



RELEVANT PRACTICAL MINISTRY FOR MEN

FATHERS AND SONS...

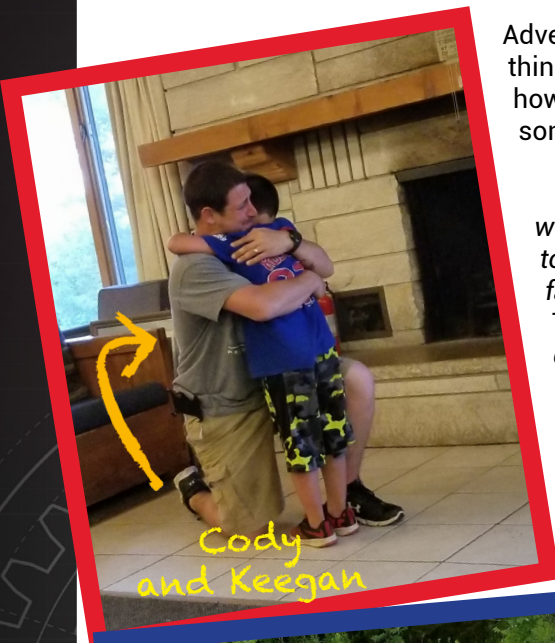
Fathering Adventures 2017 is in the books. The feedback we have received is phenomenal. We are so thankful to Little Galilee Christian Camp and all our supporters who helped make the weekend possible for 26 godly men who bonded with their sons through strategic one on one adventurous experiences and biblical teaching.

Cody Ballinger is a machine operator in Decatur. He brought his son, Keegan, to Fathering Adventures, and counts that two-and-a-half days as a life-changing experience.

"RPM has a really good program," Cody says. "They understand the importance of fathers spending time with their sons. My takeaway from the experience, more than anything, was to realize how influential I am in my son's life. And Keegan...not only did he have a great time and want to go again next year, he came away with the idea that it's fun to spend time with Dad! I think he realizes now how much I love him, and how much he means to me."

"I'd recommend Fathering Adventures to anybody who might be thinking about it. I'm happy to share how it's going to change me and my son's relationship going forward!"

RPM's Fathering Adventures will return next summer. We hope to see you there. In the meantime, fathers and husbands, remember: There is no replacement for quality one-on-one time in building relationships and guiding our loved ones toward a close relationship with our Lord, Jesus Christ.



CALENDAR

AUG 25:

Bob Brady/RPM Golf Classic.
South Side Country Club
Decatur, IL

SEPT 19:

Leading Noble Men
First United Methodist Church
Springfield, IL

NOV 4:

Ignite Pathway Training
First United Methodist Church
Springfield, IL

NOV 18:

Ignite Pathway training
State Line Christian Church
Paris, IL

The 2018 ISI dates are set!

O'Fallon Feb 17
Terre Haute Mar 3
Springfield Mar 17
Champaign April 21



Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)



MAKING A STATEMENT

Discipleship is hard work. So is creating a discipleship culture. It can take years to see any measurable results.

What is disturbing is that many churches aren't moving in that direction. They have a mission statement (what the church does) or vision statement (what the church wants to accomplish) that is lofty sounding and eloquent, and can be interpreted as in keeping with the great commission...but they lack a real approach to applying it.

Ask yourself, can your church leadership articulate what is in your mission statement? Can they define how it is being lived out in the church?

One way to answer this question is to take a look at the church calendar. Everything your church is doing, from Sunday school classes to community outreach, should advance the vision you have been given. If you say, "we are here to make disciples," then that path should be clear cut. If your focus is on evangelism, then you should be teaching and encouraging evangelism.

As for the "how," now we have circled back to my article in the June newsletter. There isn't one single "how" that can be plugged in to any church in America, that will flourish and succeed. Each church has its own DNA, each community is different. But discovering the proper "how" for your church will be a lot easier if you focus on, and take advantage of, your mission statement.

GENSLER'S CORNER

Talk about counting blessings—Lisa and I were blessed this week with twins—bringing our child count up to five, praise God! The prayers and support we are receiving is so greatly appreciated.

It is so important that as parents, we follow the Lord's lead every day and be diligent. I don't want the culture to instill its values on my children, I want their mother and I to be the ones who speaks into their lives, and I want them around supportive Christian people who will speak truth into their lives.

Our main goal for these girls and for all our kids is that they each have a sincere relationship with God. I'm not raising them for a particular education or career—I'm raising them for Jesus. I prescribe to Proverbs 22:6: "Train up a child in the way he should go; Even when he is old he will not depart from it."

This can't be just talk, it has to be a commitment. Why did I take my son to the Fathering Adventures camp this July? It wasn't just camping, it was an investment. The men at that camp were investing in our boys' lives by modeling Christian behavior, reinforcing our love for them, and showing them that they are loved and they are God's children.

I know parenting can be difficult at times. I take encouragement that God has laid out the path forward and will walk with me.



Tom Gensler



Your support of RPM actively encourages and assists local church pastors. Your prayers and financial contributions make this ministry possible. Together, we are RPM!



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