



From the President's Desk -



Hi men, I am taking some time out and have asked David Smethurst to contribute to the December 2021 Newsletter. I would like to thank you for all your support over the past year including support from our wives, families and friends. Have a blessed Christmas with family and friends remembering the One who saved us. Len

YOU CAN BE A PERSUASIVE WITNESS FOR CHRIST

2 Corinthians 5:14-20 informs every Christian that they have a ministry. God has given us a **ministry of reconciliation** and He's committed to us the **word of reconciliation**. It says, we are ambassadors for Christ. We are here in His place representing Him before needy man, urging him to be reconciled to God through Jesus Christ.

If you've ever prayed, "**God, I'm serious about serving You, please use me in your service**" God has taken you seriously and that prayer should be followed by action. **God has given us marching orders**; in **Mark 16:15** Jesus instructed us, "**Go into all the world (all your world) and preach the gospel to every person**". Note that this is a command, it is not optional. The challenge is to rouse ourselves from the attitude that winning people to Christ is a week-end hobby in which we might or might not participate.

Endeavouring to bring people to Christ is a matter of eternal life and death. If God took the salvation of the lost so seriously that He gave heaven's best how dare we take it lightly and give less than our best in winning people to Jesus.

Jesus said in Matthew 10:32, "If you confess me before men, I will confess you before My Father in heaven". One of the highest forms of gratitude we can show the Lord Jesus is to confess to others how extremely generous He has been to us in dying and rising again to save us.

Jesus wants us all to be His witnesses, as Spirit-filled people we have no excuse. In **Acts 1:8** Jesus said, "**And you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be witnesses unto Me**". We do the Holy Spirit a great disservice in not using His power and anointing for the reason intended, that is, to win people to Christ.

Many Christians fear that in being Christ's witness that they will not be able to convince people of their need of Him. A witness in court never has to convince the court regarding a verdict. All the witness has to do is honestly and clearly share their experience. The court then makes up its mind. Our duty is to honestly and clearly share our experience of Jesus. It's the Holy Spirit's job to convince people of their need of Christ and He does it extremely well.

You are a Winner every time you Witness

Because you are -

- a) **Working with the Holy Spirit**, not Him with you; He is doing most of the work. When we leave a person after sharing Christ with them, the Holy Spirit remains and deals with them. You are working with the one

whose power created the universe.

- b) **Sharing the incorruptible seed** according to 1 Peter 1:23.

Isaiah 55:10 states that God's Word will never return to Him void and fruitless. All Jesus asks is that we share our experience of Him and what His blood has done in our lives.

Vital Tips for Being an Effective Soul Winner

- 1) **Get to know Jesus better.**

Philippians 3:10 says, "**That I may know Him ...**". The emphasis here is an intimate knowing in a personal relationship - so personal, that between husbands and wives, that relationship produces children. We need to get to know Jesus so intimately that our relationship with Him, in a spiritual sense, produces children for the Kingdom of God. When people look at us, they should see that we are so in love with Jesus and He with us, and that relationship radiates from our lives. It should make them want to know Him. We get to know Jesus better by reading God's Word, prayer, praise and worship, as we open our hearts to Him.

- 2) **Follow Jesus.**

In **Matthew 4:19** Jesus said, "**Follow me and I will make you fishers of men**".

1 Peter 2:21 says, "**Christ has left us an example for us to follow in His steps**". We find the footsteps of Jesus daily in the Word of God. It is then up to us to put our feet into His footprints, imitate Him and obey His Word. It stands to reason that the closer we follow Him the more people we will catch.

- 3) **Uplift Jesus.**

In **John 12:32** Jesus said, "**If I am uplifted, I will draw all men unto myself**". **Jesus is the magnetic drawing power of the gospel.** We must be sure when sharing our personal testimonies and talking about our experience, that we uplift Jesus. He is the One who has saved us and made us children of God. Uplift Jesus with your life, your actions and with your words, and people will be drawn to Him.

- 4) **Be Persuasive**

In **2 Corinthians 5:20** the apostle Paul says, "**We beg you, as Christ's ambassadors, be reconciled to God**". Now that's persuasive witnessing. There are so many people who know the facts of the Gospel but don't know the simple decision to receive Christ.

When sharing the Gospel remember to try to bring that seeking person to a decision. "What will you do with Christ now that you know about Him?" This is the vital question. Be gentle but be persuasive. Most people will put off decisions that have far-reaching consequences. We need to urge them to decide for Christ and show them how to receive Him into their lives. **If they were drowning in a river unable to swim** and you were standing on the riverbank with a lifeline, would they need to debate whether they needed to be rescued or not. They would be screaming at you for help. They are drowning or perishing in their sins. You are throwing them a lifeline in Jesus Christ. Do they need to debate whether they should receive Him or not? Jesus says we are to go and make disciples of all nations, **Matthew 28:19**. **Luke 14:23** Jesus uses the parable urging us to "go into the highways and byways and compel people to come in".

There are so many who know the facts of the Gospel but are standing on the brink the decision for Christ. With our help they will make that decision correctly. - by David Smethurst

(Attached page on How To Lead someone to Jesus Christ)



Written by Bob & Debby Gass

CONQUERING YOUR GIANTS

'I have given you authority over...the enemy.' Luke 10:19 NLT

When he went out to fight Goliath, David said, 'You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord...and he will give you to us' (1 Samuel 17:45, 47 NLT)! Nobody in King Saul's army seemed to have factored God into the equation, but David talked about nothing else. He saw what they *didn't* and refused to be intimidated by what they *did*.

David believed that the God he served was bigger than the giant he faced. Do you believe that too? Do you see God as bigger than your problem? If you're in a situation where there appears to be no way out, instead of wasting time and energy dwelling on your own weaknesses and shortcomings, stand on God's Word and start talking about his power. You won't win if you fight in your own strength, so don't try it! David said, 'This is the Lord's battle' (1 Samuel 17:47 NLT). And God has never lost a battle!

So, confront your giant in the name of the Lord and declare: 'Giant of divorce, you aren't entering my home; depression, you won't conquer me; alcohol, bigotry, insecurity, lust, you're coming down!' The Bible says, 'When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard [flag of victory] against him' (Isaiah 59:19 NKJV). There are three things Satan can't withstand: God's Word, Christ's blood, and the name of Jesus. When you use those things, you'll bring him down every time - just like David toppled Goliath!

[A series of true stories compiled by John Wright – FGBMFI UK](#)

Dangerous Love

Ray Norman was Director of World Vision in Mauritania, a former French Muslim colony in West Africa.

Following a failed terrorist attempt to kill both himself and his daughter Hannah, Ray went to see the leading Muslim Iman to ask whether it would be safe for World Vision to continue its ministry to the poor in the country. *'There are three things I think you ought to know.'* the Iman said. *'First, your staff who work among our communities are well trained and effective; their professionalism is commendable. Second, when World Vision comes into our communities, you bring a wholesome sense of order to desolate places of uncertainty and upheaval. Both these aspects of World Vision are commendable. However, there is a third matter Monsieur Norman, which I think you may not fully understand. You see, we Muslims give alms and help to the poor because the Quran instructs us to do so. This is an obligation. But with World Vision, you work for the poor because you love the poor. This is different. This is what sets you apart. I encourage you to stay in this country and teach our people how to love the poor.'*

The Fire Hoses

We were at a Convention of the Full Gospel Businessmen in Glasgow. One of the International Directors from America, Tommy Ashcraft, announced that £20,000 was to be raised that morning for the work of the Fellowship in the British Isles and Ireland. I put my hands over my eyes in embarrassment.

Tommy did not seem to realise he was in Scotland.' But Tommy knew the leading of the Spirit. While I was quietly praying in the Spirit with my eyes closed I received a mental picture. There were three canvas fire hoses with brass nozzles. The first nozzle was blocked up with what seemed like Brasso powder. The second was partly blocked, while the third was wide open.

Then God spoke to me, *'Which one are you going to use?'* The answer was obvious. *'The one with the open nozzle,'* I replied, a bit puzzled as to what this was leading to. *'Which one do you think I am going to use?'* came the next question. At last the penny dropped. As firemen need to get water through an open hose to put out the fire, so God looks for people who have been set free to give. A great joy and excitement filled my soul.

I knew God wanted me to give whatever was necessary to make up the £20,000. I rushed round for the rest of the day telling everyone who would listen, *'I've been healed, I've been healed!'* *'We didn't notice you were very ill'* was the not surprising response. Yet something so profound had happened to me it seemed as dramatic as seeing after being blind.

Spiritually, I suppose, this was true. While I did not have the money that might be required, this did not bother me. I had arranged for a plant to be built in Kuwait. The deal was about to be completed and my fees would be £20,000! But two weeks later the Kuwaiti Client did not arrive for the completion meeting and was uncontactable. My English Client exploded and said he would never deal with Arabs again. It seemed I was in trouble but I had peace. Three weeks later the Kuwaiti turned up from a holiday in Paris and the deal was signed. It was a good lesson in trusting in God; looking up and not looking down at the problem!

A Providential Meeting

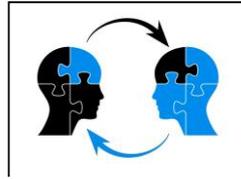
Almost every day, as one meets people, one can mention the love that God has for them and give them a *Voice*. This is the magazine of the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship which has four testimonies of people whose lives have been transformed by coming to know Jesus as their Saviour.

Very rarely does one get any feedback, so this email, received in 2017, was a huge blessing. *Dear Mr Wright, in 2011, when I was sitting alone at the airport in Norwich, you approached me to talk to me about Christ. You were on your way to Beijing to meet your son. You gave me a "Voice" leaflet which had your name at the back. I have kept it all these years.*

I am now based in Shanghai and will be baptized this Easter weekend. I thought of you and hope that this email will reach you. Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you. Yours sincerely, Min Ang

Three Keys to Finding a Great Mentor

By Marillyn Hewson - Lockheed Martin, Chairman, President and CEO



Finding a mentor is one of the best investments you can make in yourself and your career -- and I speak from experience.

When I was just starting out over 32 years ago, a Vice President at Lockheed Martin nominated me for a selective management development program. And he didn't stop there. For the next two years, he coached me through the program, advised me on how to get the most from the experience and helped me map my progress. By the time I graduated from the program, I felt prepared to succeed in whatever came next. Today, I look back on that relationship as one of the most important turning points in my career.

So if you're looking for a mentor -- and I hope that you are -- I have three pieces of advice.

1. Look for mentors all around you.

The people who are best positioned to support you are the ones who have been there before. They've spent time and energy jumping the hurdles you're just beginning to tackle. And they've learned a lot along the way.

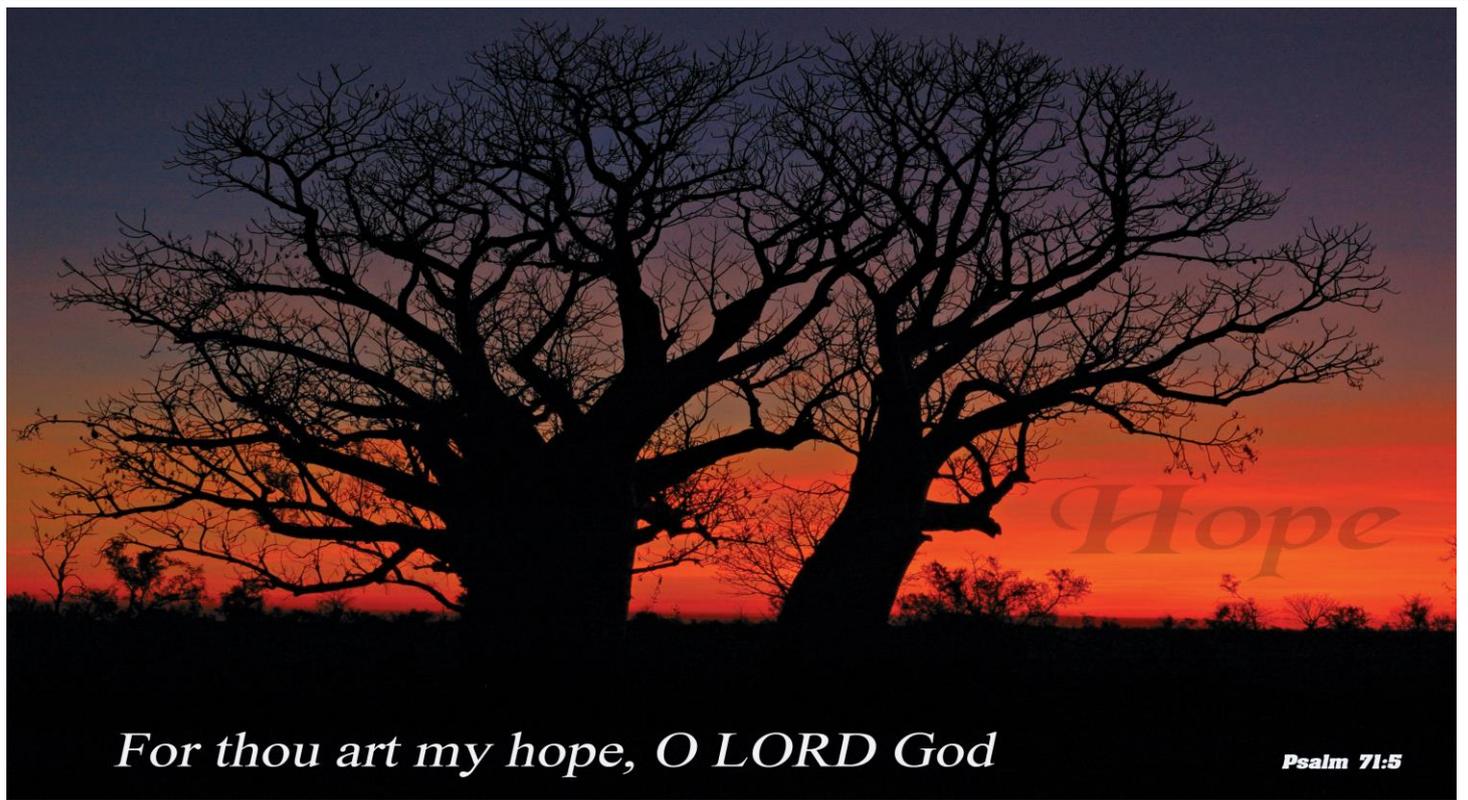
Yet, a mentor doesn't have to be a seasoned leader, nor do you always need a formal, full-time relationship. People all around you may have valuable input, depending on the issue at hand. Be open to mentoring in the moment, day-by-day. Seek out multiple advisors -- anyone from a senior member of your organization to someone just one cubicle over.

One colleague might be great at reviewing your presentation, another might help you prepare for a job interview, and others may coach you on how to manage your time, your team or even a tough client. Building a broad network increases your ability to find the right advisor at the right time.

2. Find a mentor by earning one.

The most rewarding mentoring relationships aren't assigned to you or required by Human Resources -- they're the ones you earn for yourself.

So don't approach a mentor expecting him or her to automatically solve all of your problems. Do your part in the relationship. If you're facing a challenge, draw up a potential solution. Demonstrate your desire to improve. Ask your mentor if you're on the right track. Listen carefully. Be open



INTERNATIONAL Our Mission

FGBMFI is one of the largest Christian business organizations in the world. Founded in 1953, we are in 142 nations - meeting in over 7,000 chapters. Our members and leaders include every race, culture, social status, and language.

By God's grace, we connect people with opportunities to reach out and help others find a better life and work together to build better communities.

We do this by:

Calling people back to God...

There is a better life by following Jesus Christ.

Promoting integrity and good character...

Being a reflection of God to our world.

Participating in God's good work...

Releasing gifts, talents, and resources to help others.

Working together to build better cities & nations...

Impacting our leaders and our culture.

Taking the message of God's love to every family...

A true grass roots effort that is changing the world.

"The mandate from God is that we break the chains of despair in the world. Our mandate is to destroy the isolation of loneliness and link the world to God!"

Demos Shakarian, Founder



"It is our destiny to lift up God in every business center, every marketplace, every government center and university... every nation, city, town and crossroads of the world. People of faith, shining with God's glory, bringing the uplifting message of God's power... reaching out, helping, encouraging and lifting. Today, through our efforts, we believe that over 2 million people come to God each year."



International President Mario Garcia



to constructive feedback. Ask follow up questions. Although the best mentors offer guidance, encouragement and support, it's up to you to act on that advice.

Developing these genuine, constructive relationships with people you admire takes work. Yet, when you take initiative and share ideas, leadership will notice. You may even find senior people beginning to mentor you, without you having to ask.

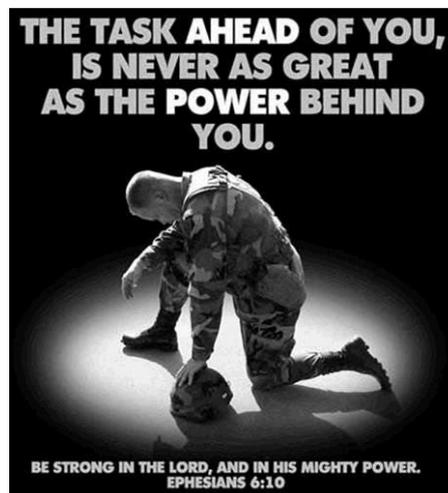
3. Give as much as you receive.

At their best, mentoring relationships are rewarding and beneficial to everyone involved. Just as you may gain knowledge and guidance from a more experienced colleague, a mentor can also grow and develop by virtue of their relationship with you.

The best organizations leverage their diverse and multigenerational workforce, understanding that each individual brings valuable insight and perspective to the table. I know I have learned as much from my mentees as they do from me, and it's gratifying to watch their careers develop and help them grow professionally.

So, if you're a mentee, approach the relationship with energy and commitment. Don't just view the experience as a chance for you to gain; think about how you can be helpful in return. That spirit of reciprocity is something we try to cultivate at Lockheed Martin, where we're proud to have a culture that encourages mentoring and development at every level, and in all directions. Our employees benefit because they can learn from and lean on one another; and our company benefits because we welcome open dialogues from different perspectives, backgrounds and levels of experience.

Mentoring relationships can challenge and inspire you, and they can help you propel your career. It's never too soon to start learning from those around you -- and great leaders never stop.



Key Men

God is not looking for any man; He is not looking for a multitude of men. He is looking for KEY men, men that will influence others and point them in the right direction so that they become God's men.

Remember God used Samson to keep the Philistines at bay for many years – one man against thousands!

So in our recruiting we must identify the KEY men who will then influence the right men who will share the vision God gave to Demos in the very busy and turbulent business world.