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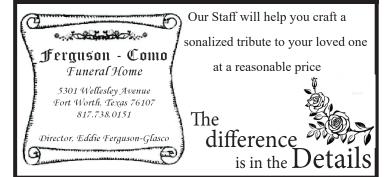
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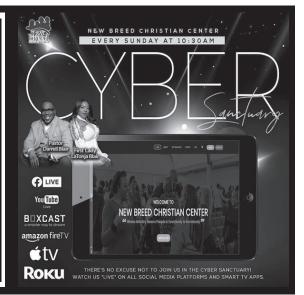
We celebrate our Youth Annual Day on SUnday, May 22nd @ 10:15 in the morning at the Sixth Avenue Baptist Church. Please join us for ant and all of our Worship Opportunities. To God be the Glory for the Things He has done

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"The LEADER'S EDGE" by drmichaelbell

Ram Charan writing in his book Leadership Pipeline argues that the biggest reason leadership development efforts fail in organizations, including churches, is because "Leaders are trained for their current roles and not their future roles." Leadership development fails because learning and training are often focused on the current role a person is playing rather than the role they'll be playing in the future. Consequently, when people move into new roles, they're often ill-prepared because all their training was focused on their previous roles.

Before I address how to handle leadership development failures, let's look at a couple of issues that hurt a church's ability to develop and empower effective leaders. Here's what I see far too many churches doing that simply isn't working.

- 1. A church might fail in developing leaders because it adopts programmatic strategies for developing leaders rather than making leadership development personal. For example, a church may choose to schedule periodic "leadership training" meetings on generic leadership principles, or engage leaders in regular book studies or courses. Truth is building a leadership culture requires a more personalized approach.
- 2. Giving positions of leadership to people who aren't ready. I confess that I've made this mistake way too often. The Word of God teaches us that we should be very intentional about whom we place into leadership roles. "Never be in a hurry about appointing a church leader" (1 Timothy 5:22, NLT).

These are just a couple of reasons I see for why churches fail in developing leaders. Flipping these patterns is worth our attention and energy. Why? Because helping leaders succeed is critically important to the health and growth of churches.

So how can leaders, as they develop others, overcome the most prominent reasons leadership development efforts fail?



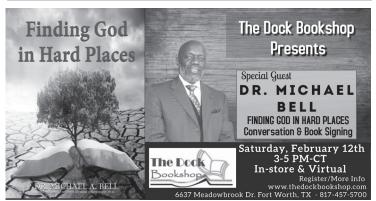
First, expand the scope of your vision. A big vision requires leadership development, inviting people into new and expanded roles that will push the mission forward. A limited vision lends itself to merely filling positions and maintaining the status quo.

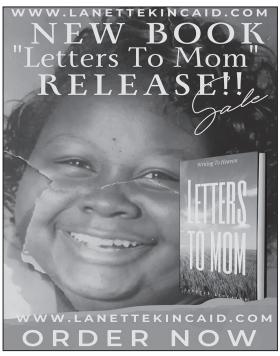
Then, look for new opportunities. As new opportunities arise for the ministry or organization, those new opportunities provide leaders with new responsibilities that will grow them. The new opportunities are not only good for the organization, but they are also good for the leadership development of the people who get asked to pursue those opportunities.

One more thing. Many churches talk almost ad *nauseam* about the scarcity of young adults who participate and serve in the life of their church. But, if the church isn't willing to train and place young adults in significant places of service, you can almost guarantee that they will not show up. And if they do, they won't stick.

One of the best ways to combat this disengagement is to realize that younger leaders have a lot to offer right now, not just in the future. Invite younger leaders to play important roles now. Don't let age be what stops you from entrusting the faithful with more responsibility.

*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.







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A Lifetime Love Story

"He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. (1 John 4:8 NKJV)

The Bible is one of the most remarkable books of love in the world because of its hundreds of references on love. It sets forth the greatest love story ever written—God's unconditional love for us that sent His Son to die on the cross (John 3:16; 1 John 4:10).

Webster defines love as an intense feeling or deep affection; a deep romantic or sexual attachment to someone; a great interest and pleasure in something. The Biblical definition of love is a caring commitment in which affection and delight are shown to others. The deepest expression of God's nature is grounded in love, which He demonstrates in His words and actions, and supremely in the death of Jesus Christ on the cross.

God is the source of love. His character is love (1 John 4:8). His love is revealed in the cross of Jesus Christ (1 John 4:10). His love is expressed in fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22). His love is expressed in the Old Testament. Lam. 3:22 "It is of the LORD's mercy [great love] that we are not consumed [cut-off], because his compassion

never fails. His love is extended to all humanity (John 3:16)

Life is worth living through love. Jesus reminded us of this when He gave us the greatest commandment concerning love (Matt. 22:37-38). He also told us the sign of discipleship is through love towards each other and the world (John 13:35).

Love is a character booster (1 Cor 13). Love is patient, suffers for the sake of redemption, is kind, believes the best, and rejoices in truth. In the midst of personal hardships, love will always endure in silence giving no place to vent or complain that would promote pity of personal hardship; but believes, hopes, and endures because love knows love cannot fail.

Love does have limitations. It will not and cannot seek revenge, be envious, prideful, jealous, self-seeking, rude [ugly], or easily angered (frustrated, agitated). It will not and cannot keep records of wrong, take pleasure in evil [unrighteousness], love the world or the things that belong to the world (1 John 2:15) nor be fake.

Love is a show-off. It feeds the hungry, helps the poor, cares for the unsheltered, sees after the sick, and remembers those in prison (Matt. 25:44).

The greatest lifetime love story is that God showed His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sin-



ners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:9).

Our response to this love story is to love God because He first loved us (1 John 4:19); delight in worship and God's house (Ps. 26:8); cherish His Word (Ps. 119:97); give of self (Rom 12:1) and give of resources (2 Cor. 9:7); obey His Word which is not burdensome (1 John 5:3) and love others (1 John 4:21; and, pray and love enemies (Matt 5:44; Luke 6:27, 35). The sinner's response to the lifetime love story is to confess, believe, and receive the free gift of salvation (Rom 10:9).

So dear hearts be determined to share the greatest lifetime love story with others that they too might live and love now and forever (1 John 4:9-10).

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.

NEW LOCATION FOR TEXAS GOSPEL MUSIC FESTIVAL

ANNOUNCED

IMC Concerts has made an exciting announcement for the future of the beloved annual event, the Texas Gospel Music Festival. Beginning with this year's festival, the brand new, state-of-the-art Hill Performance Hall at Eisemann Center will host music lovers from across the globe for the Texas Gospel Music Festival. The venue is located just outside Dallas, TX, in Richardson, TX.

Located just off the interstate with multiple dining options and 4-star hotels. The Hill Performance Hall is the perfect location for the weekend event.

Landon Beene, IMC Concerts owner, states: "The team at the Eisemann Center has been amazing to work with and they're genuinely excited to welcome our friends to their facility for a great



weekend celebration."

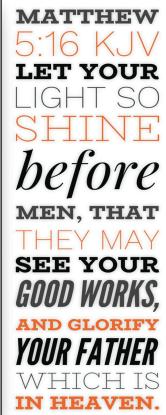
Brian Hudson, co-promoter, says: "We are so excited about the future of the Texas Gospel Music Festival, and this is the perfect time for the relocation of this event to this gorgeous venue – it's an excellent place to present the weekend full of great gospel mu-

Along with the new location, the Texas Gospel Music Festival will feature the most diverse lineup in the event's history. The following artists will provide excellent

gospel music: Ernie Haase & Signature Sound, The Crabb Family, Mark Lowry, Booth Brothers, Sandi Patty, Triumphant, Legacy Five, Greater Vision, Lynda Randle, The Guardians, and The Erwins, along with comedian Mickey Bell.

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A Masters in Business Administration, Webster University, St. Louis Missouri, a Bachelor of Science, Computer Science, Washburn University, Topeka Kansas, and numerous other degrees from various University. For many years, Ms. Williams-Gilkey considered herself a career student as she worked for over 16 years as a self made Entrepreneur. She worked for over 28 years in the Corporate Environment as an Engineer and Technology Management. Ms. Williams-Gilkey is an astute Funeral Director and Mortician who graciously mixes professionalism with affordable and caring Christian Service. The Staff, my family, and I wish to express our gratitude to you for entrusting your love

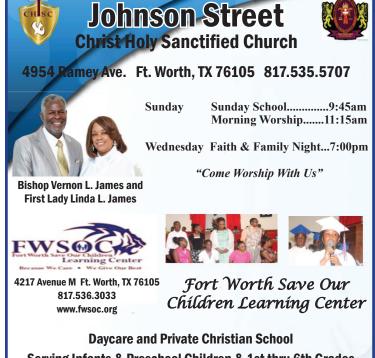


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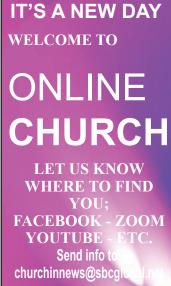
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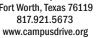
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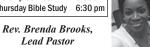
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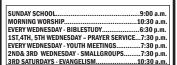
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Zion Rest

Missionary Baptist Church 3733 Ave J Fort Worth, TX 76105 817-534-8327

PASTOR RUFUS HUCKABY

nd Study Services

Sunday School 11:00am /ednesdav

7:30pm



Federal funds will help build additional permanent supportive housing

The City Council on Tuesday approved allocating \$5 million from the American Rescue Plan Act to help develop at least 40 additional units of permanent supportive housing in Fort Worth.

The Tarrant County Homeless Coalition evaluated the homelessness situation in the local Continuum of Care area, which encompasses Tarrant and Parker counties. The coalition estimated that 162 additional units of permanent supportive housing are needed in Fort Worth. A current request for projects will provide 125 housing units, so the additional \$5 million in ARPA funds will allow the city to reach the goal of having 162 units of permanent supportive housing.

The goal is to have enough housing so that anyone who wants housing and is disabled and homeless longer than one year has a unit available.

The city has a history of investing in permanent supportive housing, most notably with Casa de Esperanza at the end of 2020. That is when 119 households (at least half directly from the street) were housed in a repurposed motel. These folks were disabled, vulnerable to COVID-19 and had been homeless longer than one year.

ARPA funds must be spent by the end of 2026.

No tax increase. Vote Yes!



Build a stronger future with financial coaching

Financial coaching helps people apply money management skills to their current financial situation

Free financial coaching will be offered at Summer Creek Middle School, 10236 Summer Creek Drive in Crowley, from 6-7:30 p.m. on four upcoming Tuesdays: May 3, 10, 17 and 24.

Participants are eligible for a \$200 dollar-for-dollar savings match after completing four financial coaching sessions. Participants must register

To learn more, contact Wayne Walden at 817-731-1173.

The National Domestic Violence

1.800.799.SAFE (7233) • 1.800.787.3224 (TTY)

Senior Pastor Vacancy @ Berea Baptist Church

6901 Forest Hill Drive | Forest Hill, TX 76140 | bereabc@thebereabc.org Emails are also accepted | Resumes accepted thru May 31



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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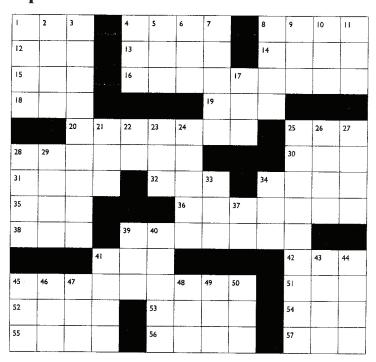
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BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Topic: MAJOR PROBLEMS



ACROSS

I Dine (Rev. 3:20, KJV) 4 Midianite king (Num. 31:8) 8 ____- Hamath, Promised Land boundary marker (Num. 34:7) 12 Sin (2 Chron. 33:9, KJV) 13 Midianite general (Judg. 7:25) 14 Elderly (Deut. 32:7) 15 Untruth (Gen. 3:4) 16 Alienated (Job 19:13, KJV) 18 Donkey (Gen. 16:12) 19 Plus (Gen. 1:1) 20 Resource management (Isa 29:23) 25 Cultivate (Isa. 5:6) 28 Disregarded (1 Kings 12:13) 30 Request (Gen. 24:14) 31 Cisterns (1 Kings 7:38) 32 Shout of disapproval (Job 27:23) 34 Without charge (Gen. 23:11) 35 Sum total (Gen. 1:8) 36 Without help (Isa. 63:5) 38 Attention getter (Mark 15:32) 39 Folks (Gen. 38:11) 41 What Jesus quieted (Mark 4:39) 42 Possessed 45 Mediate (Lev. 10:10) 51 Roman three 52 Ascertain (Gen. 45:16)

56 Shealtiel's father (Luke 3:27) 57 Female reference (Gen. 2:23)

DOWN I City in Edom (2 Kings 14:7) 2 "____ son was Bezalel" (I Chron. 2:20) 3 Now (Matt. 26:53, KJV) 4 Deer (2 Sam. 2:18, KJV) 5 ____ brother, Onan (Gen. 38:8) 6 Wager (2 Kings 18:23) 7 Sarai's husband (Gen. 11:31) 8 Country (Gen. 2:11) 9 Food from hen (Luke 11:12) 10 Relative of a hornet (Ps. 118:12) 11 Unusual (Eccles. 8:10) 17 One or another (Gen. 3:1) 21 Mediterranean island (Acts 21:1) 22 Alternative (Gen. 3:3) 23 Babylonian king: abbr. (2 Kings 24:1) 24 Scent (John 12:3, KJV) 25 Misfortunes (Neh. 9:32) 26 O.T. writer (Rom. 9:25, KIV) __ out a living 28 District of Babylon (2 Kings 18:34, KJV)

29 Windstorm (John 6:18)

33 Singular (Gen. 2:24)

34 Suitable (Gen. 49:20)

37 One (Gen. 8:11) 39 Cherished creature (Job 41:5) 40 First Hebrew priest (Exod. 28:1) 4! Honored ones (Gen. 18:3) 43 Father of Rizpah (2 Sam. 21:8) 44 Eat a main meal (2 Sam. 11:11) 45 Triumph cry (Ps. 35:21) 46 Crimson (Exod. 26:14) 47 Not good (Gen. 2:17) 48 "We ____ saved by trusting" (Rom. 8:24) 49 Waterproofing substance (Exod. 2:3) 50 Samuel's appointed guardian



(1 Sam. 1:25)

SUNDAY SCHOOL



BOOT HEEL

53 Spoken (Dan. 1:18)

tainer (Lev. 2:7)

54 Wide-mouthed cooking con-

55 Contributes (Prov. 10:22)

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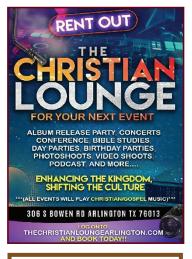












Turner Chapel C.O.G.I.C Of TX

Supt. James Turner

Memorial Ministries

Sharon Ford-Turner, Overseer



