

Student Ministry Focus

by: Rev. Daniel Dalton

Mark 4:26-29 “Jesus also said, “Here is another illustration of what the Kingdom of God is like: A farmer planted seeds in a field, and then he went on with his other activities. As the days went by, the seeds sprouted and grew without the farmer’s help, because the earth produces crops on its own. First a leaf blade pushes through, then the heads of wheat are formed, and finally the grain ripens. And as soon as the grain is ready, the farmer comes and harvests it with a sickle.”

This particular parable states an implicit order of sequence. The farmer sows the seed and God makes it grow. If there is one faithfully sowing the seed, then in due time, there will be a harvest. In the same way, the growth and visibility of God’s kingdom follows in perfect sequence with the faithful ministry of God’s Word.

Those of us who have children are to train them up in the way they should go (Prov. 22:6). The Bible reveals that there are two primary ways to do this. The first and primary mode is through the parents. Yet, God does not leave parents to train their children in isolation. He also provides a secondary means or a community of support for the parents, and this is found in the church. Within the

church, a student ministry comes alongside the parents and is dedicated to the work of sowing seeds of the Word of God in the youth of the church, so that in God’s perfect sequence and timing, He will call His children to Himself.

The important thing to remember is that there will never be a ministry of a church that will experience any growth if the Father is not doing the growing. A student ministry is dependent on the Lord to bring about the harvest, and in His good timing. The farmer has had much work to do in plowing, sowing, watering, fertilizing and mowing, but it is God who makes it grow. It is God who makes infinitely great from what seems to be finitely small (Matt. 13:31-32). I believe parents, youth workers and student ministry volunteers in any church can plow, fertilize and weed the young fields in which they are given, but that the growth and development will happily be dependent on a very wise, gracious and ever-patient Father who holds the secret of life and is always faithfully in control of His elect.

Therefore, the primary focus of parents and a student ministry is to sow the seeds of life in the youth so that the Lord will give them a heart for Himself, a heart for

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Finance Committee Report

| Financial Summary | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| January - March 2009 | | | |
| | <u>Actual</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Variance</u> |
| Offerings | \$128,733 | \$130,572 | \$ (1,839) |
| Expenses | \$116,361 | \$131,956 | \$ 15,595 |
| Other Income | \$ 565 | \$ 0 | \$ 565 |
| Net Surplus | \$ 12,937 | | |

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His church, and a heart for the lost. In other words, we are farmers, but God make things grow (1 Cor. 3:7). Equally important will be to equip and encourage our students to be farmers themselves. We don't want them to have the mentality of only being recipients of sowing, but for them to gain the passion of sowing and watering the lives of others.

In the meantime, will you pray for our student ministry? In John 15:7, Jesus says that if you are a believer you can ask for whatever you wish in prayer and it will be given. Will you ask God for the souls, hearts and passions of our students? Ask God that He will use the sowing of the Word by parents and our developing Student Ministry Team to cause our students to become mature Christian adults who love the Lord, who are committed to the church, and who passionately serve God in whatever vocation He calls them to. Also, if you love the Lord and are interested in the blessing of ministering to our middle school and high school students, please talk to me, Danny Dalton I would love to talk with you more about the screening process in becoming a part of our Student Ministry Team.



Calling all Grandmas,
Moms, Daughters,
Sisters, and Friends.

Seminole Spring Tea
"Planting Seeds of Kindness"

May 9, 2009

10 a.m. - Noon

Adult - \$5.00 Children 10 & under - \$3.00

On Sale in the Fellowship Hall between
Sunday School and Church

&

After Church in the Narthex
and the South Foyer

If you would like to help decorate the night
before or volunteer in any way please call

Mary Earnest 933-8689 or

Pat Bardin 932-6558

Birthdays

Ronnie Quick 5/1

Rose Newmarch 5/18

Bill Earnest 5/4

Judy Kneeshaw 5/20

Raquel Fernandez 5/10

Kelly Fernandez 5/22

Kim Thomson 5/10

Elaine Crescent 5/25

Lynne De La Rosa 5/13

Joshua Fernandez 5/30

Katherine Keen 5/14



Anniversaries



David & Nancy Gardner 5/6

Chip & Deana Johnson 5/9

Jean & Jack Glaze 5/14

Ben & Jane Lambers 5/30

Are we missing a birthday or anniversary?
Please help us keep our records up to date by
emailing the missing information to church@
seminolepca.org or calling 877-6783.



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Jackie Toenes

Submission Deadline:

May 22

Next Distribution Date:

May 31

Contact E-mail:

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*"Seek the welfare of the city to which I have called you.
Pray to the Lord on its behalf; for in its welfare, you too will have welfare."
Jeremiah 29:7*