

THE SHEPHERD'S CROOK

Volume 1, Issue 1

August 2007

Ministry Launch!

August 1st, 2007 will be the day that will be remembered by myself as the day that The Lord 'pushed' me into going full time in the ministry. Since that date just a few short weeks ago, a lot has been done and accomplished, and yet even more to be accomplished. The tasks seem at times overwhelming but I know that The Lord is near and guiding this ministry as long as I remember to seek His face continuously.

The purpose of this ministry, in short, is discipleship. To teach and show Christians what the Bible says about living the Christian life.

Over and over again we have seen Christians making outright poor choices in their daily living cause they are living their lives without searching the scriptures

for answers and guidance. They consistently rely on human reasoning to resolve problems and to overcome difficulties in their lives.

This ministry exists to come along side churches and help in teaching their congregations what it means, in a practical sense, to live the Christian life and be a dedicated follower of Jesus Christ.

We covet your prayers as we go forward, that God will continue to show Himself strong and direct our paths according to His will.



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HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

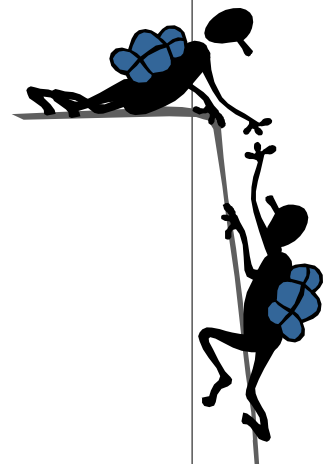
As we mentioned, this ministry exists to come along side churches and other organizations to help teach God ways and principles.

To that end we have three courses that we teach. Two of them are in Evangelism (Basic

or introduction) and an Intermediate. We expect to have an Advanced level within the next six months. We also offer a Biblical Financial Freedom seminar. The evangelism classes run 8 weeks in total. Each class running about ninety minutes in length. Biblical Financial

Freedom runs for ten sessions and each session is two and a half hours in length.

Please visit our web site for more details on these trainings that are available to you and your congregations.



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COME ON IN...

One of the most discouraging 'things' that I run into is the amount of time Christian people spend watching television. And when I say television, I mean cable and/or satellite and/or antenna based reception television. I don't mean simply having a television in your home (or according to recent surveys 4 televisions), but I mean having the ability to receive channels.

Now I know that you are thinking right now.. "Now hang on there Kevin. The Bible says nothing about watching television."

True, the Bible says nothing about watching television. Just like the Bible says nothing about driving in cars or flying in airplanes. Those later functions I do a lot as I travel around the world on what seems



like a monthly basis.

Now the point I want to make, is that the actual act of watching television is not the part I am concerned about, although



many hours are wasted in front of this device. But I am thinking and referring to the programs that are on television. Now before I hear, "Now Kevin, we do not watch anything bad, so please leave me alone."

The Bible quotes that comes to my mind when I hear arguments like that are JEREMIAH 17:9

"The heart is deceitful above all things,

and desperately wicked: who can know it?" And

I THESSALONIANS 5:21-22 "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil."

As Christian people, especially parents, we are very careful as to who we have as guests into our home. With young children in the home, it is a natural inclination to protect them and to nurture them and bring them up as EPHESIANS 6:4 states "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Would we allow a good friend over to our home, if they were defrauding dressed? (When I say defrauding, I mean anything that will take your focus off my face and direct it any other part or parts of my body. Also see Jessica FitzPatrick's paper on [Modesty](#))

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EVANGELISM BASICS

Fear. Paralyzing fear. The "Voice" inside your head is screaming that you should be witnessing to the person in front of you. That total stranger, friend, parent or child.

But then that "other" voice speaks to you, telling you that you should not be telling them about this. "Be sensitive and don't be judgmental". "They don't look like they want to be bothered or they might think you are nuts or one of those fanatics!". "They may never talk to you again or

maybe they will not like you anymore!".

Fear of men has grown more significant and powerful in this day and age than the fear of God!

How SAD is that!

We have the Good News. We cannot and should not keep it to ourselves! We should be doing everything in our power to make sure that EVERYONE we come in contact with is witnessed to.

I had the exact same fear and yet I knew that God has called ALL believers to witness to ALL the world.

It is very easy to learn how to overcome this fear. Trust me if I can do it, so can you. At the Practical Christian Living Centre, we lead a video course by Way of The Master that is the best I have found and has made many people that were just like you, to be bold for Jesus!

WE LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The staff here at the Practical Christian Living Centre would love to hear from you. Emails, snail mails and/or phone calls.

If you would like to submit an article to be posted on our website for all to read, then please email it to:

articles@PracticalChristainLivingCentre.org

If you wish to submit pieces for this newsletter (we hope to initially publish every quarter, but moving to monthly in the



future).

If you have comments on our website, both good and bad or items you would like to see added or enhanced.

If you would like to subscribe to the online version of this email, please email us at: subscribe@PracticalChristianLivingCentre.org

We look forward to hearing from you!

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Living The Word of God Without Compromise



Come on in..

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Or intoxicated or spewing foul language in front of our children. Of course not! We would 'chat' with them before our children were exposed to this encounter and tell them to leave. And yet we will allow them into our home through the television.

Think about the programs that you watch or allow your kids to watch. Think of the attitude of the characters have towards God or toward each other. We are to do everything to bring honour and glory to God. 1 CORINTHIANS 10:31 "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." Yet we will simply say, "Well it is not real, so it does not mat-

Would we allow a good friend over to our home, if they were defrauding dressed?

ter." Or "I can watch what ever I want, cause I have freedom in Christ!" I find when people start falling back to the freedom argument, that they really know what they are doing or watching is wrong or at the very least improper. But they are simply unwilling to do what Christ is asking them to do, LUKE 6:46 "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" What Christ is asking you to do, is live a holy and righteous life. One worthy of Jesus dying on the cross for.

Have you every thought about that. Saying to yourself that is what I am about to do bring honour to Christ or is what I am about to do be worthy of Christ's pain and suffering on the cross.

The Purpose of this Christian Ministry is to teach and help Christians live a fulfilling life based upon Biblical principles.

In a word **DISCIPLESHIP**.

Over the years we have seen far too many Born Again Believers make wrong choices based on their lack of knowledge of the scriptures. The aim of this ministry is to bring to light what the Word of God says about living the Christian life.

Over the coming months, we will be publishing discipleship material to be used to help both young in the faith and the not so young in the faith understand the wonders of walking hand in hand with Christ, our risen Lord!

Currently we offer training in Basic & Intermediate Evangelism (8–90 minute sessions), as well as a 10 week Biblical Financial Freedom (10–2.5 hour sessions)

As this ministry grows our prayer is that many will come to a deeper understanding of the scriptures and as a result, a deeper love for God.

May God richly bless you as you begin this journey in walking closer with God.

Have a great and wonder-filled day!

Practical Christian Living Centre
Staff



Hmmm, for me that puts a huge spin on everything that I do.

Why is it so hard for us Christians, followers of Christ. Christ the creator of the universe, the one and only Son of the Most High God. Our Lord and Master and Savior. Why is it so hard to live a life pleasing to Him. Why do we have such a hard time peeling off the things in our lives that have no benefit to Jesus. Could it be that we have not fully put Christ in the right place in our lives? Could it be that we don't want Christ to RULE our lives? If Jesus is Lord and King, that would make us His servants would it not? And as servants do we not carry out all that our King commands of us?

The rest of this article can be found on our website.

www.PracticalChristianLivingCentre.org