



#8329 National Capital Area
United Way &
Combined Federal Campaign

Glad Tithings

OUR 25th YEAR

“Moreover it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.” (1 Cor. 4:2)

Ken Smith's Principles in Practice

Loving God

How many times have I said: “I love the Lord,” or “I love God”?

While on one level those who know Him do love Him, does our love for Him really meet His test of love?

He tells us over and over that the most important thing we can do in this life is to love Him and the second is to love our neighbors as much as we love ourselves. The fact is, loving God and loving our neighbor are one and the same. The Lord makes His case by pointing out that He loved us first, so much that He was willing to die for us, long before we were willing to think about loving Him (Romans 5:8).

The scary part is looking at how God measures our love for Him. Three things count: obedience, love for fellow believers and our neighbors and love for our enemies.

Obedience

Jesus is very clear about the importance of obedience. He says, “Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him” (John 14:21).

And, “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me” (John 14:23-24). Again, “...I ask that we love one another. And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love” (II John 5-6).

Each of us is disobedient more times per day than we can count, in our thoughts, words and actions. It's easy to catalogue a long list of sins including judgments, pride, selfishness, impatience and indifference.

Each of our acts of disobedience has a consequence. God tells us in Revelation 3:19, “Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent.” We need to keep our accounts with the Lord current, by spending time daily identifying and confessing our disobedience from the previous day and asking for help in avoiding the same sinful behavior the coming day. And when

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January 6 Life Management Seminar Offers Time Management Strategies to Start the New Year Right

Get control of your calendar while it's fresh and clean with CSM's January 6 half-day Life Management Seminar at Barcroft Bible Church in Fairfax, Virginia. Before your schedule gets crowded, learn how to get enough rest, avoid overcommitment and master procrastination. You'll pay just \$40 for advance registration or \$50 at the door. Put your name on the list today by

calling the CSM office at 703-591-5000. Clergy attend free.

Ken Smith and Pastor Rob Seagars lead the half-day seminar, which begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 1:00 p.m. The seminar also serves as an introduction to the 13-week Life Management Study offered by Christian Stewardship Ministries.



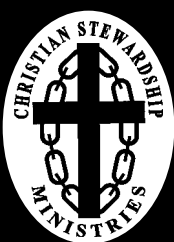
Ken Smith, Director

CSM Winter Calendar

January
Formation of
LMS classes
Washington-area
churches

Jan. 6
Life Management
Seminar
Barcroft Bible Church
Fairfax, VA
8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

March 29
CSM Annual Banquet
Sheraton Premiere
Hotel
Tyson's Corner, VA



Loving God (cont. from page 1)

rebuke and discipline come our way, we should try to embrace them for the blessing they are, despite the pain or discomfort. Rebuke and discipline really amount to God demonstrating His love for us (and trying to help us avoid unnecessary pain in the future).

Loving Our Neighbors

His second measure of love is how well we love fellow believers and our neighbors. Jesus says, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:34-35). And, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command" (John 15:13-14). And Paul tells us, "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves" (Romans 12:10). Further, John says, "And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother" (I John 4:21). And also, "...I ask that we love one another" (II John 5).

The New Testament includes many more instructions on love. "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:39). "The entire law is summed up in a single command: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'" (Galatians 5:14). "Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law" (Romans 13:10).

Jesus defines our neighbor in the parable of the good Samaritan. "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' 'Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?' The expert in the law replied, 'The one who had mercy on him.' Jesus told him, 'Go and do likewise'" (Luke 10:25-37).

How many times do we neglect an opportunity to demonstrate His love to someone in need: Not spending quality time with the lonely but unlovely and "unlovable" church member. Not stopping to help someone stranded on the side of the road because we are hurrying to avoid being late to church! How often are we insensitive to the needs of a spouse or a child or a parent or a friend? We all fall short of God's ideal of love.

Loving Our Enemies

The real clincher, however, is God's third measure of love, when

He gives us the command—and all too often the opportunity to love our enemies. For this purpose an enemy is someone who has hurt us repeatedly or demonstrated repeatedly they do not have our best interests at heart, and whom we have been unable to love.

Jesus tells us: "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?" (Matthew 5:44, 46). He also says, "If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back....But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High" (Luke 6:29-30, 35), (See also Matt. 5:38-48).

All too often our "enemies" are fairly close to home. We know them well enough that they can hurt us, and we see them frequently enough to give them the chance to hurt us. We can make lists of them. President Nixon had his list of enemies so he could punish them. We can use our lists to pray for a supernaturally inspired ability to love them, or more accurately, to enable God to love them through us. This is not easy, and we will often fall short of the mark, but we should commit ourselves to continue praying for each person on our "enemies list" until by God's grace we can remove them because He has enabled us to love them.

An illustration from my own life that God can enable us to love our enemies comes out of my relationship with my daughter's cat. Kelly had the most unlovable cat in the world, and that cat especially detested men. Since I was the only man in the house, she hated me more than anybody, especially after I gently booted her down the steps one night for hissing at me as I walked by. I decided to prove that God could love anyone through me, even an unlovable cat. I began giving her milk in the early morning. I played with her. I stroked her. Eventually, she would curl up in my lap, which she wouldn't do for anyone else, even women! One day the cat got out of the house. When she showed up a couple of days later, she was at death's door. She had been injured by man or beast and was paralyzed from halfway down her back. She could just drag her hindquarters. The vet tried to save her, but did not give us much hope. When it became evident that she would not recover, and we were spending our last evening with her, she chose to drag herself up into my lap, a testament to me that God can love anyone through me, even an unlovable cat. And he can love your enemies through you as well.

Do we love God? No, not by His definitions. But He is faithful to encourage us and give us grace to experience some small successes and keep trying.

CSM is a ministry dedicated to assisting Christian individuals, families, ministries, and Christian-owned businesses achieve their potential in the area of stewardship. CSM's National Board of Reference includes: Ron Blue; Dr. Bill Bright (1921-2003); Larry Burkett (1939-2003); Reid Carpenter, Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation; Howard Dayton, Crown Financial Ministries; Dr. Ted Engstrom (1916-2006); Roger Erickson, president, Christian Business Men's Committee International (retired); Dr. Harry Greene, president, Good News Jail & Prison Ministry; the Rt. Rev. Alden M. Hathaway, Bishop of Pittsburgh (retired); Dr. Charles Hummell, faculty advisor, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship (retired); Bishop Harry Jackson, Hope Christian Church; the Rt. Rev. David Colin Jones, Suffragan Bishop of Virginia; Dr. Beverly LaHaye, founder/chairman, Concerned Women for America; Hon. Ed Meese III, former U.S. Attorney General; Rt. Rev. Martyn Minns, bishop of CANA, and the Rt. Rev. Dr. John H. Rodgers, Jr. The Pastor's Board of Reference includes Pastor James Ahlemann, Pastor Larry Andes, Rev. George Beaven, Pastor Steve Brimmer, Rev. Warren Casiday; Rev. Wendel Cover; Pastor Amos Dodge, Rev. Paul Frey, Rev. John Guernsey, Pastor Tom Gulbranson, Rev. David Harper, Rev. Tom Herrick, Pastor John Hutchinson, Rev. Clancy Nixon, Pastor Bill Roberts, Pastor Dennis Rupert, Pastor Rob Seagears, Rev. Tom Tarrants and Rev. John Yates. Serving on CSM's Board of Directors responsible for day-to-day ministry operation are Jim Cope, Frank Lewark, Jack Maier, Rob Seagears and Ken Smith.

Ministry News

CSM has a big vision—a God-sized vision—for equipping a new generation of Christian leaders by preparing them to manage their lives in line with Biblical principles. We're beginning our major expansion to reach other cities and significantly increase the number of LMS classes over the next three years with an effort to bring in the seed money by the end of 2006. These additional funds will enable us to hire staff to assist with the expansion. Please consider a year-end donation or a three-year pledge to support our challenging and exciting vision.

Many thanks to all of you who supported our 2006 Golf Marathon on September 22 and helped raise \$29,000 for the ministry. All golfers managed to complete 50 holes, and everyone had a wonderful time.

Gearing up for our January LMS classes, on December 9, CSM held a Leader's Training Workshop to prepare a new group of leaders to facilitate CSM's Life Management Study. New leaders trained earlier this year include Diane Bell and Lori Morrow from Christ Chapel Mountaintop in Manassas; Chris and Cheryl Maher from Centreville Baptist; Robin McGreer of Fairfax Community Church; Karen Stewart from Truro; Zoran Zaev of Church of the Holy Spirit in Ashburn and David Hanke from The Falls Church.

For folks who want some practical time management tips and an overview of LMS, we are offering the half-day Life Management Seminar January 6 at Barcroft Bible Church in Fairfax, Virginia. Classes for the next 13-week LMS series will be forming in early January. Of course, our Internet Life Management Study is available 24/7 at ilms.csmin.org

Circle March 29, 2007 on your calendar. That's the date for the CSM spring banquet at the Sheraton Premiere Hotel in Tyson's Corner, Virginia.

Between now and then CSM needs a part-time banquet coordinator to work 20 hours a week making phone calls, handling email and mailings and other administrative duties. The position pays \$10 per hour and is open to anyone who can adequately explain John 3:3-7.

CSM held three LMS classes in the fall with Vern Mann and Rev. David Hanke at the Falls Church, with Pastor Rob Seagars and Diane Bell at Christ Chapel Mountaintop and with Ken Smith and Zoran Zaev at Truro. In addition, Ken Smith led a three-day men's advance for 50 members of the Barcroft Bible Church on October 20-22 at the Skycroft Retreat Center in Middletown, Maryland.

Save March 29 for CSM's Spring Banquet

When you get your 2007 calendar, reserve March 29 for the CSM Spring Banquet. You'll enjoy a delicious dinner, great fellowship and fun and help CSM raise funds to carry out the ministry.

The 2007 banquet will once again be at the Sheraton Premiere Hotel in Tyson's Corner, Virginia. You'll find all the details in the spring issue of *Glad Tithings*.

New LMS Classes Begin in January

If you're ready for a fresh start, January is the perfect time to begin putting your life in order in line with God's priorities and plan. Sign up for CSM's Life Management Study at a church near you—or over the Internet, as near as your computer. For 13 weeks you'll meet with a trained leader and a small group to study—and practice—time management from a Biblical perspective.

Your \$95 registration fee covers a student manual, workbook and a copy of Ken Smith's book *It's About Time!* Trained facilitators conduct the in-person sessions and coordinate the online series as well. Put your name on the list by calling 703-591-5000 to find out about classes in the Washington area, or get details on the online version by logging onto ilms.csmin.org

Mark Number 8329 to Give to CSM

Do you donate through the National Capital Area United Way or the Combined Federal Campaign? If so, consider giving all or part of your gift for 2007 to CSM. Just write 8329, Christian Stewardship Ministry's unique number for both charities, in the designation blank.

Having a small amount deducted from each paycheck is an easy, simple way to give regularly—and those biweekly or monthly sums add up to make a real difference for the ministry. Of course, you can also write a check and designate CSM as the specific ministry you want to receive your gift. This way you can be certain that your donation will be put to good use helping people find their way out of debt and hopelessly overscheduled lives into the freedom and peace Christ promises if we follow His plan for our finances and lives.

Prayer Corner

PRAISE GOD FOR...

- ◆ CSM's 25 years of ministry.
- ◆ Golfers, caddies and sponsors who helped raise \$29,000 in CSM's 6th Golf Marathon.
- ◆ Corporate sponsors who made the Golf Marathon possible.
- ◆ New and continuing LMS leaders and LMS graduates.

PRAY FOR...

- ◆ Healing for CSM Board Chairman Frank Lewark who's battling non-Hodgkins lymphoma.
- ◆ Positive response from CSM supporters to the ministry expansion campaign.
- ◆ Participants at the January 6 half-day Life Management Seminar and in LMS classes forming in January.
- ◆ The right people to join CSM as director of development, director of marketing and ministry coordinator.
- ◆ Key churches to incorporate the Life Management Seminar, Life Management Study and *It's About Time!* small group studies into their adult education programs.
- ◆ Continued financial growth for the ministry.
- ◆ An honorary chairman for the 2007 Golf Marathon.
- ◆ A speaker for the 2007 Banquet.

Vernon Mann: Refocusing Priorities

A Life Management Study leader, Vernon Mann believes strongly in the promise given in Romans 8:28, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Scarcely more than a year ago, Vern took the Life Management Seminar and then signed up for the 13-week LMS. He moved into the training for leaders, co-led a class in the spring with Ken Smith and then took over a class himself in September at The Falls Church in Falls Church, Virginia. He also serves on the CSM Advisory Council.

Vern retired from the Coast Guard after 30 years, moved on to a civilian post and recently switched to a different job. He found LMS helped him structure his time more effectively, reducing wasted time and freeing up more time to spend with God. He's increased his sleep by an hour to an hour and a half every night and has found freedom by scheduling and planning his time.

He's learned to look at the tasks before him and determine when it makes sense to give a job to someone else and trust them to do it. "I appreciate Ken's ability to delegate," he says, noting he observed how well this worked when they co-led LMS.

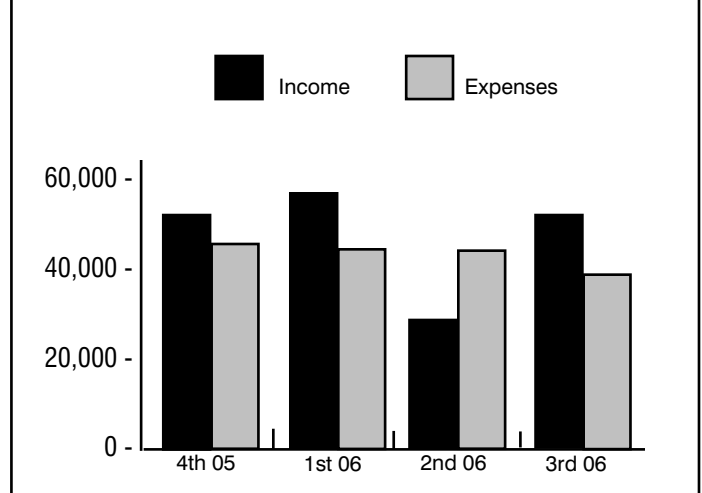
Vern lives in Woodbridge with his son. He attends Fairfax Baptist Temple in Burke, Virginia.

CSM Golf Marathon Nets \$29,000!

Our tough golfers and their caddies made the rounds at the Fairfax National Golf Course on September 22 to play 50 holes of golf to support CSM. Many thanks to the golfers and their sponsors, corporate sponsors and volunteers who raised \$29,000 to support the ministry.

Special thanks to: **Golf Committee:** Jim Aram, Gerry Last, Jack Maier, Jeff Oster, Dave Rine and Marc Snyder. **Championship Sponsor:** Dominion Construction Group. **Double Eagle Sponsor:** Til and Anne Hazel. **Eagle Sponsors:** Dr. Tony N. Aram, Mark Building Associates, Dr. John G. Sellers, Jr., Dan and Amy Smith and Ken and Pat Smith. **Birdie Sponsors:** Christ Chapel Mountaintop, Glass Distributors, Inc., Kathy Keitt, OMNIPLEX World Services, Bill Pile, Bruce W. Reyle & Co., Roeder & Associates, Bruce and Mary Scott, Scott-Long Construction, Dr. William C. Silberman and Steve and Joanna Templeton. **Par Sponsors:** ABS Unlimited Auto Repair; Auto Buying Service; Birks Financial Advisors, LLC; Lloyd and Tina Chadwick; Conflict Resolution & Conciliation Services; Costco Wholesale (Leesburg, Va.); Craven Tire & Auto; Bill and Barbara Hemma; Homestead Mortgage; Matthew Kambrod; Jack and Carol Maier; Roger McClure; Don and Tammie McIlvaine; Meyer's on Main

CSM FINANCES 2005-06



Street, LC; Robert and Mary Parrott; Dave and Carolynne Rine; David and Ora Mae Simpkins; Fitz Stewart; Scott Thompson; Janet Watts; and WINS. **Golfers:** Jim Aram, Joel Flower, Mike Kirk, Gerry Last, Jack Maier, Robin McGreer, Sharon Meisel, Dave Rine, Rob Seagears, John Sellers, Pat Smith and Fitz Stewart. **Volunteers:** Betty Graves, Barbara Hemma, Jack Maier, Vernon Mann, Jeff Oster, Bill Pile, Pat Smith and Ernie Wakeham.

John Sellers was the top fundraiser, and Fitz Stewart recruited the most sponsors. Leading the pack in both categories, but as a staff family member not eligible for a prize, was Pat Smith. John received a four-night, three-day golf get away to Myrtle Beach. Mike Kirk was closest to the hole and received four free rounds of golf and a shot at a \$1 million hole-in-one prize. For hitting the longest drive, Joel Flower received four free rounds of golf.

We are deeply grateful for all who supported this fundraiser. If we missed your name, please let us know—we want to recognize all those who helped make our 2006 Golf Marathon a success.

Report from South America

Gustavo Alayza, director of Perfect Way Ministries, CSM's affiliate in South America, appeared on a Christian television program broadcast from Lima, Peru last July. He told viewers about *¡Ya Es Hora!* (Spanish version of *It's About Time!*) and the Spanish Internet Life Management Study (ILMS).

Perfect Way offered the Spanish ILMS to Compassion International leadership development program participants in August, and 10 are now participating. Others from the group of 60 are expected to register for the course in January. In addition, two pastors from a 5,000-member church in Lima are currently taking ILMS, which could lead to many more students in the future.

Glad Tithings is a newsletter of Christian Stewardship Ministries, a nonprofit public foundation. To receive Glad Tithings regularly, send your name and address (with a zip code) to CSM. Gifts are tax deductible, greatly needed and deeply appreciated. The newsletter's annual cost per person is approximately \$20. Glad Tithings staff: Ken Smith, publisher; Susan Hall Fleming, Fleming Communications, editor; Rosemary Henry, desktop publisher; Gabrielle Fardwell, Pat Smith and Chuck Wadey, proofreaders; Jean Moore, proofreader and data entry; MATS Courier Service, transportation; D. J. Chuang, web page designer and webmaster; Speedy Printing, printer; and Washington Intelligence Bureau, distributor. Christian Stewardship Ministries, 10523 Main Street, Fairfax, Virginia 22030. Telephone 703-591-5000, fax 703-273-1795, e-mail gladtithings@csmin.org, web site <http://www.csmin.org>. Any portion of this newsletter may be quoted or reproduced without further permission, provided excerpts are in context, by adding the following credit line: "Reprinted from Christian Stewardship Ministries' newsletter Glad Tithings, Fairfax, Virginia, www.csmin.org" and furnishing a copy of the publication with the excerpt to CSM. © 2006 by Christian Stewardship Ministries.