

DIRECTIONS

Foursquare Christian Education



Summer 2003

ce.foursquare.org



Paying Attention to the Details

Christian educators, like most leaders, often spend 75% of our time talking and only 25% listening. This is a concerning statistic. It means we may not hear the voice of God, and perhaps as distressing, we also risk missing the voices of the very people we want to serve. Jesus said (John 8:43), "You do not understand my words because you are not able to listen ..."

Obviously, Jesus wanted His followers to discern spiritual truth, but on a more practical level, He seemed to stress the importance of simply "paying attention." Listen to what people say. Notice how they respond in particular circumstances. Clarify what they really mean. Paying attention to these details can result in significant growth in ministry relationships. Attentive listening is one of the most important expressions of love and acceptance we can demonstrate to one another.

We need to be reminded of simple principles like making our teaching more personal, building strong leaders through forgiveness, or the fact that we must depend on God, not ourselves, for future results. Pay close attention to the following details as you make disciples, and notice the increased results:

"Authentic Christian teaching is autobiographical teaching. I have come to believe that the vocation of Christian teacher ... must have a quality of witness-bearing. Reveal that you too are on a journey of Christian existence -- sometimes successful, sometimes not, sometimes confident, sometimes doubting, sometimes joyful, sometimes discouraged." *Educating for Life*, bakeracademic.com by Nicholas Wolterstorff, p143.

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"Most problems in the church can be solved by praying together and forgiving one another. The Church that Christ created was unified because its members loved its founder and one another as He admonished them to do. They matured into a mighty force as they settled on sound doctrinal practices. They were amazingly authentic reflections of their leader, Jesus Christ." *Becoming Your Favorite Church*, regalbooks.com by H.B. London, Jr. and Neil B. Wiseman, p18.

"No matter how hard we stare, we cannot see ahead. The experts said the telephone would promote peace, obliterate Southern accents, and revolutionize surgery. Phone company executives envisioned a specific use for phone conversations: business calls. What about the possibility of people calling their friends just to talk? Preposterous, they thought. Waste of time. Won't happen." *What Clients Love*, twbookmark.com by Harry Beckwith, p14.

Rod Light, rlight@foursquare.org
National Minister of Christian Education



OPERATION KID NET



Paul Duris, pduris@foursquare.org

Here's a sneak peek at what pastor's who have commissioned their grade school kids with Operation Kid Net are saying:

"Operation Kid Net is a National Foursquare assignment. One of our first steps in accomplishing this dream is to commission every child during our weekend services; to publicly launch them on this life-changing mission. They were enthusiastic, uninhibited and ready to share the love of Jesus with our church body, their communities, and with their friends. I think above all, praying for the children put a smile on the face of Father God. Our kids truly form the net that God wants to use to reach their world."

Ted Roberts, Senior Pastor
East Hill Foursquare Church, Gresham, Oregon

"Last Sunday morning I had the awesome opportunity to be a part of a commissioning service for some of the youngest evangelists in our body. What a privilege to be able to send these kids out to reach their friends and neighbors for Jesus. I am excited about Operation Kid Net and the potential it has to sweep thousands of kids in to the kingdom, in our church and around the nation."

Randy Sandford, Senior Pastor
Sunnyside Foursquare Church, Clackamas, Oregon

During convention last month, district supervisors, senior pastors and children's ministry leaders from around the country were introduced to the vision of Operation Kid Net, an evangelism initiative to reach children. Over 120 churches left Philadelphia with training materials, posters, videos and Jesus fish pins that helped them launch their kids on a mission to change their world.

These churches represent more than 9,000 kids who will be commissioned, trained and equipped to reach out to their friends. This is just the start of what I believe is going to be an amazing move of the Holy Spirit. Pray with us as we continue to stretch this net across the nation.



For more information about Operation Kid Net including a free video, check our website, ce.foursquare.org, or send us an email at pduris@foursquare.org.

Reaching the World With a Box

How the kids of your church can send a box of resources to reach 750 children on the mission field.

For many countries around the world, children are the forgotten people. Some Foursquare churches overseas have little or no evangelism and ministry for children, often due to a cultural bias against kids, believing they are incapable of accepting Christ.

Fortunately, Foursquare missionaries like Lewie and Linda Richey and Sheila Ransford have devoted their lives to reaching both adults and children alike. They have won thousands of children to Christ and trained numerous children's workers. However, they have often lacked the resources needed to teach and educate the children.

Our vision for Children's Gospel Boxes is to provide those resources to the neediest. And not only provide resources like puppets, videos, visual aids, colored pencils, books and tracts but to train workers how to use "the box."

Children here in the States sponsor these boxes with the hope that they will gain a heart for the children of the world in the process. \$150 will send one gospel box and provide enough materials to reach 750 children.

Last year, 126 Foursquare churches sent 120 boxes to Costa Rica and Panama, training 55 children's workers. Stories are still coming in about how these workers went back to their towns and villages full of faith and now finally the resources to win the lost and establish Christian education.

This year our vision has grown. With the help of you and your children, we will send 150 boxes to countries like Chile, Ecuador, Panama and South Africa. Countries like Cambodia, Malaysia and the Philippines want and need boxes, too.

The next time you reach into your cabinets and pull out your Sunday school lessons, think of those workers overseas who have little or nothing to give their children. If you haven't already, join with us and sponsor a box. It will make a "world" of difference!

Dr. Mary Lou Canata
707.441.3946



PLAN TO ATTEND THE

2003 Fall Institute Symposium



Dr. Daniel Hedges, dhedges@foursquare.org
National Director, Foursquare Bible Institutes



It's time to mark your calendar and begin making arrangements for the 2003 Training Institute Symposium.

The dates are October 29-31, and the location is World Base LA. We are partnering with Foursquare Missions International and World Base to provide affordable housing, meals and the opportunity to view their new

program and facilities for missions training. Nearby hotels will also be available.

The purpose of the symposium will be two-fold: training and networking. General sessions and workshops will reflect topics identified in a recent survey. These topics will focus on the interests and needs of existing institute leaders, although those leaders investigating institutes will find the information helpful.

Curricula management, ministry credentialing, and models for practical training are targeted topics. Suggestions for topics are still being received by Rod Light and Daniel Hedges.

The symposium schedule will include a trip to San Dimas to visit Life Pacific College and learn about their exciting new resources for supporting institute training. If time permits, we will visit at least one Foursquare Bible Institute in the area.

Please check our website, ce.foursquare.org, for a complete list of cost and schedule/topic updates. This web site will be the most direct link for current information on housing choices, including WorldBase LA, meal ticket prices, and directions from area airports.

Who should attend the institute symposium?

- **Any person interested in starting a Foursquare Training Institute**
- **The director or a representative from each ICFG certified institute is required to attend. (The pastor of the sponsoring church is also invited.)**
- **The director (and pastor) of any applicant school.**

In the past, through a special ICFG grant, we were able to provide special scholarships for directors and pastors to attend the symposium. This year scholarships are limited to needy persons who apply. If you need this kind of assistance please contact us about applying for a partial or full scholarship to help provide housing and transportation.

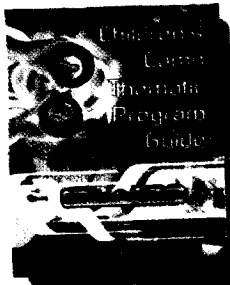
Camp Programming Network Established

Camp Directors and their teams throughout the United States are getting ready to provide a safe, fun environment for kids to get to know Jesus better this summer. Recently, ten of those directors met to share what they are doing and how to better support and resource other camp directors. Our hope is to help camp directors enjoy success in their ministry assignment. Being a camp director can be a huge responsibility. I would like it to be a fun, challenging, rewarding experience that translates into kids getting saved, baptized in the Holy Spirit and totally committed to Jesus.

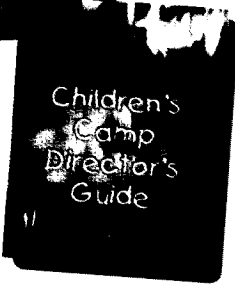
goals

Our national camp advisory team has identified these four goals:

- To understand actual needs of camp directors;
- To improve communication/networking with camp directors;
- To develop resources to meet needs and goals;
- To train, resource and support camp directors.



Imagine camp directors all over the country talking with each other, sharing ideas, asking each other questions and learning from each other. Imagine getting together regionally with other camp directors to swap ideas and learn. Imagine having a web site where you can learn about helpful resources, the latest greatest ideas that work, testimonies from kids and leaders and an on-line bulletin board where you can post a question and get feedback from other directors. Imagine training for you and your staff. Imagine having at your fingertips a list of speakers, puppeteers, and worship leaders for children's camps.



The Children's Camp Director's Guide and "Sov. Kids" our first theme kit may be ordered by calling 855-805-4004 ext-4377 or by emailing ce.foursquare.org.

All these things are in the works. Even now the second edition of the Camp in a Box Director's Guide and a second theme kit are being developed. We have begun work on a web site that will have all sorts of resources, ideas and testimonies. The networking has begun and will continue to get refined. We have incredibly gifted camp teams in Foursquare, and I am excited about all your creative ideas being shared.

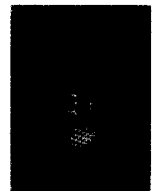
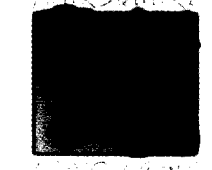
Please email me at the address below with your ideas and success stories from camp. We are building a directory of district camp directors and need to include your contact information. In addition, we need your input regarding our next Camp Director Training event at WorldBaseLA in January 2004.

Questions about starting and operating a Christian school, daycare or preschool?

Check our web site, ce.foursquare.org, for complete ICFG requirements, step by step instructions and applications.

Remember to visit the web site at ce.foursquare.org, click on Children's Ministry, then Children's Camps. We will regularly update the web site as we receive information from you and other directors.

Martha-Dale Lesmes,
mlesmes@foursquare.org





National Vision Identified Children's Ministry Leadership Development

Lynn Sawyer,
lsawyer@foursquare.org

Isaiah 58:11, 12 says, "The Lord will guide you continually... You shall be like a watered garden... whose waters do not fail"

Have you ever sat in a six-hour meeting, sharing needs and strategies with 11 other leaders, and becoming so excited about the possibilities of God's direction that you wished for another six hours? I have . . . and just recently! In fact, it was one of those God-appointed events where we each knew that we were in the right place, at the right time.

Prior to Convention, in Philadelphia, we met with our newly formed Leadership Development Advisory Team. This team is comprised of Children's Ministry leaders from Massachusetts, North Carolina, Ohio, Colorado, Oregon, Southern California and Hawaii.

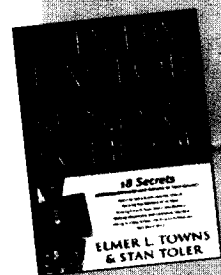
It can be a daunting proposition to consider impacting an entire region, or an entire country. BUT . . . Jesus has called us to impact an entire world, beginning with those that we touch in our ministry and location. As we pursue our calling to bring children and families to Jesus, one of our first considerations is how to raise up, equip and release those who will lead them. As a team, we prayed, dreamed and planned (Proverbs 3:5,6). We did not come up with

a national program, but instead a national vision, a reasonable national strategy.

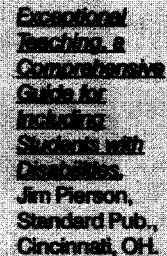
So, what is our next-step strategy? First, we all felt a mandate from the Lord to develop district children's ministry teams that would provide a support base, personally affecting children's ministry leaders in each church. Secondly, we want to develop better means of communication with all our children's pastors, directors, and coordinators (i.e. accurate mailing lists and internet capabilities). Finally, we desire to provide effective ways to resource our churches with updated materials and curriculum, training opportunities and people resources (i.e. a comprehensive, cutting-edge website; regional conferences).

We have a beginning "plan", but we've only just begun. Six hours was not enough! However, during our time together, a vision was captured, needs and strategies were explored, and a foundation was laid. Truly, the Lord birthed much anticipation in our hearts, and gave us a glimpse of what is possible in developing our children's ministry leaders.

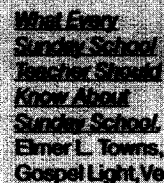
Recommended Training Resources:



What Every Pastor Should Know About Sunday School
Elmer L. Towns & Stan Toler, Gospel Light, Ventura, CA.



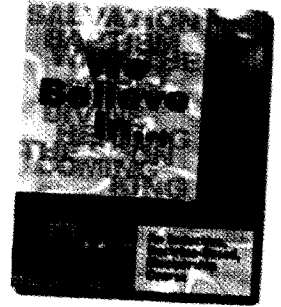
Teach Your Team to Fish, Laurie Beth Jones, Crown Business Publishers, NY.





Relevant Resources

Foursquare doctrine now available on CDROM in Spanish and in English!



Reflections

is a 13 lesson Bible study which will help a new Christian reflect on what God has done in their life. Each lesson focuses on key biblical truth leading to a change in personal character. A Lesson Plan for each of the thirteen

lessons includes a lesson aim to focus the class session and suggested learning activities to enhance and expand group interaction.

We Believe In

is comprised of 16 lessons teaching about the four-fold ministry of Jesus Christ—Salvation, The Holy Spirit, Divine Healing, and the Return of Christ. Some of the topics covered are: Daily Christian Living, The Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Hard Questions About Healing, The Millennium and Beyond. Each lesson includes an activity to get adults interested, Bible references, a teacher's outline of the lesson and student response sections.

For sample lessons, please visit our website at ce.foursquare.org. To request a complimentary CDROM, call 888.635.4234, ext. 4270.

Serving the Foursquare church through support, consultation, networking and training.

Making Disciples - Fast Change
May Change (or Plan) Now



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