

RELEVANT PRACTICAL MINISTRY FOR MEN

IN SUPPORT OF THE PASTORS...

RPM instituted a practice two years ago, following a conviction God laid on founder Tom Cheshire's heart, of sharing the abundance of God's provision to RPM. Ten percent of funds collected via offering at each ISI conference RPM organizes (the major source of RPM funding) is now gifted in some way that supports ministry in that host city. The recipients of last year's gifts were Christian crisis pregnancy centers in O'Fallon, Terre Haute, Springfield, and Champaign.

After praying for direction, RPM has now set gifts for the year 2018. Cheshire says, "Our ministry is about supporting local churches and men's leaders. Pastors often struggle to find time to minister to their own spiritual and relational needs, so in that vein, I decided we would send as many pastors as we could on two day retreats. The offering was good enough to cover 8 men and their wives, all expenses paid.

"We collected pastor's names from our ISI contact cards, and held a drawing. Two pastors from each of our four host cities will receive paid retreats at the Chiara Retreat Center in Springfield."

The Franciscan Chiara Retreat Center provides a warm and comfortable respite in a scenic setting, with spacious grounds and walking paths. Well appointed rooms and meals are provided.

Pastors selected were sent a letter and brochure in the mail with details.

CALENDAR

AUG 6-8:

National ISI Conference Louisville, KY

SEPT 29:

Ignite TrainingAlton. IL

Oct 20:

Ignite Training Woodlawn, IL

NOV 1:

Leading Noble MenSpringfield, IL

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)





THE GIFT OF DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship, whether it is intentionally sought, or just a glorious gift of mercy, isn't something to be taken lightly. It

is God's intervention in your life, and should be celebrated.

At a time in my life that could only be described as a spiritual "hitting bottom," circumstance brought a total stranger to sit down next to me. His smile and sweet demeanor was alarmingly unpretentious, and he begged to hear what was going on in my life.

I am sure he had NO IDEA what God was about to do through him—the impact he would have on my life and ministry—by sitting down next to me and asking a simple question, "how are you doing, friend?" His name was Scott Brindley, and the friendship that was born that day was the sweetest friendship I have ever known to this day.

I don't think Scott would have called this discipleship, even though that is exactly what it was. Scott just saw a man in need of a godly man to walk alongside him and help him heal his marriage and his life, because that is what godly men do when they see clearly that God has opened a door. He was obedient to that call.

Scott spent the first months in our relationship seeing me in person every single day. He opened Gods word, he listened to me, and he applied scripture and understanding like no one I have ever met.

Scott was the walking epitomy of grace lived out. Scott was my spiritual father and brother in Christ until the day he passed on August 8th, 2013.

GENSLER'S CORNER



Last year in this column my wife and I announced the birth of our twins on July 31. Yes, it has been an entire year.

And what a year! The first six months, more or less, were spent in Chicago, our family living at a Ronald McDonald House while our daughter, Shiloh, underwent multiple medical procedures.

Thanks to God, to friend and family prayers, to the Ronald McDonald House organization, and to the wonderful medical community, we thrived and grew in faith during that time. Shiloh is now in excellent condition, the surgeries behind her. Her sister, Selah, and the other kids are great, and we are settling back into our routines. Home schooling season will soon be upon us.

We are so grateful for the life we've built thanks to this ministry and its supporters.

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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