



Paul W. Powell

MAY-JUNE 2008
GEORGE W. TRUETT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

A WORD FROM TRUETT

Several years ago a man found himself in an elevator with Lee Iacocca, chairman of the Chrysler Corp. at the time. The man inquired, "You are Lee Iacocca, are you not?" The automobile executive acknowledged that he was. "Mr. Iacocca," the man said, "I want to tell you how much I enjoy your television commercials advertising Chrysler." To this compliment Iacocca replied, "Sir, I could care less what you think of my commercials. What I want to know is, what kind of car do you drive?" Iacocca knew that if the people did not buy Chrysler products, the commercials were useless.

Pastor, the bottom line to our ministry is sales, not sales-talk. The question is, are people buying what you are selling—or sharing—the good news of salvation? Are people being saved and added to the kingdom? We need a new birth of evangelism in our churches today.

LEADERSHIP

Tips from Marsha Sharp, retired coach of Texas Tech Women's Basketball Team from *Tall Enough to Coach*:

- Delegation is important. "I could come to work every day and stay extremely busy and really accomplish tasks that, in one sense, are very important. I could wash towels, sweep the floor, clean the locker room, and stuff would accrue in the mail. I would have worked hard and, believe me, and I'm not above doing any one of those tasks. However, I must be efficient in delegating any one of those tasks to capable staff members so that I can tackle other areas such as getting administrative support, connecting with fans, dealing with media or studying film. There is plenty of work to go around, but I was hired to lead—delegation is a must. (pgs. 36-37)
- Everyone must feel needed and must feel some ownership, not only with this particular team, but the program as a whole. A successful coach makes each player feel important from applauding their efforts and work out to make them an important part of all sports activities, to confiding in them important decisions about the team in general.
- You need to set long-term goals, but you must also have short-term goals. These are a variety of steps necessary to reach that long-term goal. Goals should be broken down within the seasons, each game, etc. Some things should be non-negotiable.
- It's been particularly distressing to me throughout the years that so many kids reach an age of accountability and don't know how to write thank-you notes. Unfortunately, too many people believe that their fellow human beings owe them acts of kindness. (pg. 109)
- When you're blessed with such great talent and immense opportunity, you have a very direct responsibility to give back. There are many ways to do that, but one is to give confidence to as many people as possible. (pg. 114)

Every minister would be wise to heed Marsha's advice.

ILLUSTRATION

There's a need for unity in the church today. It heals fractures in the body. Ever hear an orchestra warming up? Everyone is doing his own thing. Then the conductor comes in and they all applaud. He hasn't done a thing yet. He taps on the rostrum and they all begin to play in harmony. The Holy Spirit is the conductor and he creates harmony in the church.

Rabbi Tzvi Marx from Holland said, "The reason God banished all the people from the Tower of Babel and made them all speak different languages was not because he did not want them to collaborate per se, it was because he was enraged at what they were collaborating on—an effort to build a tower to the heavens so they could become God." This was a distortion of the human capacity, so God broke the union and their ability to communicate with one another. (Thomas Freedman, *The World is Flat*, Farrar, Straus, & Girour, page 539)

QUOTES

- "A mind that is stretched by a new idea, never returns to its original dimension."
Oliver Wendell Holmes
- "There are two kinds of graduates: those who have learned how to learn, and those who have learned how to think." Anko P. Jansen

A SERMON

- Title Preach the Word
Text II Timothy 4:1-5
Author William Lawson
- Introduction Preaching is the central purpose of the church. That's "preaching," not "preachers."
Preachers can become arrogant and dictatorial. God could raise up rocks that would cry out his name. How are we to preach the word?
- I Preach it with courage.
 - II Preach it with fervor.
 - III Preach it with consistency.
 - IV Preach it with urgency.
- Conclusion I can admire people I don't always agree with—Malcolm X, Gandhi, Tutu, Martin Luther King, etc. —because they had passion.

PASTORING

One of the duties of every minister is to help people deal with death. It will help us to remember the life and influence of British pastor John Donne. He pastored St. Paul's Cathedral in London. He was an exceedingly popular preacher and writer but preoccupied with thoughts of death. He asked if a statue of him should be placed in the cathedral that would be wrapped in a shroud as if dead. That's the way he appears in statue form today — wrapped in a shroud as if dead.

In his *Devotions Upon Emergent Occasions*, Donne wrote the words that Ernest Hemingway used for the title of one of his finest novels: "No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod bee washed away by the sea, Europe is the lesser....any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

MARRIAGES IN MINISTRY RETREAT 2008

Mark your calendars and schedule to attend a retreat to encourage and empower for ministers and wives. The Sept. 11-13 retreat at Lakeview Conference Center in Waxahachie, Texas, will be led by Paul and Cathy Powell and Ron and Beth Wells. The \$100 per couple fee will include two nights and six meals. It will cover issues of time stress, couple accountability, recovering from defeats in ministry, and separating personal and ministry life.

For more information, please contact Centrepoint Ministries at 903-509-9392, ronwells@centrepoinc.cc or Centrepoint Ministries, 3400 F S. Broadway, Tyler, TX 75701.

THE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

For the fourth consecutive year, Baylor will serve as a satellite site for the Willow Creek Leadership Summit on Aug. 7-8. This acclaimed conference will re-invigorate you as an individual leader, provide an invaluable opportunity to fellowship with peers, and build your team's relationships. For a lineup of speakers and the schedule, visit www.willowcreek.com/summit.

Baylor and Truett alumni are eligible to receive a Baylor discount rate of \$75. Our students also are eligible for scholarships. Register by July 10 and receive the early bird rate of \$65. You can take advantage of the these rates only by registering through Baylor at www.baylor.edu/willowcreek. For questions, please contact Denise Corley at 710-6274 or Denise_Corley@baylor.edu.

REMEMBER

George W. Truett Seminary is a Christ-centered, Bible-based seminary committed to our historic Baptist principles. Our vision is to be the premiere Baptist theological seminary of the world. Our mission is to serve the churches by training the next generation of ministers and missionaries.



George W. Truett Theological Seminary
Baylor University
One Bear Place #97126
Waco, TX 76798-7126

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID BAYLOR UNIVERSITY
