

**An eLetter to the ceCommunity
from the AGTS Office of Continuing Education
April 2006**

“biblical answers...ministry empowerment...global impact...”

What's Below?

ceLines - A few words from the ceDirector
ceWhat??? Things that make you go hmmm...
ceLinks - A few web sites you can surf
ceSources - A few tools you can use
ceCourses - A few classes coming your way

ceLines:

Hello friends,

I've just been thinking about you lately. The Lord has brought a number of issues to my mind as I've been lifting you up in prayer. I debated with myself as to how much I should share, but I have felt a urging to be straight up with you about it.

I get the sense that some of you are experiencing the following:

- your most productive period of ministry
- tangible evidence that your ministry efforts are yielding fruit
- affirmation by a loving group of people who appreciate your ministry
- a renewed devotion to the Lord and his Church
- stronger connections with your family and friends

I also get the sense that some of you are struggling with the following issues:

- secret sins
- sincerity of calling
- burnout
- failing relationships
- coldness of heart

Whatever season of ministry or challenge that you are facing, I simply want to raise my voice to let you know that you are loved and appreciated for the kingdom work that you are doing. I regularly lift you up to the Lord for his sustaining love and convicting grace to keep you in the path of righteousness for his name's sake.

So...whether you are rejoicing right now or weeping right now, find someone else with whom you can share your joy or sorrow and come to know the blessedness of covenant fellowship. Find someone who can rejoice or weep with you when you rejoice or weep. God has not called us to the ministry task to do it alone. I therefore urge you all the more to work within his design of co-laboring in the gospel with the highs and lows that will inevitably come.

I'm praying for you...

Until next time...

Randy C. Walls, Director
AGTS Continuing Education

ceWhat??? Things that make you go hmmm...

To lead successfully during a transition, leaders must establish an environment of trust. And one good way to do that, according to the Center for Creative Leadership, is to communicate effectively every step of the way.

In the October 2005 issue of its *Leading Effectively* e-zine, the CCL offers several guidelines for leaders who wish to communicate well during a season of change. Here are some highlights:

- **Never stop communicating.** "Now is not the time to keep quiet," the CCL states. "Find many ways to share information."
- **Explain expectations.** "Clearly explaining why, how and when things need to happen will set expectations and create a healthy level of stress and pressure," the center explains.
- **Allow for doubts.** Don't try to squash resistance; rather, create a climate that processes it. "Don't dismiss, write off or label employees too easily or too quickly," the CCL says.
- **Show you can handle the truth.** Some people may be reluctant to be completely forthcoming with you. As the leader, it's up to you to set the tone and "model the behavior that makes truth-telling OK," the CCL states.
- **Be real.** "Don't try to bury or deny your own reactions to ongoing events," the CCL advises. "People pay close attention to their leaders in such times and are looking for indications that they are real people who are capable of having human emotions like their own."

Have you faced any challenges as you have navigated your own seasons of change?
How did you handle it?

Drop me a line and let me know...

ceLinks:

Check out these web sites!

<http://www.worshiptogether.com/>. This is a great website dedicated to providing a virtual gathering place for people to celebrate the love of Christ in music. With a membership, you can enjoy free worship songs, etc. Check it out!

<http://www.strategicnetwork.org/>. This is an interesting website for those of you who like to get a sense of what's going on in the world of global missions.

<http://www.purposedriven.com/en-US/HIVAIDSCommunity/Welcome.htm>. If you'd like to be a part of making a difference in the HIV community, here's a great place to start.

ceSources:

Baptized in the Spirit by Frank Macchia. Everyone should read the new book, by this A/G theologian and Vanguard University professor. If you're trying to stay abreast of the best in Pentecostal theology, this is a must read!

Just a reminder... You can order this and/or all the textbooks for your ceCourses in the AGTS bookstore, just contact Ray Reid at reid@AGTS.edu.

ceCourses:

Here's the link to the most recent schedule

http://www.agts.edu/continuing_education/2006_ce_schedule.html

Use the course selection form at

http://www.AGTS.edu/continuing_education/ce_course_selection_form.html to let us know which ones you wish to take.

Contact us 8am - 4:30pm CST at:

Ph: 1(800)467-2487, ext. 1044 Fx: 1(417)268-1009

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