

LEARN

&amp;

LEAD

# Training is the key

By Pastor Bob Reid

The Bible makes it clear that training is one of the major functions of church leadership. The Apostle Paul reminded the church at Ephesus that leaders were to

...prepare [or equip] God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:12-13 NIV).

The fall season is a perfect time for that equipping process to occur. In the fall many ministries of the local church are begun or resume. In order to function properly, those who will be engaged in "works of service" need to be trained, or at least refreshed, as they fulfill their function in the church for the glory of Christ. Would you want the hunting guide of your Alaskan bear hunt to have successfully completed outdoor survival training? Would you want the captain of the vessel on which you are sailing to have passed the training of the United States Coast Guard? Would you want the doctor who is doing surgery on your gall bladder to have trained as an intern under the tutelage of an experienced doctor? In all these cases your answer would be, "Certainly!" Why then would we not want people to spend some time in training for spiritual ministry which very likely will have eternal consequences?

This fall offers several opportunities to be equipped for works of service. One great training opportunity is a Faith that Grows conference, sponsored by Children's Ministry Magazine Live. This conference for those involved in children's ministries will be a timely and practical one for all children's workers, both veterans and newcomers. The conference runs from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM on September 13. Contact Heather Ensslen for more details.

Another training opportunity takes place on September 27 at the Truth Project Simulcast. Churches from the greater Lancaster area will be meeting at CMBC to hear a live simulcast by Dr. Del Tackett, the author of the Truth Project. Perhaps you have seen the Truth Project at our church or in a small group. We desire to see individuals trained so they can become leaders who can effectively use this tool with their neighbors, in small groups, and in similar settings. The result will be more salt and light "beyond our walls"—in the world where God has placed us. Contact the church office (717-442-8161) if you would like to purchase tickets for the Truth Project Simulcast, or call Clair Leaman (484-678-3333) for more information.

Parents are God-appointed trainers for their families. The time dads and moms invest in training to be more effective in leading their families has lasting dividends. For that reason CMBC will host a parenting seminar on October 25 from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Seminar instructors will be Dr. Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller, authors of the book *Parenting is Heart Work*. The morning will include a family-related program for children. Contact the church office to register for this seminar, and contact Heather Ensslen or Pastor Jim Davis for additional information.

There are fees associated with these training opportunities. If you would like to attend any of these events but cannot afford the fees please let one of the pastors know. Certain folks from CBMC would love to make it possible for you to attend through a confidential scholarship. These are exciting training opportunities, and we trust that many from our church and our community will see the value of being trained for the work of the ministry. Please pray that this season of training will have a positive impact both within and beyond our walls.