



RELEVANT PRACTICAL MINISTRY FOR MEN

LEADING NOBLE MEN CONFERENCE

FOR PASTORS & LEADERS OF MEN

September 19th, thirty-four pastors and ministry leaders gathered for RPM's first *Leading Noble Men* pastor's conference at Springfield's First United Methodist Church, featuring keynote speakers Vince D'Acchioli and Jeff Schulte. Topical discussions and a question/answer period were geared toward matters of concern to church leaders.

Stan Summers of Koke Mill Christian Church was an attendee. "We send men to ISI every year, but I especially liked the focus at this conference. We had someone at our church who wanted to get more involved, and we decided to go together and check it out. It was a useful conference. The speakers did a good job; I enjoyed the open microphone session."

This event will be held annually if God so blesses. It is the culmination of something Tom Cheshire has had on his heart for a long time.

"Three years ago, I began receiving requests to do some thing like this...something just for pastors. Those requests confirmed and convicted me, because the idea had already been heavy on my heart.

"RPM exists as a resource to the shepherd," Tom says. Our work is geared toward pastors and the church leadership team. While *Iron Sharpens Iron* is a wonderful way to equip men generally, the *Leading Noble Men*

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CONFERENCE FEEDBACK:

"It was a great conference. Both speakers made good points. I also liked the panel discussion. I wanted to hear more!"

"I think the focus on getting to men's hearts was important. I wrote down the phrase, *You cannot overpower what you feel with what you think.*"

"This wasn't a 'pep talk' or a conference to sell material. You had two speakers that spoke to areas I know plague the ministry."

CALENDAR

NOV 4:

Ignite Pathway Training
First United Methodist Church
Springfield, IL

NOV 18:

Ignite Pathway training
State Line Christian Church
Paris, IL

IRON SHARPENS IRON 2018!

O'FALLON, IL 2/17/18
Dan Huun, Michael Crawford

TERRE HAUTE, IN 3/3/18
Vince D'Acchioli, Rod Cooper

SPRINGFIELD, IL 3/17/18
Jamaal Williams, JP Jones

CHAMPAIGN, IL 4/21/18
Kenny Luck, Leonce Crump



NOBLE MEN

(cont. from front)

pastor's conference is intended as a an investment specifically in pastors."

Leading Noble Men Pastor's conference had a dual focus. First, as a pastor, are you spiritually healthy? Can we, or your fellow pastors support you in that? The other focus is on the biblical mandate of discipleship. What is that, why is it so critical to the church, and what role can you play in making it happen at your church."

"Logistically, fitting another conference in RPM's schedule was difficult," Tom C says. "But it came together this summer, and we're so glad it did. We are thankful to the speakers and the participants, and hope to build on what was accomplished next year."



MEET TATIANA

No, we aren't kicking Tom G. out of Gensler's corner. It's just that Tom is busy with his *first* job: husband and father. His daughter, Shiloh, is having surgery this week. Our prayers go out to him and his family!



In the meantime, we thought we'd use this space to introduce Tatiana Schlieff, RPM's administrative assistant. She is pictured here with her husband, Tre (youth minister at Williamsville Christian Church), and daughter, Tinley. Tatiana handles data and office duties for RPM—a valuable service.

"God's timing brought me to RPM," Tatiana says. "I was working at Contact Ministries, but I'd just had a baby and was looking for something I could do from home. Our pastor connected me with Tom Cheshire. So here I am. I love being part of what God is doing in this ministry."

BIBLICAL MASCULINITY

Let's talk briefly about masculinity, and what that means. In some circles you find the idea that masculinity requires a plaid shirt and a lumberjack ax. It emphasizes physical strength. But biblically, masculinity has nothing to do with physical strength.

I like to go with the definition I heard from the original Men's Fraternity – 'Quest for Authentic Manhood': "Reject passivity, accept responsibility, lead courageously."

You can be a 98-pound weakling and reject passivity. Get up and make a difference. Serve sacrificially where there is a need.

Accepting responsibility is the same whether you are a linebacker or a computer geek. Understand that you have the God-given responsibility to lead and protect your family. You can't abdicate that to your wife. As a Christ follower, you have mandates.

To lead courageously, you need to stand for the Truth of God's word. Look to the Bible for direction, rather than looking to see which way the winds of culture is blowing. Biblical manhood has nothing to do with a full beard or a bulging bicep and everything to do with obedience and sacrificial servanthood..

Tom Cheshire

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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