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# Informer

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## Lessons Learned

**Ephesians 4:11,12** *And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;*

This week I want to continue to share with you lessons I've learned at Horizons Future Church Leaders Workshop. One of the biggest lessons I have learned is that everyone needs to develop their abilities to serve the Lord. I believe that a congregation that is not purposefully developing leaders will soon run out of them. That is why Paul tells us that God expects us to be about the work of "equipping saints for the work of service". When we are focused on this task we will be actively developing future leaders.

For too long many congregations have hired one person to do all their teaching, visiting, and ministering. Not only does this hinder the development of future leaders, it will also limit the growth of the church. It is unscriptural for a church to think they can hire out their God given work or their hope for future leadership. This is a plan to fail.

Leadership will not develop on accident. Every disciple needs encouragement along these lines. As a church, we must focus on whatever we do asking the question "Will this successfully train future leaders?" We need men to see the need of the church for effective hard working deacons and to aspire to fill that role. We need deacons who are striving to develop the qualities found in I Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5 so they can serve as elders. Our elders must continually look for ways to better their God given responsibility to care for the members of the church. I hope we will all focus on developing leaders to the best of our ability and that God will bless our efforts to that end.

John

## Am I One of the Few?

Matthew 22:14

For many are invited but few are chosen.

Matthew 22 begins with the parable of the wedding banquet. Jesus uses this story to teach a concept about his kingdom. People had been invited to the wedding banquet but they refused to come. More individuals were then sent out to invite other people to come to the banquet. These also refused and went about their daily activities ignoring the opportunity. On this second occasion some of the recipients of the invitation were so upset that they mistreated the servants and killed some of them. The king then sent his army and these murderers were killed. Once more the servants were sent out with the invitation to come to the banquet. Many did come to the banquet and enjoyed the meal. The conclusion of the story was, "For many are invited but few are chosen."

The gospel of Jesus is an invitation to all men to enter the kingdom of God. Some will go about their everyday activities and ignore the invitation. Others will become violent after receiving the invitation. They think that by destroying the messenger that the message will be removed. They will receive the wrath of God. Others will accept the invitation and show up at the banquet and enjoy a feast. What percentage of people invited actually enjoyed the meal? No definite answer is given but we are told that few were chosen. The most important decision in life is our answer to this invitation. Am I one of the few? Am I helping others to learn of the invitation? Let's all make the effort to answer the call to be one of the few.

Joe

**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**OUR MEMBERS**

- Alice Bolton - chemo
- Ann Brady - Life Care, Rm. 241
- Bernice Bratton
- Joy Brown & Fred Brown
- Bill Carroll - 2502 Shangrila Trail
- Mary Chumbley
- John Churchwell - tests
- Dave Coleman - sees oncologist July 5
- JoAnn Coleman - cataract surgery Aug. 1 & Aug 24
- Athaleen Cox
- Vera Daniels
- Corrine Goetz
- Dorothy Johnson (back problems)
- Margaret Johnson
- Maetta King - Poplar Estates 215
- Linda Luna
- Joe Macer - pneumonia
- Frances Petty - NHC Columbia, Rm. 111-A, 375-4887
- Jimmy Quirk
- Virginia Staggs - Poplar Estates, The Gardens, Rm. 6
- Barney Roland
- Melissa Stutts - chemo & radiation
- Donald White
- Elaine Whitehead

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

Vonda Hoeye - friend of Kayla Kirtley, Dianne Thomas Stevens - friend of the Nicholsons, Charles Wilkins - Tracey's dad - Life Care, Rm. 227-A, Jane Wells, Cynthia Cheek Spicer - sister of Myrna Jett, Greg Grissom undergoing chemo & radiation, James Garner-uncle of Terry Burgess, Wanda Nix, sister of Debbie Massey, Dot Martin, sister of Linda Weaver - NHC Columbia, Rm. 138-A, David Phillips, Laurie Ann Beever - cousin of Kim Fitzgerald and Baileys Christensen - friend of Kim, Tracy Worley, Patricia Luna - aunt of Jason Kelley, Austin Long - uncle of Phillis Churchwell, Joyce Runions, Susan, Alex and Evan Rector, Shirley Sharp - lung cancer, Debbie Spears, Norma Boyette - sister of Bill Jones & Elaine Whitehead, Roiki Phillips, Juanita Boyd - stepmom of Gary, Kathy Reed - friend of Linda Mabry, Dora Bolton - mother of James, Ginger Chesnut, Elvis Frierson - friend of John Mayberry, Glenda Collins - sister of John Mayberry, Katherine Jones - mother of Alice Bolton, Mike Primm, Nick Tank - student at Baker - leukemia, Clara Harvey, aunt of Ray Rummage, Clarence Weaver - Poplar Estates, Rm. 219, Stacey Brown - cystic fibrosis, Dorothy Rea - sister/Elmer Lusk, Evelyn Felker - sister/Benny Bolton, Ann Graham - Morning Pointe, Rm. 113, Beverly Dawson, Jack & Daisy White, Jane Davis - sister of Nell Hood, Ronnie Springer-leukemia - friend of John & Debbie Massey, David Luther, Jacqueline Potts, Mary Blocker, Mary Robb - Poplar Estates, The Gardens, Rm. 8, Sanai Pettus, 5th grade student at CA - cancer - 8041 Fenwick Lane, Spring Hill, TN 37174.

**WORSHIP LEADERS JULY 10, 2016**

**SUNDAY 9:00 A.M**

Welcome.....Dennis Thomason  
 Song Leader.....Nathan Hixson  
 Prayer.....David Thomas  
 Lord's Supper: Presiding.....Greg Gray  
     Bobby Daniels                      James Bolton  
     John Massey                         Bryan Farris  
     Max Ballard                         E. J. Hill  
     Benny Bolton                        John Allen Thomas  
 Read: .....Jason Kelley  
 Sermon: .....John Thomas  
 Announcements/Closing Prayer.....Dennis Thomason

**SUNDAY 5:30 P.M.**

Welcome/Song Leader.....Trent Thomason  
 Prayer.....Joe Macer  
 Read: .....Trent Hill  
 Sermon: .....John Thomas  
 Lord's Supper Presiding.....Randy Jones  
 Announcements/Closing Prayer.....Mike Lyle

Ushers: Larry Nicholson, Johnnie Johnson, Tommy Skelley  
 Greeters: Kevin & Kathleen Mick, David & Jan Thomas, Jacob Pollard  
 Visual: Jim Pollard

Security Team: A.M. Corey Massey, Ryan Massey P.M. Corey Massey, Ryan Massey

**If you are unable to keep your appointment to serve, please call Ray Rummage (446-0668) or Joe Williams (388-9183)  
 Or go to our website and follow the "Unable to Serve" link and submit the information.**

**NURSERY CARE**

**WEDNESDAY July 13, 2016 - 6:30 P.M.**

A.M.....Melissa Stutts, Juaneese Perdue  
 P.M.....Jennifer Winchester

Song Leader .....Sam Quirk  
 Prayer.....Jacob Pollard  
 Announcements/Speaker - VBS.....David Thomas