



December 17, 2009

Greetings in the name of our Lord,

“For the first time, I heard a complete message and gained a deep understanding about work from God’s perspective including God’s plan for my work life and how He desires to use me.” These comments were made by a 26 year old who was one of the 350 attendees at our 2nd annual Faith at Work Conference held on October 17, 2009 in Irvine.

This kind of feedback encourages us and we hope it encourages you as well. The goal of our ministry is for Christians to better understand the application of Biblical principles to their work life. Our desire is that ministry participants will view work differently and work as “unto the Lord”, becoming intentional and deliberate about honoring God in all work issues. And by working differently, God will be glorified and His kingdom expanded. You are humbly invited to join us in supporting this discipleship and evangelism ministry.

*“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord, not for men.”* Colossians 3:23

Colossians 3:23 drives everything we do at Faith and Work Life (FWL). This is the ministry’s theme verse. Our singular discipleship focus is to help men and women “live out” this verse on a daily basis in their workplaces.

The problem is that too many men and women are compartmentalizing their faith and their work. They are not connecting the Sunday message with the Monday workplace. They don’t fully understand God plans for their work and how God desires to use them in their secular workplaces to accomplish His plans. FWL, with your prayers and support, exists to help overcome this faith and work disconnect by partnering with para-church workplace ministries and local churches in a discipleship effort.

By presenting workshops, monthly luncheons, annual conferences and seminars at churches, we help teach Christians to look at work from God’s perspective (as a blessing not a curse). Here what we accomplished last year:

- 8 outreach luncheons, averaging 160 attendees: almost 1,300 participants
- Annual *Faith At Work* conference: 350 attendees
- 4 speaking engagements at churches: almost 125 attendees
- Hundreds of emails and web site visitors requesting information and resources

Gifts from individuals like you helped make this possible. As we finish this year and implement ministry plans for 2010, we hope you will partner with us in prayer and financial support. And, if all of your “year-end” giving is complete, please consider us for your “new year” giving in 2010. We would be honored to be one of the local ministries you support.

Ten months ago, in anticipation of this year's financial challenges, our Board reduced the ministry budget by over 50%. This action allowed us to operate 2009 within our means. We also developed financial contingency plans, allowing us to expand and contract as finances dictated. Today, we are blessed to have completed the year "in the black" with no operating deficit. Praise God for our faithful supporters. And while budgets are tight and giving is down, we know that our work is having an impact on the lives of men and women who work and we are committed to finding ways to continue this ministry.

The economy has also challenged our 2010 planning, but our budget is flexible and responsive to the gifts you provide. We trust that the Lord will guide and provide, as we move forward in faith, as prudent and dedicated servants.

Our 2010 plans call for a continuation of the monthly outreach events, the presentation of the 3rd Annual *Faith At Work* Conference in October 2010, several additional speaking and teaching opportunities at local churches and an expansion of workshops to the local colleges campuses. This is why we need your support.

God has blessed us with inspirational friends and donors, leaders like you who understand the value of teaching people to understand work from God's perspective. Our founder and volunteer president, Stephen Christensen, has been blessed with a full time position as Chief Advancement Officer for a 35 year old ministry, serving thousands of abused and foster children each day. He is helping the widows and orphans (James 1:27) who are faithfully served by Olive Crest Foster Homes and Services for Abused Children. He still finds time to donate one day a week.

Just as the Apostle Peter gave warnings to the early church members not to grow complacent in their faith, FWL is challenging and helping Christians grow in knowledge of Christ. Peter wrote about holding fast to the non-negotiable of growing and maturing in their faith. 2 Peter could have been written to us as it applies all too well today.

"Therefore, I will always remind you about these things, even though you already know them and are standing firm in the truth you have been taught. And it is only right that I should keep on reminding you as long as I live." 2 Peter 1:12-13

As followers of Christ we need to heed Peter's warnings and become determined to continue to grow in our faith. You and I know that faith is active, more than just believing, and it results in action. Without action, faith will fade away. These actions occur not only in our homes, in our communities, around the world, but in our workplaces as well.

Peter wanted to rouse the complacent believers, and so do we. We must not have complacent followers of Christ. No matter how mature ones faith is, no matter where a person is on their spiritual journey, the sinful world will always challenge our faith. We all have room for growth. Spiritual growth is a lifelong journey. You are invited to participate with us to help transform the lives of Christians in the workplace. Our work matters to God and to Him alone be the glory!

In His Service,



Robert Bein
Chairman of the Board

P.S. Our next event is a luncheon on 1/29/10 featuring Bruce Wilkinson, author, *Prayer of Jabez*. We hope you can join us or participate in supporting this event. **\$500** underwrites the speaker's fee; **\$260** underwrites the postage; **\$370** underwrites the printing; **\$125** underwrites the speaker's hotel room; **\$150** underwrites the email marketing, **\$50** underwrites one student to attend and **\$1,000** sponsors the entire luncheon.