

SOMEBODY CARES

A true witness rescues lives (Proverbs 14:25)

2014 MID-YEAR REPORT

*The NET That WORKS • Disaster Relief Update •
Prayer, Compassion & Preparedness •
Leaving a Lasting Legacy*

OCT 16-18, 2014
Houston TX



To be effective in our ability to impact our neighborhoods and nations requires that we spiritually and practically, individually and corporately, prepare for the days ahead. Such collaborative efforts necessitate intentionality in our relationships--transcending our ethnicities, our denominations, and our political backgrounds. We need each other as never before to impact our world with the love and hope of Christ. I hope you will join me in October for this kairós opportunity!

*Dr. J. Doug Stringer, Founder & President
Somebody Cares/Turning Point Ministries International*

Who should come?

- Somebody Cares Chapter Members
- Somebody Cares Center Leaders
- Senior Pastors and Associate Pastors
- Missions and Outreach Directors
- Church and Frontline Ministry Staff
- Christians in the Civic Arena
- Marketplace Ministry Leaders
- Prayer Initiative Leaders
- Emerging Leaders
- Anyone passionate about reaching their community for Christ!

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On the cover:

Somebody Cares International helped provide over 1.5 million meals for local churches in the Philippines to distribute to those affected by Typhoon Haiyan, such as the little girl pictured here.

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The NET that WORKS

From inception, the Somebody Cares network has purposed to be a voice for compassion ministries who are reaching out at a grassroots level. We are intentional in our efforts to bridge relationships with those who are not only doing a good work, but also sharing the love of God. It's likened to a net that is being mended. Each thread is important and though many are unseen, together they form the fabric which is prepared to hold a great harvest of souls. The work is hard and the hours are long for many, but we desire to see lives changed and transformed by God. Laying aside our differences for a greater cause, in strength and unity of purpose, we are seeking to build God's kingdom by setting aside personal agendas to become part of something bigger than ourselves. It's the NET that WORKS...

...In Schools

**John Clifton, Director
Somebody Cares St. Augustine**

In 2011, Somebody Cares St. Augustine joined forces with the St. John's County School district to help provide for the 600+ homeless students in our county. The first thing we did was bring our friend Melvin Adams to town, and we blitzed the public schools! Melvin—a former Harlem Globetrotter who now works full-time in his ministry to inspire young people—spoke to over 2,500 students in two days, bringing a message of hope.

Shortly after that, I was asked to serve on the School District's Unaccompanied Youth Advisory Board. Our goal is to unite the faith based community in St. Augustine and St. John's County to better assist these students. We have done this by providing mentors, clothes, laptops, funds for hotel rooms to get families off the street and graduation fees. In addition, we have coordinated home repairs for temporary housing using our CareFest teams.

We have also partnered with Samaritan's Feet and another local ministry for an annual back to school shoe giveaway, as well as coordinating two winter coat drives called "Coats for Kids." We collect coats and other winter clothing items in November as area churches ask their congregations for donations. The response has been overwhelming! Each year we have had to rent additional storage lockers to house the donations before they are given away.

There is a very special group of these students who fall under the category "Unaccompanied Youth"—these are the high schoolers who literally have no place to lay their heads, yet they are staying in

school under the worst possible conditions. One of these students was Will.

When Will's father lost his job due to illness, the family became homeless and Will found himself living in a shelter. Not only was he embarrassed to be living there, he was also not safe because it was a pretty rough place. With the help of the school district, he was able to find a home with a young youth pastor.

Two years ago at our annual banquet, we asked for mentors for these students. One of those who volunteered that night became Will's mentor and has been working with him for the last two years, providing a positive male role model.

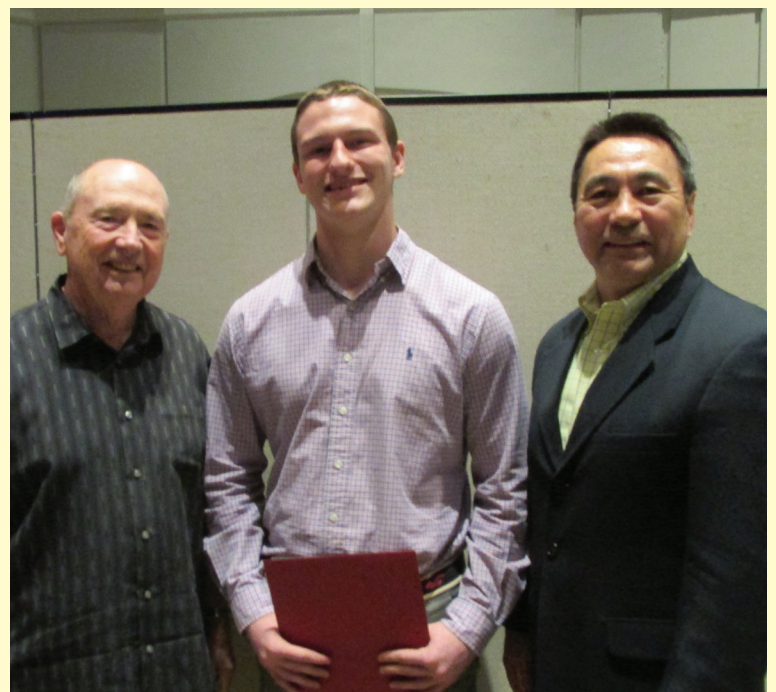
Now, instead of being embarrassed, Will has plenty of reason to be proud: He served as captain of the St. Augustine High School wrestling team and was the only member of his team to qualify for the state tournament. He noticeably improved his grades and is working part-time at McDonald's. He was accepted to college and was honored, along with the youth pastor who took him in, during our annual banquet this year.

He also became the first recipient of the Somebody Cares St. Augustine College Scholarship.

"I probably should have dropped out by now, if you look at statistics," Will says. "But I believe if you work hard enough you can become anything you want."

Will now knows that Somebody Cares because Jesus cares...and the body of Christ in St. Augustine cares!

There are students like Will in every city, and they need our love. When we have a heart to care for them, God will open the doors!



Volunteers (top) help Somebody Cares St. Augustine sort donations during the annual Coats for Kids event. John Clifton (bottom photo, left) and Doug Stringer (right) celebrate with Will, recipient of the first Somebody Cares St. Augustine college scholarship award.

The NET that WORKS...

...In The Community

**Marlene Yeo, Director
Somebody Cares New England (SCNE)**

One of the many beautiful characteristics of Somebody Cares chapters is that we do not duplicate what is already being offered by another church or organization in the community. Through the Holy Spirit's creativity, God creates and establishes new ways of serving a city that have not been done before, blessing the community in a myriad of ways.

The following are a few of the initiatives in which the Lord has used SCNE to fill the gaps by collaborating efforts with existing organizations and movements to bring things to new levels of effectiveness.

Building Caring Bridges (BCB)

I grew up in a home where emotional and mental illness and alcoholism were a part of daily life. I thank God for my salvation in 1978, which began my journey of healing and freedom.

In 1999, while watching the first Transformations documentary video from the Sentinel Group, I was totally ruined with God's heart for the lost, which was something I had never experienced before in my walk with The Lord. I responded with a passionate but simple prayer:

"Lord transform me and use me to reach the lost. I want to be a part of transformation in people's lives. I want to

be a part of transformation in my city."

God was so kind to answer my prayer. Shortly thereafter, a few of us began prayer walks in the distressed areas of the city. The Lord used the least, the last, the lost, the little, and the lonely to break my heart and confirm His call as a prayer and compassion missionary to Haverhill, Massachusetts. As I began reaching out to the distressed, I discovered that drug and alcohol addictions were their closest companion. As Christians we know spiritual, mental, and emotional brokenness is at the root of most addictions. People use prescription drugs, street drugs, and alcohol as the means of coping with their trauma and pain.

I knew the Bible offered answers for their spiritual needs, but I was clueless regarding the understanding of mental and emotional illness and the medical side of it all. I had only known the emotional pain and confusion of living in a family with addictions and mental illness, but I didn't know the correct responses or resources to help the people God brought to us.

Through several crisis situations early on, we learned that we needed police, mental, and medical intervention—but there seemed to be a great divide between the church, the police, and the professionals regarding those we were serving. "Building Caring Bridges" was birthed to bring us together, and 2014 marks our fifth year of collaboration.

We host mental health professionals, service providers, police officers, probation court officers, and churches for roundtable discussions to educate, dialogue, share resources, and collaborate. The first coalition of its kind in the area, BCB has grown beyond the Haverhill borders to include the Merrimack Valley. It has been very well attended, is very informative, and has proven to be a great catalyst to better serve those with addictions and mental health issues. It has also opened amazing

doors to be a witness and a blessing to the police and the professionals. The event is offered for free and is sponsored by Holy Family Hospital, Merrimack Valley Hospital, and Team Coordinating Agency.

Haverhill Community Violence Prevention Coalition (HCVC)

Because we model prayer, care, and share, we were a catalyst for the Lord to bring transformation to a city block that was once known for being the highest crime area in the city. It is amazing what the Lord can accomplish through the simple obedience of persistent prayer, consistent care, and commitment to sharing the good news. The power of His love brought about change, one person at a time, until the whole block looked different. Even the atmosphere felt different because the people were different. A lieutenant from the Haverhill Police Department said on our cable TV show, "We all know it was you and your team that brought transformation to the block by being present."

As a result of the dramatic changes, I was invited to serve on the HCVC committee. For our first event, a back-to-school outreach, SCNE was able to contribute 600 filled backpacks which were donated to us by another church that bought them but didn't have the relational network to distribute them.

Over the years of serving with HCVC, we have hosted banquets, fundraisers, community block outreaches, and neighborhood watch meetings. We work side-by-side with the police officers, and together we reach out to kids and their families. Many are now a part of the church I pastor, Community Christian Fellowship (CCF). HCVC states that since collaborating with SCNE, attendance at events has dramatically increased. They know it is because we have invested 14 years into building a relational network of respect and trust, which now serves as a bridge for the officers to connect with the families.

This past December, we invited Lt. Col. Melvin Russell from the Baltimore PD as our guest speaker for HCVC annual "Partners for Peace" banquet. He shared with the audience—including police officers,



Marlene Yeo is joined by Matt Stevens from Somebody Cares Baltimore (left) at the annual "Partners for Peace" banquet, honoring members of the Haverhill Community Violence Prevention Program, while Lt. Col. Melvin Russell (top right) from the Baltimore Police Department addresses the same group. Teenagers (bottom right) reach out to the homeless community during a local outreach hosted by SCNE.

high school administrators, church leaders, and city officials—the systems, methods, processes, and procedures he has implemented in Baltimore (including working closely with Matt Stevens and our SC chapter there) to begin the process of transforming one neighborhood at a time.

Through the HCVC, we were able to bring in former Harlem Globetrotter Melvin Adams to speak at Haverhill High School, which opened an effectual door for long-term ministry to the youth in our city's schools.

We embrace and appreciate every opportunity the Lord gives us to minister to those in the public and political sectors, not just those who are down and out. At one of our community events, the Mayor came to shake my hand and thank SCNE for all we do in the city. He asked me to

make an appointment with him to discuss the SCNE vision for our neighborhood. We are now prayerfully pursuing and dialoguing with community leaders about a building two blocks up from our current location, which we would like to obtain and use for a youth outreach center.

Community Health Benefits Committee

A woman who worked at our local hospital passed by our locatoin every day on her way to work. She marveled at how a block she was once afraid to drive through was now so clean and beautiful, and she proposed to the hospital staff to host a spaghetti dinner fundraiser for SCNE. During the dinner, I personally shook hands with each of the hospital staff who volunteered, including the president, and thanked them for raising funds for us. I invited them to come to our outreach center to see how we would use the funds for our food pantry, which was providing for hundreds of families and several soup kitchens. I also sent them a beautiful letter of appreciation.

Soon after that, I received an invitation to serve on a pilot program called "Community Health Benefits Committee," an initiative endeavoring to bridge the gap between the health care industry and the low income minority population with whom we were



working. Thus began our wonderful journey of serving the health care professionals.

Through hospital and agency referrals, SCNE helps people get their birth certificates and ID cards, which they need in order to apply for Massachusetts health benefits. We also host community outreaches for the hospital to help people get connected with primary care physicians.

Multi-faceted Network of Volunteers

A large percentage of the volunteers who come to serve our events are the "not yet" believers and the "once-church-goers." We have come to embrace and be grateful to the Lord that we can be His bridge over troubled waters for them.

Many of them are on the *fringes of church* and feel they *don't belong*; yet they have found a place where they feel accepted, valued, and loved.

It is amazing to me that although we NEVER hide who we are and the message of hope we carry in our hearts, they love to serve beside us. Many of those from the streets who were raised in church and backslid are among our most dedicated volunteers who serve faithfully.

God is using SCNE in His ministry of reconciliation.

...In The Nations

Paul Tan, Pastor of City Blessing Churches, President of Indonesian Relief Fund, and Somebody Cares International Board Member

Following Jesus is exciting! I recently came back from Indonesia where I visited our churches, trained leaders, visited orphanages and the less fortunate communities, and observed our fish farm, agriculture places, and schools for the poor. During my visit I also preached the good news to the Middle Eastern refugees, visited our school for the blind, arranged training and scholarships to raise up entrepreneurs, strategized with key business people who have financial substance in the nation, and met with high-ranking government officials. It was a very packed two-week journey with a back-to-back schedule, and it was tiring... but exciting!

About 16 years ago, when I was spending some time with the Lord in prayer, I heard Him say, "Paul, I want you to feed the world." "Run it by me again please, Lord," I replied. He did. After asking questions and giving so many excuses, the Lord told me that He has actually told many, but only a few responded to this call – ministering to the poor.

With no experience, not enough human resource, no warehouse, not enough money (how much money will be enough to feed the world anyway?), and many other "NO"s and "NOT"s, I said, "YES" to Him. Sixteen nations and over one billion dollars later, I am witnessing how the Lord works

(Continued)



Rev. Paul Tan delivers wheelchairs to Indonesia.

The NET that WORKS...

(Continued)

through a fragile human vessel.

One of my role models is Doug Stringer. I saw how he served tirelessly behind the scenes; how he sacrificed his time, energy, and money; and how he did it all lovingly and not thinking of himself. I remember the days when I went to Houston to learn from him, how he distributed food for the needy and worked together with many ministry networks and churches in the area. We woke up at 4:00 in the morning, he lent me his sneakers, and off we went.

In 1998 there was an economic shaking in Southeast Asia. Indonesia was hit really hard. And on top of that, there were huge riots in many major cities calling for the president of the nation for 32 years to resign. The capital city, Jakarta, became like a "lake of fire," where many commercial buildings, residential buildings, and churches were burned down, and many Christians and Chinese descents were persecuted. People were raped, some of them on public streets. Chaos and hatred filled the atmosphere, and many successful business people fled the country. This happened concurrently with our containers of humanitarian aid arriving into this nation, which we had shipped before the riots had

even begun! Only God can orchestrate that.

Our team served and loved those who persecuted us. We helped without any hidden agenda, but to love them. We worked together with many pastors and Muslim clerics by using their churches and mosques as distribution centers. We helped anyone who needed help – regardless of the background, ethnicity, or religion. Some people we served even asked, "Why are you doing this? We persecuted your people, burned your building, and threw stones at you – but when we are hungry you feed us?" Because of this act of love, many received Christ as their Lord and Savior.

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Matthew 22:37-39)

Bishop Bart Pierce, a spiritual father, once said to me, "Paul, if you take care of the neglected, the unwanted, the rejected, the poor, and the needy, God will send you those people of influence that other people are after." Oh, how true it is. I had never realized that when we do what Jesus told us to do, He will send us all the resources, finances, and cause the people of influence to look for us. To God be the glory.

...In Disaster Relief

**Mark Roye, Blood N Fire San Antonio
Somebody Cares Field Rep/Member of
Global Compassion Response Network**

Over 14 years ago my wife Susie and I started an inner city ministry called Blood n Fire in San Antonio, Texas. As we began working with the poor of our city, we had no idea it would be a time of preparation for future service with Somebody Cares America. We began feeding hundreds of people hot meals at our monthly community party. Food distribution also became a part of our regular ministry schedule.

It wasn't long after we started our ministry that Doug Stringer and I met each other at a conference. Prior to that we had only known of each other by name. Little did I know that first conversation would turn into such a significant relationship. In fact, one of the main things Doug and I both value is the importance of relationship. That is what, I believe, sets apart the work of Somebody Cares.

In 2005, not long after we met, Hurricane Katrina hit the city of New Orleans. I had ministry friends living there so I hooked up our barbeque pit and cargo trailers full of supplies and headed out to help. My team and I had never done anything like this before, but we did know how to cook for the hundreds and how to distribute food.

It was during this time that we began partnering with Somebody Cares and really saw the power of partnership. Doug's gift of connecting leaders from the civic arena to churches and ministries proved to be invaluable in helping thousands of people.

Just on the heels of Hurricane Katrina, another storm was lining up to hit the Texas Coast. I had returned home to San Antonio to help with the 15,000 people who evacuated to our city from New Orleans. As Hurricane Rita made landfall, I received a call from a good friend, Mike Lynch, who was already in the area. We loaded up again and headed out toward Beaumont, Texas, but before we made it there communication with Somebody Cares had already begun. We were asked to go, instead, to Bridge City to set up a distribution site.

Over the next two weeks we were able to cook and serve over 27,000 meals and distribute over two million dollars worth of aid. Somebody Cares provided much of the resources we used. It was amazing to see what God did through that partnership as God's people came together for the greater good.

For the past nine years our relation-



Bringing hope to Indonesia and throughout Southeast Asia.

Somebody Cares
was named one of the
*21 Most Influential
Ministries of the
21st Century in the
May 2014 edition of
Ministry Today.*



ship with Somebody Cares has continued to grow. We have served together in just about every major disaster since then.

When Superstorm Sandy hit the New York City area, we headed out with our teams to assist in any way we could. As we made our way across country, the Somebody Cares network of partners kicked into gear. Virtually overnight, things began to take form. Distribution sites were set up with local church partners. Aid began to come in from all over the county. Thousands of hot meals were being served to families and to the volunteers who came to help with the recovery process.

Over the next 30 days, we served in Staten Island, Long Island, Queens, and New Jersey. The pace was non-stop, but we loved every minute. The leadership provided by Doug and his vice president, Jodie Chiricosta, was amazing. As information and needs came into the office of Somebody Cares, help was quickly dispatched from the network. We saw God provide over and over again to bless these people who had lost everything.

The secret to the effectiveness of Somebody Cares is that it is built on relationship. If you allow structure to dictate relationship, you are just an organization. But, if you let relationship dictate structure, you remain an organism – one that can adapt no matter what size the storm may be. It can be small and survive, or grow overnight to meet any challenge.

As we cemented our relationship with Somebody Cares, we began serving the network as official Somebody Cares first responders to assess disaster situations, identify local partners to support, and communicate urgent needs to Some-

body Cares partners waiting to respond. Most recently, we coordinated Somebody Cares relief efforts in the Philippines following Typhoon Haiyan. Together we have undergirded the local church network there by providing counsel, 1.5 million meals, medical support, and prayer. We also served in Vilonia, Ark., after tornadoes tore through that region.

It is an honor to serve with Doug and the Somebody Cares family, responding to disasters all over the world. The relational network of Somebody Cares truly is a “net that works.” We all come together in our strengths and weaknesses for the greater purpose of showing God’s love to hurting people through acts of compassion.



Mark Roye delivers meals in the Philippines on behalf of Somebody Cares during Typhoon Haiyan relief (top) and fires up the Holy Smoke cooker in Vilonia, Ark., during tornado relief earlier this year.

*Thank you to all of our
Somebody Cares
chapters and centers,
partner ministries,
volunteers, financial
partners, and prayer
supporters!
Together, we are the
NET that WORKS to
rescue lives!*

Pre-Conversion Discipleship

by Mike May

What comes first? Not the chicken or the egg, but rather, “conversion” or “discipleship”? Were Jesus’ disciples converted before following Him? Or did they begin to follow Christ after being converted? And why does it even matter?

As we have sought to be faithful to Jesus’ cultural mandate to “make disciples of all nations,” these are two of the questions we have found ourselves pondering. Immediately, terms need to be defined. What does it mean to be converted? What does discipleship mean? Important questions if we are committed to finding real answers.

The apostle Paul’s conversion appears to happen very suddenly and dramatically on the road to Tarsus. There was an immediate radical change in this man’s lifestyle. Oth-

ers, like John Wesley, speak of a more gradual drawing of the spirit until their “hearts are strangely warmed,” like Wesley’s was on May 24, 1738, on Aldersgate Street.

Conversion is that moment of revelation when your spiritual eyes are opened to see that Jesus truly is the Son of God and Lord of the Universe; a moment when the light of God’s revelation breaks into the darkness of the human heart, bringing greater understanding and clarity about reality. The result is a change of mind and heart, a turning from a life of selfishness and self-centeredness to a life of self-sacrifice and Christ-centeredness. It is definitely a supernatural working in by the Holy Spirit, requiring a definite faith response and working-out by the convert. The convert yields his or her life to the Lordship of Jesus Christ and commits to learning and living His teachings.

So what is required to move a person’s heart to this place of conversion?

Preparation is required. “*Break up the fallow ground*” (Hosea 10:12). John the Baptist was sent to prepare the way.

In the culture of Jesus’ time, it was not uncommon for a Rabbi (or Jewish Teacher) to call to himself students to be trained. In fact, it was a great honor for the student. It is believed that the region Jesus called his disciples from was an area with Rabbinic schools sensitive to God’s agenda in the earth. They were educating the people and preparing them to recognize the Messiah when He came. So when Jesus began to call the men He chose to follow him, there was an anticipation, a readiness. But was their response to this

invitation their moment of conversion? Or was this when the process of pre-conversion discipleship began?

It is maybe the clearest to see this process unfold in the life of the Apostle Peter. He has many powerful break-through moments with Jesus. Remember when Jesus asked, “*Who do you say that I am?*” Peter’s response: “*You are the Christ!*” This was probably months after Jesus had given the invitation to follow Him, and now Peter was clearly seeing something very unique in Jesus. Was this Peter’s moment of conversion? Could this be called a post- or mid-discipleship conversion? Jesus acknowledges, “*Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you Peter, but my Father in heaven.*” (Matthew 16:15-17)

On another occasion, after many realized that the cost of following Christ was too great and left Jesus, He turns to those who stayed and asked, “*Will you leave me too?*” Peter speaks up again: “*Where can we go? Only you have the words of life*” (John 6:67-68). It looks like He’s really got it—until Jesus gets arrested and crucified, at which point it appears John the beloved is the only man left standing. But after Peter’s “sifting” and Jesus’ resurrection, we see Jesus reinstate Peter by asking him three times, “*Simon, son of Jonah, do you love me?*” Peter responds, “*Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You*” (John 21:15-17).

Relationship is essential to the process of discipleship, and trust is at the root of any meaningful relationship. Jesus’ great desire is for our trust in Him to grow strong. With His disciples, Jesus continued to provide a safe place for them to cultivate trust while He gave them the time and evidence



Over 9,000 skaters came through the Humble Skatepark (bottom left) from the time of its official opening in May 2002 until it closed in March 2013. Hundreds more young people were part of the Fuel Cybercafe (top), which hosted bands and fans weekly from September 2001 until its closing, also in March of last year.



Students who volunteered at Fuel were able to earn college scholarships through faithful service, keeping up their grades, and staying clean from alcohol and drugs.

needed to come to their own conclusion about His identity as the Son of God.

In our broken world, we all, to various degrees, wrestle with complex trust issues. Really working through these issues takes humility, relationship, time, tenderness, and wisdom. Engaging the unconverted in the process of discipleship prior to their revelation of Jesus as Savior and Lord is not putting the cart before the horse, but rather a glimpse into the heart and processes of God.

Jesus was accused of being a sinner because He ate with sinners. Was this compromise? Or was He hoping to engage them in a process that could be called pre-conversion discipleship?

Someone once wisely said, "People don't care how much you know, until they know how much you care." An understanding of the power of belonging is at the core of us attempting to re-emphasize ways to engage in a discipleship process that produces real and lasting conversion.

Creating that sense of ownership and belonging before confronting someone about what they should believe may not yield 100% fruit, but I am convinced it yields greater fruit. Taste and see that the Lord is good.



Mike May is pastor of Pipeline Church in Humble, Tx., and co-director of Somebody Cares Humble. He is married to his best friend Shari, and they are the very proud

parents of their beautiful daughter Zoe. The Mays are honored to be connected to the Somebody Cares network of churches and ministries. For more information, go to www.pipelinechurch.com.

Over the years in our ministry, we have done our best to remain faithful to the pattern of discipleship modeled by Jesus. As we have reached out to those in our community, we feel the crucible of experience has been an indispensable instructor as we have moved our ideas from theory to lifestyle. Those we have met on our journey have each come from and are going to their own unique places in Jesus.

One young man—one of the first we met—was a huge fan of the skatepark we built. He knew more about skateboarding than we did. He helped guide us through the ropes of putting grip tape on skateboards and was always, always in our skateshop. It was like a second home for him. His past had been troubled, and he had a record with the law. He considered the skatepark a lifesaver. It gave him a place where he could safely release some of his energy positively. He even committed to attending our weekly team meetings, where we would share the life-changing principles Jesus taught his followers. It was so encouraging to see him recognize the value in what was being shared by our leaders. He would often encourage the younger boys to listen closely, because he knew what was being shared had the potential to change their lives. When he died in a motorcycle accident, we realized the skatepark had come at the right time for him. These kids loved to live on the edge—little did they know they were literally hanging on the edge of eternity.

A young lady who has been with us for over 10 years was invited to our cafe by a friend. She worked right through our volunteer process into a management position, then qualified for the college scholarship we offered as an additional incentive to dedicated volunteer participation. She served as a team member and then a leader in the overseas short-term mission trips we would take during the summer. She has a great voice and anointing to lead worship, becoming one of the worship leaders at our church. When we started to understand the importance of 24/7 prayer, she was very passionate about renovating our prayer room and helping us establish that very important ministry for our community. One night she looked at me when I was wondering aloud if what we were doing had made any difference in people's lives. "If you want evidence that Fuel (the name of our cafe) works, just look at me!" She said. She is soon to be married and is teaching at one of the area schools.

When a young inline skater moved to our area from the north, the skatepark became a perfect fit! He was there all the time. He and our manager had a game of "who would show up at the park first after school," and he usually won! He would volunteer in the shop and at our skate competitions, qualifying him for our scholarship program. He has also moved through our volunteer process to become part of our leadership team. I knew he had a gift for music because he played in a band that performed at our cafe venue. One week I handed him a guitar and some chord charts from some worship songs and asked, "Could you learn these worship songs and play them at the volunteer team meeting this week?" He did it. Now he is one of our main worship leaders at Pipeline Church and is in Bible college studying to be a pastor.

Another young man came to Fuel for years. He was often the one many depended on for rides. He was always friendly and respectful, somewhat guarded, and hanging out with the crew who liked to party hard. One year we partnered in an evangelistic event at the local high school stadium, and I was asked to baptize some of the people who made commitments that night. At one point, I looked up and he was next in line! He asked me, "Did you ever expect to see me in this baptism line?" What could I say? I was just so glad he was there. He is plugged in to our church and has brought many of his friends and family.

One of our skateboarders came to the park for a while, then we lost track of him. After a few years he showed up again, this time becoming fully engaged in our process. We found out that during his absence he had become mixed up with the wrong crowd and had been in some trouble with the law. I baptized him in the freezing North Sea of Scotland on one of our mission trips. For quite a few years, he has been faithfully plugged in to our church and is completing his education, with the goal of moving into a career in law enforcement.

These are just a few of the amazing folks who made such an incredible impact on our lives over the years. I am convinced that, through the pre-conversion discipleship pattern, the seeds planted in their lives will take deep root and continue to yield even greater fruit in the years to come.

The Power to Answered Prayer

by Rick Torrison

What is prayer? I asked that question at a local church recently and received a variety of responses. “Prayer is conversation with God.” “Prayer is what I do when I am in trouble.” “Prayer is when we come together around an issue or crisis that someone is having.” “Prayer is what the pastor does before the message on Sunday morning.” “Prayer is when I bring my requests before God.” “Prayer is making my requests known.” These are honest statements, each with a measure of truth. But prayer is so much more.

Several years ago I served on a team responsible for organizing prayer for a large evangelistic crusade in Houston. Prior to the event we reached out to area churches to connect with the prayer leaders. But as we started to engage the city and mobilize prayer we discovered something shocking. While every church believed in prayer and the power and importance of prayer, very few had any intentional prayer ministry or leadership around prayer.

How do you mobilize prayer when no one is praying?

It was during this time that God first began to speak to me about His heart for prayer, what it is, and how to release its power.

God expanded my understanding when Somebody Cares had the privilege of helping with *The Response*, a national call to

prayer in Houston, Texas, at the request of our Governor. It was to be a Joel 2 solemn assembly. I once again had the opportunity to work with a team to organize prayer leading up to and during the event. During one of the pre-event prayer meetings, I heard clearly in my spirit this statement: **“What makes you think I hear you?”**

This impression rocked me as well as the team that was praying. As we began to press in to the Lord’s heart, there was a clear sense that God desired something more from us than simply intercession. Could it be that the posture from which we pray is more important to God than the words we pray?

Is it enough simply to offer our prayer and intercession, or is there something that we can do to assure that God hears us? Malachi 3:16 gives us a clue saying, *“Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another and the Lord listened and heard them.”* I wonder if we have not lost a true fear of the Lord in this hour?

To walk in the fear of the Lord requires humility and surrender. The fear is not about what God might do to us, but rather the possibility of the absence of His presence. King David understood this well, as he declared in Psalm 27 that his greatest desire was to dwell in the house of the Lord (humility), behold His beauty (presence), and inquire in His temple (prayer). If we

desire for God to hear us, we must walk in humility and pursue His presence.

The heart of prayer is an invitation into His presence but there is a condition. *“Who can ascend the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place?”* (Psalm 24:3) This is not a rebuke or correction, it is an invitation! In love He gives us the answer: *“Those with clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, nor sworn deceitfully”* (Psalm 24:4).

When God in His great love convicts us of sin and we respond in humility with repentance and forgiveness, we are invited into the “Most Holy Place” of His presence without hindrance or reservation. From this place and posture, He hears us and moves on our behalf with extreme prejudice. If we refuse to deal with our sin, presume wrongly upon His grace, and come before Him in presumption, we risk not only our fellowship but, in a real way, our lives.

Prayer is more than our words, our intensity or the number praying.

Paul reminds us that the effective, fervent prayer of the righteous avails much (James 5:16).

Psalm 66:18 warns that if we regard iniquity in our hearts the Lord will not hear.

Proverbs 15:8-9 tells us that the prayer of the upright is His delight.

Isaiah 59:1-2 says, *“Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”*

Psalm 34:5 reminds us that the eye of the Lord is on the Righteous and His ears are open to their cry.

The Apostle Paul tells us that all he considered gain is now counted loss for the excellence of knowing Christ.

Finally, James warns us that God resists the proud and therefore encourages us to draw near, to cleanse our hands and purify our hearts.

It would seem from this small sample of scripture that the posture of our prayers matters to God!

Young people fall to their knees in prayer for the nation during The Response, held at Reliant Stadium in Houston in 2011.



We have seen these principles at work in countless stories of transforming revival where God not only listened but also heard the prayer of His people.

Harold Womersley of the Zaire Evangelistic Mission shared about the revival in Zaire Africa between 1946 and 1949 saying, "The secret behind the revival was intense prayer in Zaire and many other lands which drew down the refreshing showers of the Holy Spirit Blessing and the Word of God prevailed as in the Acts of the Apostles."

Canon Butler, a member of the East African Revival Team, told how a theological college expelled twenty-five revived students for refusing to stop their 4:00AM prayer meeting. The main emphasis of the revival was on repentance. Under the cleansing flame of the Holy Spirit, Christians were broken before God, resulting in a renewal of zeal and deeper fellowship between believers. (Excerpt from *The Revival Study Bible*)

The importance of prayer cannot be overestimated in the process of preparing the way of the Lord personally and for our communities. Charles Finney talks about prevailing prayer as *prayer that breaks through*. It is prayer that does not merely seek His hands or answers to our crisis, it is prayer that is desperate for His face, His presence to come in fullness.

Mary Peckham, a daughter of the Hebrides Revival, tells about this kind of prayer being evident there in 1949. "Everyone who was truly longing for God was seeking the Lord for an outpouring of the Holy Ghost...There was a huge expectancy in the air and people were not going to take 'no' for an answer."

As we personally and corporately seek the Lord for our lives, families and communities, let us consider not only the words we pray, but also the posture from which we pray.

If we truly want God to hear and answer our prayers, the condition of our hearts and hands matter. God is not looking for perfect prayers; He is drawn to a heart that is being perfected in Him.



Rick Torrison is Prayer and Transformations Coordinator for Somebody Cares America/International. He is also National Director of Mobilization for The Journey to Transformation with Intercessors for America.



Tom Victor (left) from the Great Commission Coalition and Doug Stringer hosted a tribute to Barbara Byerley in honor of her faithfulness in prayer for the city of Houston and for the nations. Barbara, former president of Aglow U.S.A., is among a group of intercessors who pray weekly at the SCA offices.

Expand the Brand!

by Vaughaligan Walwyn

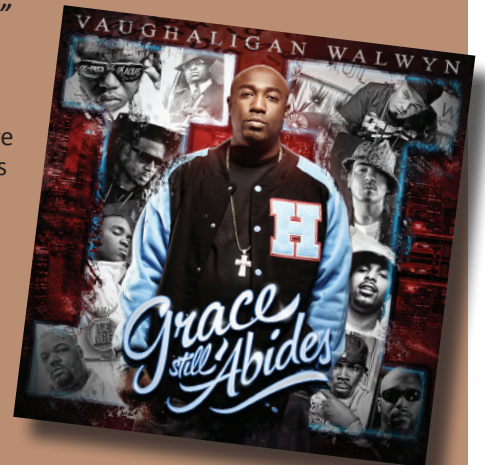
On the southeast side of Houston, there is a particular fast food restaurant that my wife and I would frequent. We were unfailingly disappointed by the service we received from the staff. They had poor attitudes, the place was filthy, and our food orders were constantly incorrect. After numerous encounters with this food establishment and experiencing the same results, not only did we decide to never visit that location, but also decided to stop eating at this food chain entirely. That one location put a "bad taste in our mouths" for the entire franchise. One bad apple can definitely spoil the bunch. They were a bad representation of the brand.

To be a great representation of the brand of Christ, I would suggest you focus on three things. The first thing I would say is "**Keep The Recipe**" (Galatians 5:9). Don't add any ingredients and don't take any of them out. Read your Bible and do exactly what it asks you. If you drive to a Chick-Fil-A location on a Sunday and realize that it is closed, it is pointless to drive around looking for another open location because all Chick-Fil-A's are closed on Sundays. KFC has its signature 11 herbs and spices. Because of this, whether you are in China or Chicago, the chicken always tastes the same. Keep the recipe, live your life the way the Word of God intends, and rep the Christian brand well.

The second thing I would recommend is "**Keep In Step With The Spirit**" (Galatians 5:25). Regardless of what is going on around you, continue to walk and talk like Christ. When I was a teenager, I claimed to be a Christian but was a bad illustration of the brand. On Sundays and Wednesdays at church, I was on fire for God! But the rest of the week, I was a terrible symbol of the brand. When professional athletes and entertainers are arrested or have moral failure, they often lose their endorsements because they become an unfit representation of the brand. Do your best to live righteously. Even when people treat you wrong, let God fight your battles. When you lose your cool or your integrity, you lose your witness. Keep in step with the spirit.

And last but not least, "**Keep The Commission**" (Matthew 28:18-20). Jesus gave us the "Great Commission." He wants us to be disciples; in other words, be a franchise of Christ, follow the employee handbook, and continue to make more franchises by spreading the message of the cross to the ends of the earth. Be discipled, make disciples, and repeat the cycle! Great franchises transcend culture and expand the brand. Bad franchises shut down and taint the entire organization.

In your everyday life as a Christian remember to be a boundless representation of the brand. Keep the recipe, keep in step with the spirit, and keep the commission!



Vaughaligan Walwyn is pastor of Legacy Church in Houston and one of the gen-edge leaders connected with the Somebody Cares Houston network. He was an All-American NCAA record holder in the long-jump with Rice University prior to pursuing a rap career. Now he uses his gift for music to uplift and inspire.

Finding Peace in the Storm Through PREPAREDNESS

by Kynada Boland

On December 26, 2004, the day the Southeast Asian Tsunami struck its devastating blow, I was visiting missionary friends in southern Thailand. In disbelief, I watched that unforgettable wave approach the shore.

All along the coastline vendors, pedestrians, locals, and travelers responded with shock or panic, some running and shouting, others frozen—eyes fixed on this unfamiliar, massive wave that would forever change life as they knew it.

In God's providence, the private taxi we hired arrived just in time to drive us to safety. Not one drop of water touched our shoes, but we did witness boats crushed by the wave, people drowning, a mother frantically looking for her child, and pedestrians clinging to the outside of a bus hoping to get further from the shore. As we sat in the taxi driving away from it all, the Lord spoke two specific Scriptures to me that have significantly shaped my heart regarding disaster preparation and response: Isaiah 43 and Isaiah 55. In Isaiah 43, God says, *"Do not fear... you are Mine."* God is mighty to save His people out of the midst of disaster.

And in Isaiah 55, He showed me that every occasion, every crisis—personal or national—is an invitation to encounter God. In verses 1 and 2, He says, *"Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; you who have no money, come, buy and eat... Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare. Give ear and come to me that your soul may live."* God alone knows exactly what we need in every situation and can cause our souls to abound with life.

Oftentimes in crisis people ask 'Where is God?' It says in the Word that He is near! Verse 6 says, *"Call on Him while He is near."*

This is a comforting, trustworthy Word. One can speak it and it is true; but once it has been experienced, then it can be given away. If we accept the invitation, crisis brings a knowledge of God that did not exist before.

God doesn't expect us to understand everything that happens in the midst of crisis. Isaiah 55:8 says, *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD.* But He does make this amazing promise in verses 9-11:

"As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

God is always doing so much more than we know in every situation. It says in Romans 8: 28 that He works all things for good for the sake of those who love Him. We have the opportunity to partner with Jesus to accomplish all that concerns Him in our own struggles and the lives of others in the context of crisis.

The good and the redemption that He has planned in all things is summed up in the last two verses of Isaiah 55. He says, *"You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and*

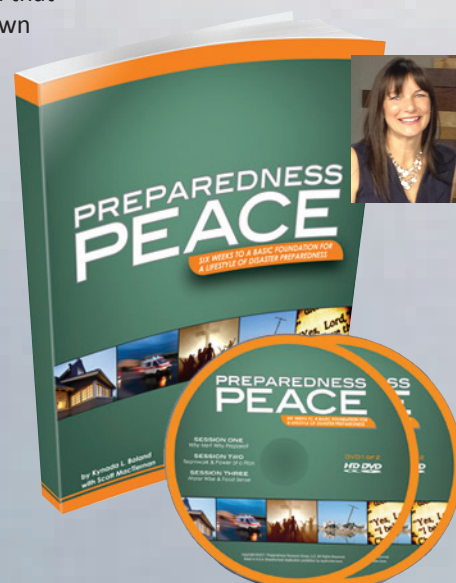
hills will burst into song before you... Instead of the thornbush will grow the pine tree, and instead of briars the myrtle will grow. This will be for the LORD's renown, for an everlasting sign, which will not be destroyed."

The Lord can take all that is hard, bitter, lonely, afraid, painful, broken and dead and cause it to be full of life, courage, fellowship, joy, peace, and beauty—an everlasting sign for the Lord's renown.

This is the encounter that changes lives. When God reveals Himself in the midst of crisis bringing LIFE and that which truly satisfies to a specific place of need, that revelation of Christ can never be taken away. That revelation takes us to the Solid Rock upon which we can stand, from which we can fight in prayer, and to which we can bring others in their time of need.

This is why we prepare. Prepared people can minister to others in times of crisis. We prepare so that we may be the tangible expression of Christ on the Earth.

Once our hearts have the peace of knowing Him, we can prepare practically for common disasters to our region so when crisis occurs, we can help others and lead them to Christ, the One who satisfies every need.



Kynada Boland serves as a preparedness trainer with the Somebody Cares Global Compassion Response Network. She is co-author of a six-session curriculum entitled Preparedness Peace, which is an excellent tool for personal, church, and corporate preparedness. The curriculum is designed for individual or group study. To learn more or to purchase your copy, go to www.SomebodyCares.org/store.

One of many ways to prepare is to make **GRAB & GO** bags for your family. While this is by no means a comprehensive list, here are some practical things to consider when packing your **GRAB & GO** bag.

- **THE GOAL:** Critical things you need for three days
- **THINK WATER, FOOD, SHELTER, FIRE, INFORMATION**

Water: as much as you can carry plus filter or purifier

Food: high in calories and protein

Shelter: tarp, poncho, etc.

Fire: lighter, waterproof matches, etc.

Information: hard copies of phone numbers, maps, evacuation routes, and any other info you will want on hand should the power and internet be down for an extended period of time

- **REMEMBER PERSONAL AND SPECIAL NEEDS** (eye glasses, meds, baby gear, battery/power).
- **ALWAYS HAVE GRAB & GO BAGS ACCESSIBLE** (at home, car, work, etc.)
- **CONSIDER THAT YOU MAY HAVE TO WALK WITH THIS BAG!** Make it work for you (rolling bag, backpack, hand cart).
- **PRACTICE USING THE BAG AND THE CONTENTS BEFORE YOU ACTUALLY NEED THEM.**
- **CHECK THE CONTENTS OF THE BAG WITH EVERY TIME CHANGE** (expiration dates on food and meds, clothes sizes, integrity of supplies, etc.).

For a more comprehensive list for your **GRAB & GO** bag, see www.SomebodyCares.org/grab-and-go.



Children in the Philippines not only celebrate the arrival of pre-packaged meals, but even help with the delivery! Somebody Cares provided enough food to prepare 1.5 millions meals, which were then distributed through local churches and ministry partners to individuals and families affected by Typhoon Haiyan.

Somebody Cares brings tornado relief to Mississippi and Arkansas

Frank rode out the tornado that devastated his small community of Quapaw in the pen he made for his dogs. At 85 years old, he is still determined to stay in his home, even though it sustained heavy damage. Frank does not have insurance on his home, like many others whose homes were in the path of recent tornados that swept through the central states.

The Somebody Cares Mobile Outreach team, Terry and Vickie Gaskins, assessed needs in **BAXTER SPRINGS** and **QUAPAW, ARK.**; with larger communities in Arkansas and Mississippi sustaining damage, little assistance had reached these communities. They connected with area churches to provide gift cards to those whose homes were damaged or destroyed, and Somebody Cares bears were shipped for them to give to the children.

Pastor Steve and Jena Fellers at Trinity Worship Center were already feeding 350-400 people each week before the tornadoes hit and were focusing their relief efforts on transitional housing. At least 11 families in their church lost everything.

“This couple just blessed us so much as we saw the activity going on,” Vickie said, also noting that Jena is blind yet helps Steve with preaching and teaches job skills.

The Gaskins also provided gift cards and assistance to First Baptist of Quapaw to help Pastor Matt Robertson meet the needs of his community, many of whom were barely getting by before the storm.

Because very little assistance had reached Baxter Springs and Quapaw, Somebody Cares focused additional resources in that area to help individuals and families get back on their feet... including people like Frank. We obtained quotes for building supplies to help with repairs on

Frank’s home and other families in the community.

Another Somebody Cares team comprised of Mark Roye, Mike Lynch, and several others deployed to **VILONIA, ARK.** soon after news of the tornado’s destruction was known. They

served hundreds of hot meals every day and became a key presence when other agencies left the area. The Vilonia team also partnered with area churches to provide gift cards to families and bears for the children.

Somebody Cares partner Victim Relief Ministries sent teams of crisis and trauma chaplains to work in both **TUPELO** and **LOUISVILLE, MISS.**, areas that were devastated by an F4 tornado. Equipped with gift cards and Somebody Cares bears, the chaplains provided individual care for those suffering from the loss of homes, life possessions, cars and/or businesses. They also gathered information about the long-term needs of the community as relief organizations left and the journey to recovery began.



Pastor Steve and Jena Fellers express their gratitude to Vickie Gaskins (right) for gift cards.



The Vilonia team cooked up hundreds of hot meals daily.

The New Generation of Leadership Transference: LEAVING A LASTING LEGACY

We are at a pivotal juncture in history, where the torch of leadership is passing to a new generation. In times past, spiritual leadership was handed down from generation to generation. The younger generations recognized the need to glean from the life experiences, wisdom and counsel of the former, thus receiving their impartation, blessing, and favor. In our fast-paced independent culture, we are hard-pressed at times to see that kind of mentoring at work today. But there is a new generation of leaders who not only need it but also want it from us.

In the spring of 2004, we hosted a “think tank” and “round-table” for GenEdge and Emerging Leaders. What started as a small gathering escalated into an attendance of more than 60 leaders from across the nation. One of the recurring themes was the cry of a generation in pursuit of connectedness and fathering.

One young minister said, “I got saved, was raised in church, backslid, recommitted, and struggled for years because I didn’t have a spiritual father.” The ministry he now leads is centered on spiritual fathering. “If it isn’t relational,” he said, “we don’t do it.”

Another leader mentioned that fathers may recognize the giftings in their children, but may not always know how to go to war for the destinies in them. Rusty, a pastor and longtime friend from Sealy, Texas, puts it this way. “Many times, there is a treasure inside a youth’s heart but they don’t recognize it, so they run after the treasure in someone else’s heart. A spiritual father has to help them see the treasure in their own heart.”

Joel 2, Malachi 4, and Acts 2 all give us a glimpse into this emerging generation. It’s a Prophetic Generation of visionary and passionate young leaders, empowered by the dreams and wisdom of the former generation, linked together for the purposes of the Lord.

In the days of Elisha, a guild of prophets

and sons of the prophets recognized the mantle of leadership and fathering that was upon him. When they found themselves needing to go where they could expand and build, they asked for his blessing to go; then they asked him to go with them. They knew they needed his wisdom and guidance.

In my youth, although I was full of vision and passion for the purposes of God, I quickly realized the need for the wisdom and favor of those who had gone before me. I am grateful to the Lord for bringing men and women in the faith—people like Edwin Louis Cole and Leonard Ravenhill—who made a mark on my life, embraced me, challenged me, and provoked me to grow deeper in the Lord.

There are so many champions of the faith who have paid a price, made sacrifices, and laid foundations for us to build upon. They have left a lasting legacy for us and the new generation of leaders, and our future is connected to how we honor or dishonor them.

People will serve and make sacrifices for what they are passionate about. We can be hired to do work and receive a paycheck, but we will only leave a lasting legacy to the glory of God when our vision is greater than ourselves. Hirelings can live for a paycheck, but God’s visionaries and dreamers live to make a difference and leave a legacy to future generations.

I was privileged to know Rick Husband, an astronaut and the commander of the Space Shuttle Columbia for its 28th mission. Rick had wanted to be an astronaut his entire life. He loved his work, but he knew his success was not only measured by being an astronaut, but by his love and devotion as

a husband, father, and ambassador for Christ.

Each day, Rick would have devotions with his daughter and son. Since he was going to be on the Shuttle mission for 16 days, he decided to make 16 video messages for them to watch—one for each day he would be in space so they could still have devotion time with dad. Tragically, we know what happened on that fateful sixteenth day, as the Space Shuttle Columbia disintegrated during re-entry into the Earth’s atmosphere. Rick and the rest of the seven-member crew did not make it home that day, but his legacy continues on through his family and all those who were impacted by his life.



Doug ministers to young emerging leaders at a recent conference.

Today, more than ever, we need a new generation of leaders who will meet with HIM daily to gain His perspective and be guided by His Word. We need leaders who recognize the need for a fresh revelation of the work of the Cross and the power of the Resurrection; to receive insight, wisdom, prophetic clarity, and vision from God that will enable them to lead others into an understanding of God’s truth and purposes.

A.W. Tozer, in *The Gift of Prophetic Insight*, wrote about the importance of understanding present conditions. He said it well: “Today we need prophetic preachers; not preachers of prophecy merely, but preachers with a gift of prophecy...We need

the gift of discernment again in our pulpits. It is not ability to predict that we need, but the anointed eye, the power of spiritual penetration and interpretation, the ability to appraise the religious scene as viewed from God's position, and to tell us what is actually going on."

Prophetic understanding and the indwelling of God's spirit are no longer for a choice few. If we are to leave a legacy and pass the mantle of leadership to the emerging generation, we must step into that power.

We need a generation of Samuels, young and old, to arise! While Samuel represented a new generation of righteous judge and prophet, he also carried the God-given ability of recognizing the calling in young leaders and was used by God to call them forth into their destinies.

J.J., a minister in College Station, Tx., considers me a spiritual mentor and father. I remember getting a note from him that said, "In a man's life and ministry, I believe he must be pointed out by great men of faith. Even Jesus was pointed out by His Father. Doug, you came and pointed me out."

This emerging generation is extreme, radical, passionate, and full of zeal. They are desperate for change and for those who will come alongside them to give them affirmation, acceptance, and approval. When they are called out by older generation of Samuels, they are emboldened and empowered.

Our true legacy comes not from the sermons we preach or how many follow us on twitter or other social media. It's not the size of our church or ministries. It's not in brick and mortar, but in the lives of those we are called to serve.

While men reach for thrones to build their own kingdoms, Jesus reached for a towel to wash men's feet. While men pursue exalted and high places, Jesus, The Exalted One, left His Highest Place to pursue men.

May we be like Samuel, a new generation of righteous judge and prophet, calling forth the new generation of young leaders to walk into their destinies.



Doug Stringer is founder and president of Turning Point Ministries International and Somebody Cares America/International.



Doug and Lisa Stringer were interviewed by Bob and Audrey Meisner on **My New Day TV**. Watch the three-part series at www.mynewday.tv/shows/leadership-awakening.

DayStar TV recently aired two half-hour programs on Somebody Cares tornado relief efforts in Moore, Okla. You can watch at www.daystart.com/ondemand. Search for "Give Back Oklahoma."

Doug Stringer Recognized for Outstanding Leadership

Congratulations to founder Doug Stringer for his nomination for the John C. Maxwell Leadership Award! Out of thousands of nominations, Doug is in the 'top 100.' We celebrate Doug and his extraordinary leadership that has influenced and added value to many others.



From Houston, Texas, to the Four Corners of the World:

Bringing God's message of hope to India

Lisa Stringer recently completed her second trip to India in the past seven months, bringing hope and healing to the children who live in a local orphanage.

"I serve on the Board of Harvest Worldwide Ministries, and we have been looking into helping Hope Mission Home in Kovilpotti, India," Lisa explains.

Ashley Stringer also joined the team of 17, who were there primarily on a dental mission. "But," Lisa says, "we were able to include grief counseling for every orphan."

Team members listened to the children tell their stories of abandonment, molestation, witnessing their parents' deaths, and more.

"These kids all received individual prayer, and all the girls received dolls. Ashley led worship every evening during the short services and spent the days teaching the kids how to make friendship bracelets and loving on them."

On two evenings, the team provided a special treat by purchasing watermelon for the kids to have as an afternoon snack.

"This was a great treat for them, one that rarely happens," Lisa said.

All around the world, Somebody Cares ministry partners are reaching the least, the lost, and the lonely with the tangible love of our great Heavenly Father.



Lisa and Ashley visit with Pria (top), who received a watch from Lisa during their last visit; Ashley (bottom) loves on the children.

"Doug Stringer has challenged my leadership. He has stretched my thinking to embrace others and see my calling as larger and more expansive than my assignment as a local church leader. I am a better leader because of Doug's ministry and message."

Garrett Booth, Senior Associate Pastor
Grace Community Church - Houston, TX



LEADERSHIP AWAKENING

RUNNING THE RACE TO FINISH WELL

by Doug Stringer



Available now at www.SomebodyCares.org

DVD
VIDEO
SERIES



"Underneath Doug's gentle, humble spirit is a passion for revival that challenges all who hear him to examine their lives and to move into all that God has for them."

Steve Riggle
President, Grace International and
The King's University



Every leader wants to finish well. But sometimes the challenges and discouragements in life become too much to handle. Overwhelmed, we settle for less than what God created us to do.

If you're just starting out...or you are feeling tired, ineffective or ready to quit, maybe it's time for an awakening... **A Leadership Awakening!**

Leadership Awakening is a 12-part DVD teaching series by Doug Stringer—author, teacher, and founding president of Somebody Cares America/International. Drawing from over 30 years experience in global ministry and business, Doug reveals biblical keys to courageous and persevering leadership. Through Leadership Awakening you will discover:

- ★ How to measure successful leadership God's way
- ★ How to identify and overcome the oppositions godly leaders face
- ★ The characteristics of a transformational leader that will revolutionize your family, your workplace, and your world
- ★ Practical principles that will equip you—and those you're leading—to run the race and finish well
- ★ And much more!

Leadership Awakening is ideal for personal use or for training and equipping your entire team.

For other resources by Doug Stringer visit SomebodyCares.org or call 713-621-1498
For Doug's teachings see www.DougStringer.com



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