

The Lakeview Lamp

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” – Psalm 119:105

Feb 8

2009

Effective Bible Teaching

Troy Nicholson

Our weekend seminar with Ken Weliever will be in a few weeks, **Thursday, March 5, - Saturday, March 7**. It is designed to help prepare us for when we begin a study of his Family Bible Study Series next year. Here are a few words he has provided about the seminar:

EFFECTIVE BIBLE TEACHING should be of the utmost concern of every faithful Christian. Our faith in Christ is dependent upon hearing, understanding, and believing the Word of God. Such understanding can be accomplished only through the process of teaching and learning. This is God’s plan. This class will be a practical study of teaching principles from the Bible. It will not be based on theory or human wisdom. Our class will be a “how to” class that will sharpen skills of the public Bible class teacher and also parents who seek to teach their own children. We promise that this class will be well worth the time and effort spent. Make your plans now to attend.

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Session</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	1	Teaching Today Touches Tomorrow
	8:00 p.m.	2	The Bible: A Teacher Training Manual
Friday	7:00 p.m.	3	Some Principles of Learning
	8:00 p.m.	4	Creative Teaching Techniques
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	5	Visuals are Vital (1)
	10:00 a.m.	6	Visuals are Vital (2)
	1:00 p.m.	7	Teaching Various Ages
	2:00 p.m.	8	Planning the Bible Class Program

Ken will also be here that Sunday and speak in the morning on “Growth: Some Things It Involves” and in the evening on “Getting Back to Basics in Bible Study.” Due to the nature of the seminar, we will not print many flyers for you to distribute to others, but we will mail them to local churches. A meal list has been posted, so please help us fill it. Let’s all plan to be here and become more effective Bible teachers.

Passing the Baton

Troy Nicholson

In his book *Straight Talk*, Dr. James Dobson wrote, “This mission of introducing one’s children to the Christian faith can be likened to a three-man relay race. First, your father runs his lap around the track, carrying the baton, which represents the gospel of Jesus Christ. At the appropriate moment, he hands the baton to you, and you begin your journey around the track. Then finally, the time will come when you must get the baton safely in the hands of your child. But as any track coach will testify, *relay races are won or lost in the transfer of the baton*. There is a critical moment when all can be lost by a fumble or miscalculation. The baton is rarely dropped on the back side of the track when the runner has it firmly in his grasp. If failure is to occur, it will likely happen in the exchange between generations!

“According to the Christian values which govern my life, my most important reason for living is to get the baton – the gospel – safely in the hands of my children. Of course, I want to place it in as many other hands as possible, and I’m deeply devoted to the ministry to families that God has given me. *Nevertheless, my number one responsibility is to evangelize my own children*. In the words of my dad, everything else appears ‘pale and washed out’ when compared with that fervent desire. Unless my son and daughter grasp the faith and take it with them around the track, it matters little how fast they run. Being first across the finish line is meaningless unless they carry the baton with them.”

What are we as parents doing to be sure we place the baton of the gospel firmly in the hands of our children? We – especially fathers – are commanded to “*bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord*” (**Ephesians 6:4**). We need to all be like Abraham, whom God said would “*command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice*” (**Genesis 18:19**). Are we bringing them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord? Are we doing what we should to teach them to keep His way?

As Moses stressed to the Israelites in **Deuteronomy 6:6-7**, it takes much of our time to pass the baton to our children; yet we allow ourselves to be pulled in so many different directions that it is easy to not dedicate the time required. One thing the church here is currently doing to help with this issue is having both the teen and the adult classes (and beginning next year some of the younger classes as well) study the same

News and Notes

* A sign-up list for the 2009 last Sunday night singings **at members' homes**, along with the **Lord's supper preparation duties**, is posted in the back.

* A meal list is posted for Ken Wellevor for March 5-8 when he will be with us for our weekend series on Effective Bible Teacher.

Members:

* No new news or major changes with any members since last week. Thank God for this.

Friends and Family:

* Chloe Malone, **Virginia Bryant's** great-granddaughter, was born Monday to parents Adam and Crystal Malone. The grandparents are Allen and Cindi Malone, past members here.

Absent: None known.

New Reports: Chad Lynn (WV).

material at the same time, making it easier for us as parents to study with our children. We need all the help we can get and cannot afford to let this help fall by the wayside by failing to take advantage of it, or else the baton will fall by the wayside, too.

Are you running your race in such a way as to be able to one day say with Paul, *"I have finished the race"* (**2 Timothy 4:7**), to actually win the race (**1 Corinthians 9:24**)? How much joy can we truly achieve from the race without successfully passing the baton to our children, knowing that we failed to place it firmly within their hands?

Just as physical runners put forth the time and effort needed to make a successful pass and win the race, only to receive a temporal crown, may we put for the time and effort needed to successfully pass the baton and receive an eternal crown – along with our children.



*"But as for us, we will bless the Lord
from this time forth and forever.
Praise the Lord!"* **Psalm 115:18**