



NEWSLETTER

SLD Newsletter

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The Newsletter

The SLD Newsletter this month features several items coming up in the next few weeks. Be sure to mark your calendar as these dates are fast approaching. For those involved in L2L be sure to check out the info below.

Let's grow in Christ together!

Glenn

"... he who leads; with diligence..."
Romans 12:8

Daily Bible Reading

Members of the DBR small group ministry will meet Sunday, February 10, at 5:30 p.m. in Room 123 to read the daily passages together.

The goal of the DBR is for each person to be a daily Bible reader. By reading God's word we can draw closer to God and better equip ourselves for service as God's people.

Daily Bible Reading schedules can be found on a table in the south hallway. Track 1 is a schedule to read the New Testament in 2008 and Track 2 is a schedule to read the Old Testament and New Testament during 2008 and 2009; or you can use another schedule of your choice.

Be a Daily Bible Reader in 2008!

L2L

The L2L online registration is now closed and we have a total of 228 adults and children registered to attend the L2L National Convention March 21-23 in Nashville!

Also, the deadline for hotel fees has passed so if you have not paid, please give a check to Dee or Glenn.

For those attending the national convention in March there will be a meeting after evening services on Sunday, March 16. At least one adult from each family registered for the convention should attend this meeting. At that time you will receive information about the convention and how to obtain your hotel keys.

L2L Informational Meeting

- ◆ Sunday
March 16th
7:00 p.m.
Auditorium

Mark Your Calendar!

February 22nd-23rd - Friday and Saturday

This is a reminder to the elders, deacons and ministers to attend the **Ministry Summit 2008**. We will meet in the senior high youth room on Friday night (7-10 p.m.) and Saturday morning (8 a.m.-noon). We will discuss the opportunities we have to serve the Lord at Germantown during 2008 and beyond!

The elders, deacons and ministers will spend time together in prayer, lessons from God's Word, preparation of the Lord's work at Germantown and fellowship. This will be a great time for the elders, deacons and ministers to be encouraged and encourage others. All elders, deacons and ministers should attend!

February 10th - Sunday

On Sunday afternoon, February 10th, at 5:30 p.m. those in the **Daily Bible Reading (DBR)** ministry group will come together to read God's Word. We will read the daily passages and pray together. You don't have to be an official member of the DBR to join us as we read the Scriptures together! Everyone is welcome! We will meet in Room 123.

June 16th-20th - Monday through Friday

This year's **Leadership Camp** will be in June. Leadership Camp is for boys and girls going into grades 3 through 7. Be sure to tell your parents and grandparents you want to attend camp this year. Don't miss this action-packed week! More details to come in the SLD Newsletter in March! Sign-up will begin April 20th.

Spiritual
Leadership
Development
NEWSLETTER

January 2008
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Issue 1

Prepared by
Glenn Daily

for the members
of the Germantown
church of Christ as
we lead by being
Christian servants.

Seize the Moment

There are many characteristics that are attributed to good leadership. These attributes include moral character, commitment, boldness, respect for others, delegation and many others. To possess some of the qualities of leadership requires goal setting, planning and self-discipline; which means we must experience life in order to possess certain attributes. Experience comes with time; including time for us to review our successes and failures.

There is one leadership quality which demands of us a different viewpoint. Although we will still rely on our past experiences at times we just have to move on an action and move now! We call this quality initiative.

On Wednesday evenings during our Bible study hour I'm leading an Old Testament Survey class. A better name for the class would be A Walk through the Old Testament as we are reading and discussing some passages as we study the major themes and messages within the books. We have made our way to the book of 1 Samuel and into the David story.

David is a great example of showing initiative. Let's look at a few episodes of initiative in the life of David.

- 1 Samuel 17 - Slaying Goliath

When Goliath challenged the men in the Israelite army the soldiers saw and heard a giant challenge them to battle him one-on-one. David saw Goliath in a different manner, stating, "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should taunt the armies of the living God?" Even at a young age David took the initiative as he volunteered to face Goliath, took a sling and 5 stones, ran to the battle line and slew Goliath.

- 1 Samuel 21 - Acting the Madman

David was fleeing from Saul and went to Gath, a city of the Philistines. David was probably trying to find a place to hide; somewhere he would not be recognized. Servants of Achish, king of Gath, recognized David and started to ask questions. Because of fear that he could not hide and might be restrained by the Philistines, David took the initiative to act as if he were a madman or insane before them. Achish scolded his servants for bringing another madman before him and David was allowed to leave.

- 1 Samuel 22 - Forming an Army

When King Saul sought David to kill him David formed an army of his own. Without what we would call the "proper" resources David initiated the formation of an army of about 400 men who were in distress, debt and discontent; some of the outcast of society. We see in David a man who took the initiative and did what it took to survive.

- 1 Samuel 23 - Delivering Keilah

Word was given to David that the Philistines had attacked the region of Keilah, which was close to Philistine territory. David responded with help to the people of Keilah. After prayer to God and guidance from God David fought and defeated the Philistines and delivered Keilah. Although there was no political benefit to him and the action exposed David to both the attack of the Philistines and pursuit of Saul, David's initiation to take action was immediate.

- 1 Samuel 24 - Sparing Saul's Life

While on-the-run from Saul David and his men were in a cave at Engedi. Saul came into the cave and David could have easily killed Saul. Rather David took the initiative to spare Saul's life than to kill God's anointed one; the king.

- 1 Samuel 25 - Ready to Avenge

David's men provided protection to shepherds of a man named Nabal. When David and his men requested food from Nabal he refused their request and hurled insults. David's response was again immediate. To his men David stated, "Put on your swords!" David initiated a call to action to avenge these insults. David was willing to step up to defend himself and his men; even to the extent of bloodshed. As David was moving his men to take revenge Abigail, Nabal's wife, talked David out of shedding blood over this incident.

Eugene Peterson in his book entitled, Leap Over a Wall, describes David's life as not an ideal life, but an actual life. Peterson says David shows an earthiness; there is a common life that is shaped to God's glory.

The circumstances in David's life let us see a man with whom we can relate. At times he did not set the best or even a good example. Yet the David story conveys a life full of motivation and trust in God. When David observed a need to act he took the initiative to act immediately - David seized the moment!

What can Christians do to demonstrate initiative?

- Gain Christian experiences in life by being part of the active work of the congregation. Come to services, be at fellowships and volunteer to be involved.
- Observe our surroundings within the body of Christ - build relationships with Christians and look for ways to help and support our brothers and sisters in Christ.
- When we know of a need let us run to the battle line. Ask God to guide our ways and allow His will to be done as we help other people with their needs in life.

Show Initiative - Seize the Moment!