

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

P. Henry, June 27, 2005

‘Remember, son, live your faith every day, for you may be the only Good Book people will read today.’ (Gospel song)

1. Be models of prayer breathing in the presence of God through daily time alone with the Lord. This is a primary task in ministry and in leadership. Be bold and offer expectant prayers - for yourself, others, the needs of kingdom.
2. Be church. Church is the dynamic presence of Christ working in and through His people wherever they are and whatever they are doing. Church is led by people who personify the character of Christ. People follow character not titles. Character is what you are when no one is looking as well as when others are looking. It is my hope that church is more than what we do when we come together for worship but that we become living billboards of the Christ.
3. Be growing. Take advantage of opportunities to grow. There are multiple ways: Books, conferences, personal study, small group study, etc.
4. Be a team player. Each member is gifted with a unique shape. You are encouraged to be prepared for meetings, visits, and teaching opportunities. Be a contributor. In meetings, look for opportunities to encourage and build up one another and the body. In our conversation, speak the truth in love.
5. Be a shepherd for your CAMP. I encourage you to remember the goal of CAMP is to increase relational ministry and not to create administrative bureaucracies.
6. Be an evangelist. We encourage the body to be intentionally involved in personal evangelism but they need models. I encourage you to develop relationships (or take to a deeper level) with one ‘lost’ individual.
7. Be a worshiper. May our duties not become a hindrance to truly seeking the Lord in worship. May we lead the way in true worship. I encourage an elder and deacon to meet with the worship leaders in prayer in front of the sanctuary.
8. Be a developer of leaders. Keep eyes open to mentoring others to assume leadership responsibilities.

HOW WE ACT

Pastor Dave, June 27, 2005

Galatians 5:22, 23a

“..the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.”

Each word in the passage above addresses who we are and how we act. In view of this passage, as we work together as elders, deacons and pastors, the most significant thing to pay attention to is not the quality of our decisions (even though that is important) but how we act toward each other.

When we demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit in the way we act toward each other, we can disagree on issues and still have open, meaningful and fruitful discussions.

NEED AND CHALLENGE

Mike Whitten, June 27, 2005

Bethany's greatest need and the leadership's greatest challenge is to help grow a fully engaged ministering Bethany body.

John 10:14 & 15

¹⁴“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

1. Elder and Deacon CAMP teams really need to diligently strive to “know their sheep.”
2. See yourself as a link between ministries that need workers and Bethany members who are gifted and willing to work.
3. Particularly focus on our newest members – they want to serve.
4. Spend more time with those who are here than time chasing those who are not.
5. Ask for help from Henry, Dave, Lon or Mike Whitten