



RELEVANT PRACTICAL MINISTRY FOR MEN

“*HELPING MEN CONNECT WITH THE LORD FOR GUIDANCE AND STRENGTH READIES ENTIRE FAMILIES, CHURCHES, AND COMMUNITIES TO DO GOD'S WORK.*”

AN INTERVIEW WITH O'FALLON KEYNOTE SPEAKER DR. BRYAN CHAPELL

People often ask accomplished theologian, speaker, and author Dr. Bryan Chapell why he left the presidency of Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis to serve as a local pastor (at Grace Presbyterian Church in Peoria). His response: “I love training pastors, but I also love seeing God's work transform people's lives. I was blessed to teach pastors for 30 years. Now, as a baby pastor myself for three years, I'm able to watch as change comes into people's lives. That's really a sweet blessing.”

RPM spoke with Pastor Chapell as he prepares his keynote address for the *Iron Sharpens Iron* men's conference in O'Fallon February 18. We asked him what he has in mind for this particular audience:

“I'm doing two things at O'Fallon,” he says. “My talk is titled ‘Life After Lions.’ Basically, emphasizing that the (see “Chapell” cont. on back)



ALSO KEYNOTING AT O'FALLON:

Jonathan Evans is a mentor, author, speaker and former NFL fullback. Jonathan serves as the chaplain of the Dallas Cowboys, studies at Dallas Theological Seminary, mentors youth in his home church, and leads young adults around the country through a variety of ways.



THE RPM EXPERIENCE

You might recognize RPM board member Don Goodenow as head of Goodenow Insurance Agency. You may not know that Goodenow is also a licensed pastor, serving Bissell United Methodist Church, just outside of Springfield, Illinois since last July. He credits RPM and the *Iron Sharpens Iron* conferences with encouraging and preparing him to step into that role and help spread the gospel.

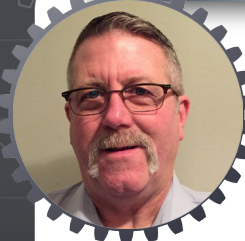
“If you asked me fifteen years ago, would I ever pastor a church, I would have said no way,” Don insists. “But then I met Tom Cheshire.”

Thirteen years ago, when “RPM” was still just an idea in Tom Cheshire's mind, Tom came to work as an insurance agent at Goodenow's company. “We had opportunities to talk one-on-one,” Don says. “Not just about insurance. He let me know he felt called to

(see “Experience” cont. on back)



HAPPY NEW YEAR!



“Our newsletter has a new look, and I'm excited!”

Not only does our newsletter have a new look as we enter 2017, it has a new emphasis on content useful to those working in the hard-to-till but fruitful field of ministry to men.

In this and future editions we will hear from speakers whose messages have inspired thousands to step up and take a larger role in their church, marriage, and parental responsibility. We'll also continue to keep you up-to-date with RPM info and events.

I'm also excited because it's *Iron Sharpens Iron* time again. Four events are on the calendar this season, and we hope to see a record number of men inspired and equipped by an amazing list of speakers and breakout session leaders.

Tom Cheshire

ISI 2017 SCHEDULE

O'FALLON, ILLINOIS

February 18 2017

First Baptist Church O'Fallon

7:30 Registration

Speakers: Bryan Chapell,
Jonathon Evans

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

March 4th

Maryland Community Church

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

March 18th

First United Methodist Church

CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

April 8

New Horizon United
Methodist Church

CHAPELL (CONT.)

presence of trials doesn't mean the absence of God. I'm also doing a workshop entitled, 'Christ In All Of Scripture, Grace For All Of Life.' We'll discover examples of grace in scripture that can provide faith and fuel for all life's challenges.

Asked about the *Iron Sharpens Iron* experience, Chapell admits this will be his first.

"I haven't done an *Iron Sharpens Iron* conference before, but I appreciate the idea of men challenging men to be better able to show the love and courage of Christ in work and home situations, and not just in church.

"As men, we are called to spiritual account for all aspects of our lives. When you help a man connect with the lord for guidance and strength, you're preparing entire families, churches, and communities to do God's work. Other men are best able and most appropriate to do that."

On a personal level Chapel reports that he is blessed by faith, family, and fishing. He and Kathleen, his wife of 40 years, are just discovering the joy of being grandparents, "with all the fun children provide, but not the responsibilities."

Bryan Chapell is Senior Pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church, the Founder and Chairman of Unlimited Grace, a radio and online Bible teaching ministry, and President Emeritus of Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri.

GENSLER'S CORNER



My life bottomed out 14 years ago, at the age of 23. I cried out to God, and my life changed. My girlfriend (now my wife and mother to my three children) surrendered to God also. We experienced a radical conversion and haven't looked back.

My heart's desire, as I was awakened by the Spirit, was to be a Godly man in my church and in the community. But what did that look like? In answer to prayer, God led me to Tom Cheshire, and RPM. I became equipped through trainings, seminars, and discipleship. Now, I help to equip others.

You may or may not be called to ministry, but God is absolutely calling you to spiritual growth and an active role in His kingdom. You, too, need to be equipped!

That's why so much of our time and energy at RPM goes into the planning and preparation necessary to host four *Iron Sharpens Iron* events here in the Midwest—so men like you and I, at a crucial place in our walk with Christ, can be inspired, encouraged, and equipped! Please join us at one of these inspirational, day-long conferences and see what God will do in your life!

Tom Gensler

Experience (cont.)

help usher men into ministry, and we talked a lot about that.

"Tom encouraged me to look at myself and move forward. I sat in on some small presentations he was doing on a part-time basis. When I got to see him in that environment, it was clear that this was where he belonged. He was energized and focused on reaching as many men as he could. In today's society, men sometimes are not encouraged to be the leaders we were created to be, and RPM became that encouragement for me."

"At Tom's suggestion, I attended *Iron Sharpens Iron*. I began to get an idea of my gifts and talents, and where I should be focusing. Now, I am in ministry and I'm blessed by it."

Several years later, Tom C. contacted Don and asked him to fill a vacancy on the board of RPM. This was 2012. Goodenow was excited to become part of the growing ministry.

At a board meeting, Goodenow was introduced to Tom Gensler, who had joined the ministry full-time. "When Tom C. ran into Tom G., he found someone with a similar passion and drive," Goodenow says. "Gensler had the right heart to be a perfect fit with RPM. He also embraced the technological aspects of the ministry, helping to take it to the next level.

"The success of RPM comes from the focus of these two men, especially, in encouraging men to be what God called them to be. The mission of holding men to a biblical standard, reinforcing and equipping them so they can live out God's plan is an amazing thing."

Thank you for your support of RPM as we enter our second decade of service. Your prayers and financial contributions make this ministry possible. Together, we are RPM!



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