christians to share videos (Much like YouTube)*

## **On the Air:**

WJKL 94.3 FM/www.klove.com (includes Christmas music)

WMBI 90.1 FM

WMBI 1110 AM

www.mbn.org

WETN 88.1 FM (Wheaton College Radio)

www.wheaton.edu/wetn (Christmas music)

WCFL 104.7 FM (includes Christmas music)

WBGL 91.7 FM/ www.wbgl.com

WYLL 1160 AM/www.wyll.com

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@yahoo.com.

## TODAY'S PANELISTS:

Spencer Garrett: Spencer has been married to his wife, Elaine, for 16 wonderful years. They have five children. He is thankful to be saved by the Grace of God. He has served on the Board for Life in Messiah Ministries as Treasurer for 20 years. He has attended College Church for 20 years and served four terms on the Missions Board. He teaches Simply Christianity and children's Bible school. He is currently on the Board of Elders.

Phil Ryken: Phil began serving as Wheaton's eighth president in July 2010. He is a Wheaton native and the son of Leland and Mary Ryken. He attended Wheaton and met his wife, Lisa, during their first few days at the College, and they were married before their senior year. Phil served on the pastoral staff at Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia in 1995, becoming the senior minister when Dr. James Boice died in 2000 and remaining there until his appointment at Wheaton. The Rykens have five children: Josh, Kirsten, Jack, Kathryn, and Karoline.

## QUESTIONS FOR TODAY:

1. Which Scripture verse mentioned by the panel do you feel spoke to the heart of church leadership?
2. What did the panel share that you could identify with?
3. What are some of your preconceived ideas about church leadership? Are they different now that you have heard this discussion?
4. Discuss some ways that you've been in leadership roles. How have those times been encouraging and/or challenging?
5. What challenges stand between you and your involvement in church leadership?

**NOTES:**

Be sure to join us for our next meeting  
on January 14 on Money

**MEN'S GATHERING DATES**

January 14  
February 11  
March 11  
April 8  
May 13  
June 10