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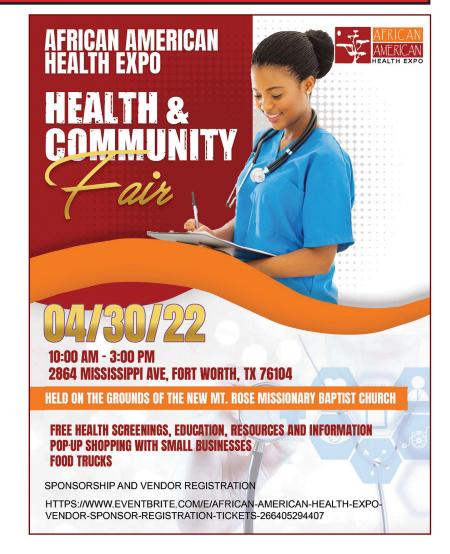
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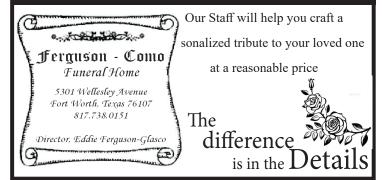
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"The LEADER'S EDGE" by drmichaelbell

Does it ever feel like you are wasting valuable time and energy? Have you ever got to the end of a meeting with your ministry team or a committee or a project and say to yourself, "That was a total waste of time?" Let's admit upfront that it can be frustrating if your most valuable commodity – time – has been wasted or you invest good energy on the wrong things.

There are many things that happen in the lives of church leaders that can derail us and pull us off of our purpose or goals. With this in mind, I've observed, in my own personal development, some time and energy wasters.

1. Meeting with someone who doesn't need to meet with you. We're in the people development business, right? We run into people throughout the course of our day, and when someone asks to meet with you, my guess is it's hard to say no. As your church or ministry grows, that means you'll probably spend an inordinate amount of time meeting with people - and some of these interactions may be an opportunity for ministry, while others of them are just interruptions. Truth is, most leaders waste time meeting with people who didn't really need to meet at all and most of whom don't need to meet with you in particular.

I normally have a sign on the outside door closest to my office stating that "unless you're a member" of the church I pastor or "a member of an organization I lead, you must make an appointment." While it may sound a little chapped, it's liberating and allows me to get more done.

2. Focusing too much attention on the negaholics and naysayers. Throughout your life, you'll have those cheerleaders who believe in everything you do. They know you will be successful and want to be there to celebrate with you when you are. However, there are also those negaholics who are addicted to thinking and behaving in a negative manner. They seem to



pop up throughout life and like to tell you why you will fail.

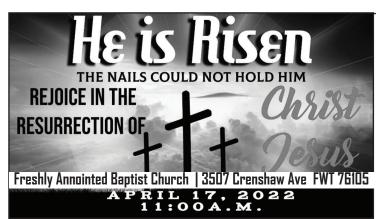
Then, there are the naysayers, those dream-assassins, those habitually pessimistic, cynical people who have no problem with discouraging you from pursuing your goals. Being overly concerned about what your detractors, critics and haters are saying will inhibit progress and drain you of time and energy.

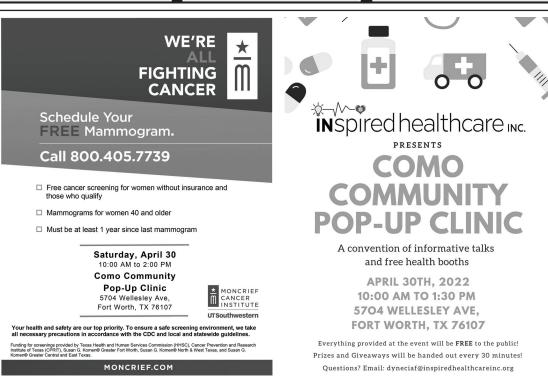
As the penman of 1 Peter 5 says, "Humble" yourself "under the mighty hand of God." It's okay to filter through the constructive criticism you need to hear, but then give your best attention to moving forward.

3. Refusing to delegate. Some pastors and ministry leaders simply don't have the vision to delegate and mentor other leaders to do the work of the ministry. Rather, they prefer to do it all themselves. Well, over the years I've learned the hard way that doing ministry alone, just doesn't work.

We've been called by Jesus to produce fruit that remains (John 15:16). You can't bring forth fruit that will last without pouring into others. If you are doing things that others can do, it will keep you from doing what only you can do. When you are doing the things in ministry that only you can do that is when you will hear "well done my good and faithful servant."

*dr. michael bell is Senior Pastor of Greater St. Stephen First Church FtW, a seminary adjunct professor, and a certified Life Coach. He is the author of a new book, Finding God In Hard Places.





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A Life Worth Living

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly (John 10:10).

The analogy of comparing people to a shepherd and his sheep was common in the Middle East and used frequently in the Bible. Kings and priests called themselves shepherds and their subjects sheep. Many great men of the Old Testament were shepherds (e.g., Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David). National leaders. Moses and David, were both "shepherds" over Israel. Some of the most famous passages in the Bible employ this theme (e.g., Ps. 23; Isa. 53:6; Luke 15:1–7).

Jesus declared Himself to be the True Shepherd (10:11) who came to seek and to heal. The Pharisees, on the other hand, were false shepherds who were spiritually blind while claiming insight (John 9:41). They served as false shepherds who were selfish, loud, and lacked compassion, leading the sheep (the people) astray and prey to the enemy. Jesus vividly demon-

strated to be the True Shepherd. He is the door to the heart of the sheep (10:2). His sheep hear and respond to His voice (10:3) and run from a stranger's voice (10:5). He lovingly calls each one out by their name amongst the flock, leads them to His designated pasture, and they follow him (10:4).

Jesus, the True Shepherd, paved the way for our souls through the door of salvation. Through His death, burial, and resurrection He has established a unique relationship for us with the Father (10:14-15). We are His people (the sheep), who instead of being led by our own evil and wicked devices, can now be led to follow to the pasture that will lead to eternal life through Jesus Christ. As we stay in the pasture of His Will that is discovered through His Word, we are assured by faith of daily provisions, protection, and safety.

We must not be ignorant that there remains an enemy (the thief) after our souls who will do all he can to lure us away from the Father's pasture with the intent to kill our faith and destroy our life. Be mindful that if someone is tearing you down and not building you up, it is the enemy



out to destroy you. Jesus has assured us that what He offers as the True Shepherd is a God kind of life (zoe) that overflows in our life now and into eternity. He has given us a reason to live life with Him now that we might live with Him again in heaven. While on this earth there may be trials, struggles, and tribulations, we are assured to be of good courage because our True Shepherd has overcome them (John 16:33). We too overcome by our faith in the True Shepherd (1 John 4:4). Until then dear hearts, be determined to know that life is worth living because He lives.

Dr. Yolanda G. Butler is Co-Pastor and Church Administrator of Praise Center Community Church, where her husband Bishop Donald H. Butler is the Senior Pastor. She is an intercessor, evangelist, mentor, and published author. Follow her on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and at www.firstladybutlerministries.com.

First Quartet Music Awards Set for June 18th in Atlanta By Gospel Music Association

The stage is being set for the biggest night in Gospel Quartet music. The inaugural Quartet Music Awards (The QMAs) will take place on Saturday, June 18 at Center Stage Theater, 1374 West Peachtree Street in Atlanta, GA. The ceremony will be a history-making night of electrifying performances and memorable moments. The OMAs will showcase the rich legacy the genre of Quartet has contributed to the landscape of Gospel, Soul, Blues, Rock, and R&B music. The award show will be hosted by 'the hottest host on the east coast' Justin Rufus and The Ambassador Dr. Bobby Jones.

The Quartet Music Awards is the vision of D. Chubbs Morton. Morton is a songwriter, musician, and frontman for the popular group D. Morton and Gifted.

"It's time. Quartet has fought tirelessly to be recognized and respected for our music and our culture," explains D. Chubbs Morton, QMA Chief Executive Officer. "Major awards shows have refused to include our artists on their main stages. It's time we become the change we want to see."

He continues, "The greatest part about our QMAs is that it's not just for the artist on stage. We created this for listeners, tickets buyers, supporters, and every people or person who love this thing we call Quartet!"

The QMAs will not only recognize today's most talented Quartet artists, groups, and rising stars but will honor the icons and legends who have helped lay the footprint and have kept the genre thriving. The first class of QMA Honors (living and posthumous) will be presented to the late Lee Williams (Lee Williams and The Spiritual QC's), Tiffanie Tutu Agee (The Truthetts), George Dean (The Gospel 4), Evelyn Turrentine-Agee, Harvey Watkins, Jr. (The Canton Spirituals), the late Cleve Graham (The Pilgrim Jubilees), Spencer Taylor (The Highway QC's) and the late Percy Griffin (The Swan-



nie Quintet).

"It's extremely important to me for us to recognize our Quartet music legends because they are our foundation and have paved the way for us," says Connie Birth, QMA Chief Operating Officer. "They established the original blueprint of Quartet. It's not only about the music but the culture as well. Without them, we would not be here. We are Quartet."

Tickets for the QMAs are \$50 and available via Ticketmaster. The host hotel for the event is Residence Inn by Marriott, located at 134 Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, GA,

For more information about the QMAs visit QuartetMusicAwards.

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Financial Accountability in Church Administration

The American public generally has high expectations of religious organizations and churches. For the most part, donors and attendees recognize that enormous needs exist that the church is called upon to meet, and they usually want to respond adequately to help the church meet those needs. However, they also want to be assured that the funds they give, many times sacrificially, are being used effectively and that the church is actively involved in ministering in a way that is pleasing to the Lord. So, there can be no acceptable alternative to financial accountability.

What is Financial Accountability?

Financial accountability is based on the principle of financial stewardship. A steward is one who occupies the position of manager of the owner's possessions. He or she is required to exercise responsible care over funds and assets entrusted to him or her.

Few stewards attain the position of honor and trustworthiness without submitting to a system of accountability, a system where clear explanations of all financial activity are detailed, recorded, and reported to donors, constituents, and/or attendees.

Because American tax laws provide special tax treatment of churches and religious organizations, churches are being, at the very least, deficient if not deceptive if they don't fully disclose all financial actions and transactions.

Several organizations provide leadership and counsel in the area of financial accountability for churches and Christian nonprofit organizations. The Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) has established standards to regulate proper systems of accounting, board operations, disclosure of finances, and fair treatment of donors.

Accountability by a Board

The importance of a church having an active board cannot be over emphasized.

Whereas neglect of financial accountability by a church board can lead to suspicion and mistrust, active involvement protects the integrity of the church, its leadership, and its objectives and ensures adherence of policies mandated by the board.

A church board should meet at least semiannually but preferably monthly. Meetings should be more than listening to the pastor's or board chairperson's reports and rubberstamping his or her recommendations.

ECFA recommends a church board of no less than five people, none of whom are staff members and/or department heads (except for the senior pastor who is generally recognized as a member in standing of the church board and all church committees, departments, and ministries) or related to each other by blood or marriage.

Recording Board Actions

The actions of the church board should be recorded in detail by written minutes. The minutes are then to be signed and dated by the board secretary and distributed to all members within a week after the meeting concludes. These minutes should be read at the next board meeting and approved as read or as corrected by the board. The actions, responsibilities, authority, and functions of the church board can be greatly diversified from church to church.

In general, all church boards are responsible for approval and revision of church administrative and/or legislative policy; serving as the church's administrator of financial accountability; authorizing an annual independent audit of the church's financial actions and transactions; authorizing the church's operating budget; authorizing any major church acquisitions (property, equipment, assets); and reviewing, revising, and/or authorizing the senior pastor's compensation package.

Conclusion

Day after day, thousands of church employees and staff personnel work tirelessly and selflessly to fulfill the church's obligations as established by Jesus, only to find many within the community casting suspicions on them due to the highly publicized mismanagement and deceptions of a few.

By establishing and submitting to a system of financial accountability, pastors, staff members, and churches can eliminate unnecessary suspicion of financial mismanagement and mistrust.

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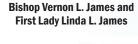
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Around the Community with Pastor Sharon Ford-Turner, 21st Anniversary Ministry Derek Locke Memorial Music Scholarship Celebration Event

21 year Board Members; Pic 1) President and Founder Sharon Mason Ford-Turner and Board Secretary Preshawn Ford; Pic 2) with Thelma Cox-Watson; Pic 3) with Cornelius Mills; Pic 4) Board Member Edna Wilson-Wilkins, with Guest Deitra Kindles and Children.

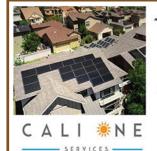












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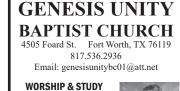
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SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45AM

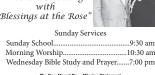
WEDN BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM



New Mount Rose Missionary Baptist Church 2864 Mississippi Ave Ft Worth, TX 76104

Pastor Kyev & **Lady Tonya Tatum**

"We are Blooming



The Church at Philadelphia 4716 Wichita Street Fort Worth, Texas 76119

125 S. 5th St., Corsicana, TX 90 Motto: "I Believe God" 903-874-487 A PURPOSE DRIVEN CHURCH Listen Each Sunday 8-9am

KAND 1340AM Radio Broadcast KNON 89.3 FM "Just Believe Broadcast" Thursday Morning 4am-7am

Community Cable TV Channel 28 Sun 7:30-8:30p; Wed 12n-1p, Sat 4:30p-5:30p

East St. Paul **Baptist Church** "The Church Where Everybody is Somebody,

but we all recognize Jesus as the Head."

Dr. Darrell Ward, Sr. 5300 Oak Grove Rd. W. Ft. Worth, TX 76134 817.293.5067





Sunday School 9:30 A.M. Morning Worship Service 11:00 A.M. Wednesday Prayer Service & Bible Study

7:00 P.M. "Come Worship with Us; God, God Does

First Baptist Church

6600 Ellis Road Ft. Worth, TX 76112 mfbchurch@netzero.com Website: meadowbrookfirstbaptist.com

MORNING WORSHIP 11:00AM





THE CHURCH @ FT. WORTH 4305 Benbrook Hwy Ft. Worth, TX 76116 817.705.3056 Website:www.tcafw.org Email: the church0107@hotmail.com Pastor C. Malone, Sr.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

THE RISING STAR Church of God in Christ

Phone: 817-534-6963 ww.therisingstarcogic.com



SUNDAY SERVICES
day School9:30 am
ning Worship....11:00am
W6:30 pm
ht Service7:30 pm

TUESDAY SERVICES rning Prayer....11:00 an

Gea & Kim

...4:00 pm

.7:00 pm

..6:30 pm

FRIDAY NIGHT
Morning Prayer..... 11:00 am
Pastoral night 7:30 pm
Youth Church 7:30 pm
(4th Friday nights)

Tastebud

Ministries

Church

"Where the Word of God

is Food for the Soul"

SUNDAY SERVICE.....SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE.

Turner Chapel

COGIC of Texas

Supt. James Turner Memorial Ministry

Evangelist Sharon Mason-Turn

(Every 2nd & 3rd Sunday)
BIBLE STUDY (Wednesday).....

7101 Wichita St - Forest Hill, TX 76140

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Prayer / Spiritual Counseling / Teac Visitation of Sick & Shut In

Helping Hand Food Distribution Ministries College Scholarship Foundation

"The Work Lives On"

Sunday Sch

PRAYER MEETING (Wednesday)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

A North Texas organization that supports students in need is starting the new year with \$30,000 in contributions from Medical City Healthcare and the HCA Healthcare Foundation.

The Dallas Region, Greater Tarrant County and North Texas affiliates of Communities In Schools have received \$10,000 each. The awards were funded by a Medical City Healthcare donation and HCA Healthcare Foundation

"This support is another positive example of how our commitment to the care and improvement of human life extends outside the walls of our facilities," says Erol Akdamar, FACHE, president of Medical City Healthcare. "Caring for our community through charitable giving and social investment helps create healthier tomorrows for the communities where our colleagues live and serve."

Communities In Schools is a national organization that works in partnership with school districts to provide school-based interventions and the resources necessary to empower students to overcome personal challenges and structural barriers. With a mission to "surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life," the organization and its affiliates create access to critical resources such as food, housing, healthcare, counseling and remote technologies. Last year, 99% of the students involved in the program stayed in school.

This financial support will aid students in need in Dallas, Denton and Tarrant counties.

Committed to the care and improvement of human life, Medical City Healthcare strives to deliver excellence always, providing high-quality healthcare in the communities it serves. With the resources and strength of HCA Healthcare, the nation's leading provider of quality healthcare services with 186 hospitals in the United States and England, Medical City Healthcare is one of the North Texas region's largest and most comprehensive healthcare providers.

The mission of the HCA Healthcare Foundation is to promote health and well-being and strive to make a positive impact in all the communities HCA Healthcare serves. We accomplish this mission by providing leadership, service and financial support to effective non-profit organizations working individually and collectively.

West Mt. Moriah **Baptist Church**

Fort Worth, TX 76107 817-731-3502

Dr. W.L.D. Campbell, Pastor

Sunday School - Sunday Prayer Meeting - Wednesday 7:00pn VISION STATEMENT

To share the Light of Christ to a world in Darkness. beginning at hon

Zion Missionary Baptist Church

4100 Horne Street Fort Worth, TX 76107 817-737-6264

REV. K.L. HAWKINS, Pastor

SUNDAY SCHOOL



WORNING WURSHIP. 10:30 a.m. EVERY WEDNESDAY - BIBLESTUDY. 6:30 p.m. 15T,4TH, 5TH WEDNESDAY - PRAYER SERVICE. 7:30 p.m. EVERY WEDNESDAY - YOUTH MEETINGS. 7:30 p.m. 2ND& 3RD WEDNESDAY - SMALLGROUPS. 7:30 p.m. 3RD SATURDAYS - EVANGELISM. 10:30 a.m.

Zion Rest

Missionary Baptist Church Fort Worth, TX 76105 817-534-8327

PASTOR RUFUS HUCKABY

Norship and Study Services

11:00am

7:30pm

Morning Worship



NOW HIRING 5325 Ronnell Street

Harvey Avenue Baptist Church is looking to employ a Lead Guitar Player and a Keyboard Player who sings. For information contact Pastor Jack Teeler at (817) 927-2739. The church is located at 1257 E. Harvey Ave, Fort Worth, TX 76104

COMMERCIAL SPACE **FOR LEASE** Looking for a fresh start after the pandemic mpus Drive - Seminary location is located 5 minutes from I-35 in Fort Worth Texas A growing community*Family Oriented*Gated Building Less than \$1.30 square foot Fellowship Hall - Sanctuary (150 Capacity) (4) Class Pastor's Study Kitchen Restrooms New blinds installed/ recently painted Freshly waxed floors Electricity and water bill included \$3200@ monthy51700 Security Deposit/ \$150 Application Fee (Non-Refundable) Interested please contact

Black Musicians Association of Tarrant County

The Black Musicians Association of Tarrant County membership include access to workshops, hymn sessions, vocal and instrumental training, and a kaleidoscope of musical events. The BMATC invites you, ministers of music, vocalist, choir directors, and instrumentalists to join us in this season of growth. Interested? Contact us at bmatc2012@gmail.com



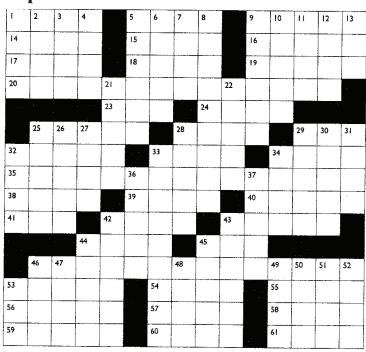
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BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Topic: HOW MANY?



ACROSS

I Skip

5 Info

9 Turf covers

14 Window

16 Racetracks, often

17 "____ Homo" ("Behold the

man," Lat.)

18 Lincoln portrait

19 Aired again 20 What false prophets will do

(Matt. 24:11; 3 wds.)

23 Billboards 24 Former newscaster Huntley

25 Witch who hounded Odysseus

28 Snow runners 29 Make a cat sound

32 Columbus's hometown

33 ____-do-well

34 Defiled

35 These will be last (Matt. 19:30;

38 A condition of an object being

sold (2 wds.) 39 Some are carpenters

40 Runs an engine without driv-

ing anywhere

41 Born (fem.)

42 Takes a small drink

43 Dog pests 44 Mister in Munchen

45 Metal deposit

46 Jesus gave his life to be this (Mark 10:45: 4 wds.)

53 Persona non 54 Tirades

55 Margarine

him on a Monday and my heart stood still"

58 Headliner

60 Hamilton portraits

61 Sped

DOWN | European car

2 Criminal stopper

3 South American tribe

4 Started a golf game (with off)

5 120 months 6 Approvals

7 Wee

8 Those who commit violence

9 Pastries

10 Steer clear of

| | ____ avis

12 Button on a tape recorder

13 A government-issued number

21 Parrot

22 British county

25 Desist

26 A kind of navel

27 Rogers and Clark 28 Places in a theater

29 The first name of Trump's sec-

30 Curves 31 Moistens

32 Fed

33 What many charitable groups

34 Wait

36 Things split by legalists 37 A secretary, many times

42 One hundred Washington

leaders 43 Poet Robert

44 Despised

45 Many times

46 Seed covering

47 Sitarist Shankar

48 Ape

49 The majority

50 She sings the low part

51 Approach

52 Past

53 Test for higher education: abbr.

HOT SHOT PHOTOGRAPHY

Portraits (studio or location)

Weddings

Graduation Pictures

Reunions

On Site Event Photo Printing

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2 Locations to serve you

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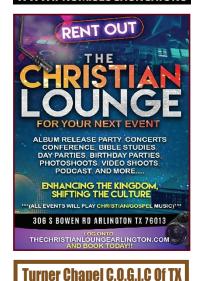
2701 SOUTH GREAT SW PKWY, STE 2731 GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS 972.988.0000

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Supt. James Turner



6:00 am Intercessory Prayer

