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"The LEADER'S EDGE" by drmichaelbell

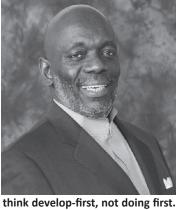
For most church leaders the Covid-pandemic era (which, by the way, we're still in the midst of) has been a struggle to adapt and survive. For one thing, the return-tochurch numbers are frustratingly low. One of the many challenges emanating from this global tragedy's impact on the church is that most local church's are dealing with a thin leadership pool. And it's no exaggeration that the health and welfare of the local church is contingent on the ability of the leader or leaders to develop a team that will labor together to prioritize the church's work and accomplish the church's mission.

Leadership development is constitutive to the present and future success of your and my church. We see several examples of leadership development throughout the Word of God; from Nehemiah and his dream to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem to Jesus' intentional team building with his core group, the twelve disciples.

So, how does a leader move his or her followers to generate a leadership development culture? When effectuating a leadership development culture for your church, there are at least three simple steps to start with.

First, start with prayer. Prayer may seem like a given, but think of how much work and effort we often do before we even take a few minutes to pray. We make announcements, beg people from the pulpit, or try first one thing, then another thing and then the first thing again to find that hidden leader. In all of this, we are ignoring what Jesus said in Matthew 9, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Why pray? Because it's not your harvest. It is God's harvest, and God is the one most interested in raising up laborers. Yes, there is more to do after you pray, but make it a regular practice to pray that the Lord of the harvest would raise up the right people at the right time.

Then, encourage existing leaders to

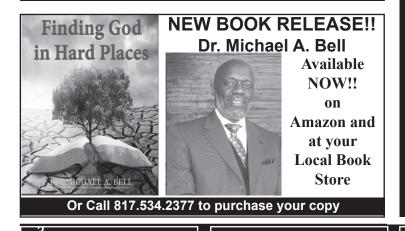


Arguably, the best leaders raise up other leaders. But if leaders do the stuff themselves, how will opportunities for growth be made available for others around them? Existing leaders must be taught and learn to delegate consistently, clearly and frequently! Delegating isn't just telling someone what to do – it is making a commitment to coach and disciple them in what it is you are asking them to take on.

Existing leaders should model best practices and healthy patterns. As

a leader, what are you modeling? Are we projecting what we want to see replicated across our church? Model leadership development at every level. When you, as a leader, are serious about creating a leadership development culture for your church, you need to live out the value of developing other people. Every pastor, deacon, trustee, steward, ministry team representative, committee chair, and coordinator at every level needs to have someone they are investing in. Just like Moses had a Joshua, Elijah an Elisha, and Paul a Timothy, every single ecclesiastical and lay leader in every area needs to have someone they're mentoring. Always remember that leadership development doesn't happen in isolation but in community.

*dr. michael bell is Senior Pastor of Greater St. Stephen First Church FtW, a seminary adjunct professor, and a certified Life Coach. He conducts leadership seminars and conferences across the country. He is the author of a new book, "Finding God in Hard Places" and is a contributor to a soon-to-be-published anthology, "Justice Looks Like..."



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Speak Life Thought with First Lady & Co-Pastor Yolanda G. Butler

"Prayer My Essential Lifeline"

"But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly" (Matthew 6:6 NKJV).

Prayer is an act of communion with the Father in devotion, petition, thanksgiving, and worship. Essential means that which is fundamentally important or necessary. A lifeline is that which is regarded as a source of salvation in a crisis. Prayer, therefore, is of utmost importance in the life of a believer because it brings life. Without prayer, there is no connection to the Father. Without prayer, there is no life. Without prayer, there is no power. Without prayer, there is no direction. Without prayer, there is no hope for a nation, for a family, for a marriage, or for a child. Without prayer, there is no peace, no healing, and no joy.

In the KJV, if you looked for the word pray, prayer, praying, prayed, etc., you will find approximately 547 mentions of prayer in 513 verses of the Bible. Jesus spoke on at least four occasions the phrase, "when you pray" (Matthew 6:5-6, Mark 11:24-25). This is a clear indication that prayer should be a common discipline in the life of every believer. In other words, the Father expects you and I to pray.

If you desire to see a great move, pray.

If you desire to see a change, pray.

If you desire to hear from the Father, pray.

If you are sick, call the elders to help you pray. If you are well, pray.

If you are happy, pray. If you have peace, pray.

Every time you open your mouth and pray, you break through into the spiritual atmosphere and touch heaven. Oftentimes it is a battle to get a prayer through especially when you are experiencing stress, trauma, loss, pain, and/or hurt. But remember, prayer is a lifeline. No matter when you pray, you are tapping into the Power Source of your life and that is the Great and Almighty God through Jesus Christ by the power of Holy Spirit.

After the church prayed, Pentecost fell (Acts 1:14), evangelism went forth (Acts 16:25) and miracles were performed (Acts 12:5). Through prayer, leaders were established (Acts 1:24, 6:6,



14:23), sinners repented (Acts 8:24, 26:29), missionaries went abroad (Acts 13:3), and healings manifested (Acts 9:40, 28:8). The Church prayed in a time of crisis (Acts 7:59, 12:5, 12), when making decisions or establishing leaders (Acts 1:24, 6:6, 14:23), and even when saying "goodbye" (Acts. 20:36, 21:5). We find all throughout the Book of Acts that the Church prayed habitually (Acts 1:14, 2:42, 6:4, 13:3).

So dear hearts, be determined to always pray and never give up because it is your essential lifeline.

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.

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CHURCHIN'

Social Media with Caution: Social Media Tips for Seniors

Let's be honest, most people our age only want to join the social media party to see our newest grandbaby or the latest wedding pictures of our children or grandchildren depending on our ages.

Regardless of why you're wanting to join social media there is a platform waiting for you. Whether you choose Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok or Snapchat, there is a platform for us. To be honest, Facebook is the preferred platform for people 45 years of age and older. Keep in mind that Facebook is now called Meta due to their recent name change that happened last year during the summer.

Before you decide to create an account on Facebook or use the account you already have, you should use this platform as well as other social media accounts with caution. Sadly, although we love social media to connect with classmates, co-workers and our family members, that's not the primary purpose of everyone on social media. Therefore, that's why I am issuing a strong warning about being very careful on social media.

Recently, a friend told me she received a call via Facebook messenger from her grandson or someone pretending to be her grandson. The person stated they needed money because they had been pulled over by the local police. At first, she admitted to being in a panic because no one wants their grandson, or a relative in general, to be in some sort of trouble. Luckily, my friend asked more questions that the predator wasn't able to answer. She hung up and called other relatives who were quickly able to ensure her grandson's safety.

Here's the newest scam to be aware of:

A person will contact you via Facebook or other social media outlets and act as if they want to buy something from you. It could be a service you provide, or something lying around your house or anything in your possession. Then they FedEx a check for a higher amount than what you requested or expected. Once you attempt to tell them you've received a check for the incorrect amount, they will ask you to go ahead and deposit the check and wire transfer the difference of the check they've sent to you.

Here's the issue with this scam: 1) Most people send their own money to scammers which means you're losing money and not gaining money.

2) If the FedEx check enters the "Insufficient Funds" status with your bank, you will be responsible for any negative balance that is



owed to you. Sometimes causing law enforcement to get involved.

Here's the truth about Facebook, or Meta as it's now called: It's a great place to network and use as a source of communication as long as you put your safety first. Remember, there's a lot of scammers looking for a new way to earn money. Sadly, Seniors are the prey for scammers because we are so quick to trust.

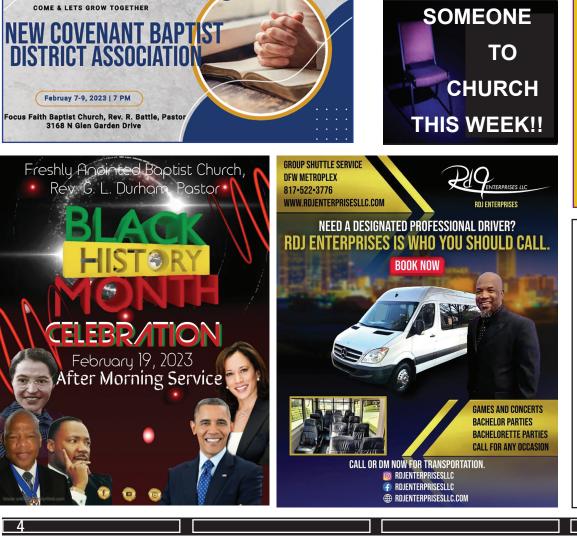
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

INVITE

LaNette Kincaide is a Christian author, Writing Coach and Social Media Strategist. She is also the owner of I Write Writing Academy, LLC. She is currently a Marine wife, mother and grandmother who loves to write, cook and meet new people. LaNette is originally from Texas, but currently lives and enjoys the hiking trails of Colorado.



Pic 1) Pastor Sharon Mason Ford-Turner was awarded Crown and Award at Silvia Queen 2022 Award Presentation; Pic 2) With Late Atatiana Jefferson Nephew Zion Carr, Trinity and Mason Ford, Constable Michael Campbell and Atty. Leah at Stop Six MLK Parade; Pic 3) Announcement flyer Turner Chapel COGIC of TX 16 Annual Black History Love Fellowship Event.



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The Ministers Justice Coalition of Texas recently created the **Pastors Prostate Project**

and fears, as we often do. It does not

tell us to focus on anything in this

world, such as the money or bank ac-

count God may have blessed us with.

No matter our situation, it tells us to

focus on God, on Jesus, on the eter-

nal that is unseen, not the temporal

Isaiah 26:3 points out, if we trust God

our mind will be stayed on Him. In

other words, if we do not trust God,

our minds will be elsewhere, on what

we think we can trust, our abilities,

jobs, etc. or on our problems and our

fleshly attempts to overcome them.

B.M.U.

shifting sand we see.

UNDAY, Fe



The Ministers Justice Coalition of Texas recently created the Pastors Prostate Project to encourage Black men to get screened for prostate cancer.

What is Your Mind Stayed On?

by Michael Edwards

What do you think about most often these days. Is it the unrest in the world and the United States, fear of future viruses, the daily news, the economy, your job, your bank account, your bills, the stock market, your health, inflation, the deception and evil plot of the enemy that is unfolding in these latter days, politics and your party, worry, concern and even fear for the future of your children, etc. Does staying your mind on these things bring His peace, the peace and power that Jesus died to give us, or do they trouble your heart and bring fear?

"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful. John 14:27 NAS

In Isaiah 26:3, God's word is consistent and it tells us how we can have His perfect peace that overcomes all circumstances.

You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Isaiah 26:3 ESV

Notice that it does not tell us to stay our minds on our doubts, worries

See Full Menu

Seminary Dr.

Kyev Tatum, who is partnered with Moncrief Cancer Institute to host a free prostate cancer screening clinic at New Mount Rose Baptist Church - Ft Worth this past January, other screening clinics will follow. Moncrief will bring its Mobile Screening Clinic to the church to provide free blood tests to screen for prostate cancer for men who qualify. Request an appointment to be screened at moncrief.com/screening or by calling 817.288.9970.

The group is spearheaded by Pastor

This is walking in the very limited power of the flesh instead of the Spirit. In the end, it will fail.

God wants us to walk in the Spirit where we will be filled with His power and peace. The only way we can do this is to believe, trust and obey God fully. He will provide all we need. God's counsel is very clear, keep our mind stayed on Him and we will have His perfect peace in all circumstances, the clarity and ability to overcome all things in Christ who loves us.

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Sunday Services

Sunday School.....







Morning Worship	11:00 AM
YPWW	6:30 PM
Night Service	7:30 PM
Tuesday Services	
Morning Prayer	11:00 AM
Bible Band	7:00 PM
Friday Services	
Morning Prayer	11:00 AM
Night Services	7:30 PM

Supt. E. Charles Barrett, Pastor Mother Ida Barrett, First Lady

"If you go with us, we will do you good!"



CHURCH DIRECTORY



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4660 Horne St., FWT, 76107 Martin Luther King Center

5565 Truman Drive, FWT, 76112 North Tri-Ethnic Center

2950 Roosevelt Ave. FWT, 76106

Southside Community Center

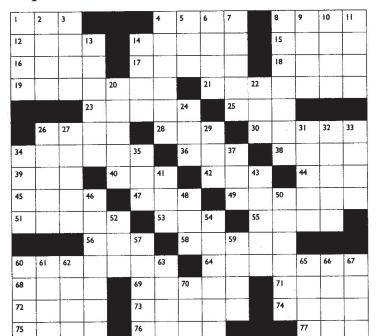
Worth Heights Community Center 3551 New York Ave., FWT, 76110

401 W Sanford. Ste. 2700. Arlington, TX 76011

Administration: Fort Worth - Community Action Partners Neighborhood Services Department 908 Monroe Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102



BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE **Topic: BIBLE PEOPLE**



l:9)

58 Bell stroke

55 Devil's name and character

(John 8:44, KJV)

56 Boone or Robertson

60 Governor who con

(Acts 7:59)

68 Jai ___ (game)

72 Usu, four to a table

73 Drunkard: 2 wds.

(Esther 2:3, KJV)

74 Esther's palace caretake

____ and found dept.

76 40-day penitence period

77 Circuit indicator light: acron.

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ing: 2 wds. (Gen. 50:10) 2 Last (Matt. 13:21, кју)

(Judg. 7:25) 4 Abiram's co-c

5 Before guitous

9 For males only

10 Allen, Kan., county seat

3 Zeeb's Midianite cogeneral

against Moses (Num. 16:12)

6 Building extensions to side

7 Memory's "bottomless pit"

8 Abraham's first son (Gen. 16:15)

71 Helper

75

DOWN

Christ (Acts 4:27)

64 Christian stoned to death

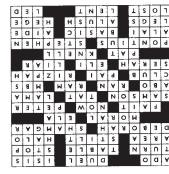
ACROSS

I Fuss 4 Face off 8 Egyptian fertility goddess 12 My _____ by Nancy Reagan 14 Chart 15 Hex. sign 16 Subject specialty 17 Walking pole 18 Surrounds saints (Ezek, 1:27) 19 O.T. judge, poet, and prophetess (Judg. 4:4) 21 Killed 600 Philistines with an ox goad (Judg. 3:31) 23 The ____ of the stor 25 Shimei's father (| Kings 4:18) accompli 26 28 At this time 30 The big fisherman (Matt. 4:18) 34 Bible's strongest man (ludg.

16:12) 36 Precedes ter or too (Lev. 19:28) 38 lesus' cry from cross (Mark 15:34) 39 All human blood types 40 Smuggled 42 Computer's volatile memory 44 Mutual Broadcasting Sys. 45 Officers' hangout 47 Extra car rental coverage

(1 Chron. 1:50) 49 Concubine of King Saul

(2 Sam. 3:7) 51 Daughter of Asher (Gen. 46:17)



I "Single-celled" prefix 53 Priest in Samuel's time (1 Sam. 13 Boaz was a relative of husband (Ruth 2:3) 14 Nicholas of Russia, for one 20 What disk brake grabs 22 Before ha and habet 24 Fate 26 Aesop story 27 Love affair 29 Tolstoy's _ and Peace 31 Central Florida city 32 Cause self-consci 33 Foolishly hasty 69 Common computer language 34 Cysts 35 Soft fuzzy surface 37 Noah's ship sealant (Gen. 6:14) 41 Scot's denial 43 Cecil B. de ___ (Greatest Show on Earth) 46 John the ____ 48 Kind 50 Mothered two of Jacob's sons (Gen. 35:26) 52 Abraham's seco (Gen. 12:8, кју) 54 Firmly dema 57 Foundry founde (Gen. 4:22) 59 Impress deeply 60 Type of bearer (Isa, 25:7) 61 Margarine 62 Old horses 63 Bargain 65 Jericho's rebuilder (1 Kings 16:34)

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