

NOBLE WARRIORS

A CHRISTIAN
MINISTRY TO THE
MEN OF TODAY
AND TOMORROW

READ THIS...

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.
Hebrews 11:6

The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.
James 5:17b

Great News!
Noble Warriors is officially a 501(c)3, Tax Exempt Organization. (The IRS approved our application in less than 30 days!)
Noble Warriors is officially a member of the NCMM.
(The National Coalition of Men's Ministries.)

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BATTLE BULLETIN

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NOBLE WARRIORS: GOD'S AMAZING WORK

Be amazed! A pastor friend recently commented that he is concerned by the number of people (pastors specifically) who seem to be worn down and really don't expect God to do anything exciting anymore.



A dad prepares to build a manger with his daughters at Bethia UMC on Christmas Eve.

The Noble Warriors experience is quite different. We are experiencing God's brand of excitement regularly. As a matter of fact, sometimes I just shake my head in amazement. God surprises me and others when he opens doors and removes barriers. NW is producing fruit and God is regularly providing new opportunities for growth. Consider the following:

Twenty one men representing six different churches brought their children to the NW manger

building event on Christmas Eve. Over seventy couples attended the January Marriage Enrichment Event. Couples from five different churches attended the February Parenting Enrichment Event.

A number of the pastors to whom we gave *Why Men Hate Going to Church* read the book, bought copies for key leaders and are ramping up their men's ministry efforts. Pastors from five churches have attended our Pastors Luncheons. NW already has an active relationship with 3 churches, at least seven other relationships are developing. Mike is drafting a partnership plan for NW and local churches.

There is an opportunity for NW to have a programming presence on local WAUQ, 89.7 FM, the local American Family Radio (AFR) affiliate. Churches on the Southside are beginning to contact NW about hosting enrichment events. Some who live and worship in other parts of Metro Richmond are asking if we plan to offer any services in their areas.

Infusion Media Design produced a powerful promotional video for NW. (Check it out on the multimedia page of the website!) The



Over 70 couples participated in the Communication in Marriage Seminar on January 20 at Swift Creek Baptist Church.

company is also working on an interview/testimony section of the video that will increase its impact. The requests for Mike to speak at men's events, MOPS and POPS events, worship services, retreats and other venues is increasing.

Our IRS application for tax exempt status was approved in less than 30 days. (This process typically takes months!) Noble Warriors is officially a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization. NW has also been accepted for membership in the National Coalition of Men's Ministries (NCMM).

Part of the reason I shake my head is because I'm not sure how we can keep up. That's a matter for more prayer! Please join me!



UPCOMING NOBLE WARRIOR EVENTS

We are constantly looking for ways to partner with local churches to serve as a ministry resource. Mike is available for pulpit supply, men's breakfasts, retreats, conferences or special events for large or small groups. Call Mike at (804)347-4507 or e-mail myoung@noblewarriors.org to schedule.

Ongoing—Men's Fraternity™, *The Quest for Authentic Manhood*. Four sessions weekly, Check website for times and locations

Feb. 28—MOPs event at Mt. Vernon Baptist

March 11 - Graceland Baptist Men's Breakfast

March 12—Pulpit Supply at Bethia UMC

March 17—Parenting Enrichment at Stockton Memorial Baptist Church

March 21—Pastor's Luncheon Location TBA

April 7—Marriage Enrichment at Trinity Assembly of God

April 14—Good Friday Sunrise Service at Chesterfield Baptist Church

April 20—22 NCMM Conference

Check the NW website for more details on all events.



Couples share ideas and learn new strategies at the January Enrichment seminar on Communication in marriage.



HOME IMPROVEMENT

FOR HUSBANDS...

Guys, as I dig deeper into the mountain of information related to men's ministry, I make note of recurring themes. One theme that has surfaced several times recently is the fact that we have a tendency to relate to our wives the way we would relate to other men. I don't guess this should surprise us but it certainly does sneak up on us at unexpected times. (Like when we buy her a gift that **w**e would like for her birthday!)

In *Communication, Sex and Money*, Ed Cole says, "Many a man misses the mark in dealing with a woman because he makes

the same mistake. He tries to deal with her as if dealing with a man."

...he makes the same mistake. He tries to deal with her as if dealing with a man.

Its understandable that we would engage others on our terms. Life would be much easier if everyone would think like us. But they don't. To be successful in relating to others, we have to know something about them. Men, we often mistakenly think we understand our wives better than we really do. We probably all need to do a better job of learning about our wives'

needs and desires in order to communicate more effectively.

In *Tender Warrior*, Stu Webber makes this statement. "What would your business look like if you applied the same amount of mental and emotional energy to it that you do to understanding your wife?" Probably not so profitable. I'm sure you work at understanding your clients and the marketplace as well as possible to ensure success. Would you invest more time in understanding your wife closely and try to relate to her in a way that she understands and appreciates? You may find it profitable.



FOR FATHERS...

Recently, in a couple of parenting seminars on the topic of discipline, I have shared the importance of making sure that we all understand that although we often use the term discipline to mean punishment, discipline is really an expression of love. Consequently, the most important part of 'disciplining' our children is to encourage them

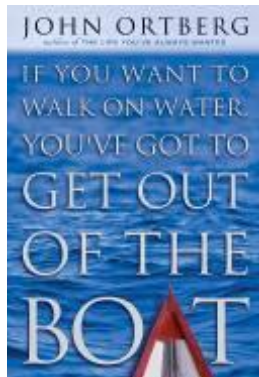
when they do positive things and make good choices.

Taking it a step further, we should also seek to create a home environment in which grace and laughter are common. Too often, our only disciplinary actions involving our children are harsh responses to bad behavior. Dad, step back and evaluate your relationship with each of your children. Go out of

your way to spend some time in the coming weeks on some fun activities, and find new ways to proactively praise the good things they do, rather than only reacting to negative behaviors.



The best way to get children to do what you want is to spend time with them before discipline problems occur—having fun together and enjoying mutual laughter and joy.
Dr. James Dobson
The New Dare to Discipline



If you get out of the boat—there's a good chance you might sink... But if you don't get out of the boat, there's a guaranteed certainty that you will never walk on the water. Pg. 17



NW BOOK REVIEW: IF YOU WANT TO WALK ON WATER, YOU'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF THE BOAT BY JOHN ORTBERG

I read this book several years ago but the ideas and challenges presented by Ortberg still ring in my ears. Men, we love a challenge. Sometimes for no reason other than because its there. But, taking that first step in God's direction takes some gumption that's hard to muster. Especially when others are watching and/or depending on us.

Ortberg puts us in Peter's situation from Matthew 14. He tells

us that Water-Walkers discern between faith and foolishness and ultimately get out of the boat. He asks the question, What is your boat? and challenges us to not become 'boat potatoes', saying "You were made for something more than merely avoiding failure."

If you're wrestling with the question of what God made you to do...Read this book and accept the challenge to step from safety toward Christ's call, what-

ever that might be. It's both scary and exciting to be 'out of the boat'.

When human beings get out of the boat, they are never quite the same... Whatever the results, whether they sink or swim something will have changed...every time you walk on the water, each time you trust God and seek to discern and obey his calling on your life, your God will get bigger, and your worship will grow deeper, richer and stronger. Pg. 202

MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

During our Battle Plan Review event on January 28. A new Noble Warriors Promotional Video and show were debuted. Three men shared testimonies about how involvement in Noble Warriors activities and events have impacted them. There were also three brief presentations that gave a bird's eye view of the ministry. The high points from each of those three presentations are presented below.

THE HEART OF NOBLE WARRIORS

At the heart of this ministry is a desire for men to become better men, as measured by a Biblical standard, rather than society.

Men who use Christ as their model and the Bible as their guide will be better husbands, fathers, sons, employees, business owners, bosses, soldiers, leaders. But, just saying that men need to step up is not enough.

Words alone are not very effective.

Noble Warriors will invest in training and teaching rather than

Men who use Christ as their model and the Bible as their guide will be better husbands, fathers...

just telling. Just as a young scout needs to be taught how to set

up a tent and build a fire in order to camp, men must be taught how to serve and lead their families, how to use Christ's love for the church as a model for how they should love their wives. Telling is easy and often fruitless. Training is hard but productive. We'll invest in the difficult things, expecting God to bless men, families, churches and communities.



THE HEAD OF NOBLE WARRIORS

Many organizations are founded with great ideas and ideals; but without a great plan not much gets done. The NW Battle Plan has three primary goals.

First: Gather Recruits. Christ called the disciples with a simple statement, *Come, Follow Me. Matt. 4:19.* And they did because they sensed He would lead them somewhere. NW will use Noble Notes, the Battle Bulletin, Pastor Luncheons and other means to Call Men OUT!

Second: Noble-ize Men. NW will seek to train men *to be godly 1 Tim. 4:7.* Through Men's Fraternity, Marriage and Parenting Enrichment events, sharing of best resources, purposeful discipleship and mentoring, Noble Warriors will Call Men UP!

Noble Warriors
Ministry To Men
Ministry For Men
Ministry Through Men

Third: Commission Warriors: Training is of no value if it is not utilized. To the disciples, Christ said *Go, I'm sending you. Luke 10:3* NW will challenge men to lead their families spiritually; not oppressively but by serving and setting an example. Men will also be challenged to exemplify servant leadership in their churches, communities and beyond. Ultimately they should, like Paul, challenge other men to follow them as they follow Christ. *1 Cor. 11:1*



THE HEALTH OF NOBLE WARRIORS.

Dave Foreman, a friend of Mike and Noble Warriors, presented this portion of the program. He did a great job explaining that the ministry is making an impact in the lives of many and in order to continue, we need to work in partnership.

Each attendant was challenged to partner with Noble Warriors in any or all of three areas. First, through **prayer**, by adding the ministry to their prayer list. Second, through **servicing**, by

being willing to help with administrative tasks, coordinating events, leading a men's group or simply telling others about NW. Third, **financially**, by supporting Noble Warriors with a one time gift or a monthly commitment.

I was pleased that Dave shared our concern that any support you feel led to share with NW should not be in lieu of giving to your local church. NW desires to come alongside local

churches and help them build ministries.

We have included a copy of the Partnership Card we used at the Battle Plan Review. Please prayerfully consider partnering with us in this ministry. If you are so led, return the completed card in the envelope provided. We want our partners to be part of each life, family, church and community changed through the efforts of this ministry.

NOBLE WARRIORS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rich Babbitt—Men's Leader from Countryside Christian Church

Rev. James Carey Jr.—Pastor of Bethia United Methodist Church

Doug Ingram—Counselor and Instructor from the Christian Counseling and Training Center

Todd Wyngaard—Account Manager, Foley Company

Mike Young—Executive Director of Noble Warriors

CALLING MEN OUT, CALLING MEN UP!



Rich Babbitt shares a testimony at the Battle Plan Review.



The Parkway Praise Band, led by Derek Futrell was a hit at the Battle Plan Review.

VISIT
WWW.NOBLEWARRIORS.ORG
FREQUENTLY TO
CHECK OUT
NEW FEATURES!

NOBLE WARRIORS

A CHRISTIAN
MINISTRY TO THE
MEN OF TODAY
AND TOMORROW

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www.noblewarriors.org

Overheard by Mike:

Since I've been taking the Men's Fraternity class, I've learned a lot about leading my family. My wife has been a Christian longer than me so she knows more about the Bible than me. She prayed with our children and at dinner time, either she said a blessing or our son did. I never did. But now, I'm learning how to lead my family. I pray with our children and I say the blessing before meals. After Men's Fraternity on Wednesday Nights, all the way home, I'm telling my wife about what I learned. I'm teaching her about the Bible. It's making a difference in me, our marriage and our family.

CH Men's Fraternity
Participant



Calling Men OUT, Calling Men UP!

BLESSINGS



It's exciting to be able to tell you of some of the blessings that God has showered on Noble Warriors and my family. I am a beneficiary in both cases.

The ministry has been blessed by the generosity of many individuals and organizations like...

- **Derek Futrell, Brad Mauldin** and the **Parkway Praise Band**, who provided praise music for the Battle Plan Review (BPR).
- **Josh Lazar** and **Rob Blackwell** of Infusion Media (infusionmediadesign.com) who produced the new Noble Warriors promotional video (Check it out on the Multimedia page on the website!)
- **Todd Wyngaard** who wrote the narration for the video and produced a slide show for the BPR.
- **Kim Wyngaard** who coordinates the on-line registration services for all events.
- **Dave Foreman** who delivered the Health of Noble Warriors presentation.
- **Laura Bowes, and Leslie Foreman** who coordinated the refreshments for the BPR.
- **Zoltan Forray** of Ztech Inc. who continues to maintain the NW website, and manages to take both video and still photos at many NW events.
- **Pam Beasley** who currently organizes the food for our monthly Pastor's Luncheons.
- **Ukrop's** and **Chick-fil-a** who have donated food for the BPR and Pastor's Luncheons.
- **GraceAnn Ingram** who coordinated child care for the BPR.
- **Kevin and Shannon Kirwan** who donated material for the Manger Building Event and coordinated the February Enrichment event at Bethia UMC.
- **Tom and Christy Powell** who coordinated the January Enrichment event at Swift Creek Baptist Church.
- **Daniel DeJarnette** and **Richard Wright** who helped manage the Manger Building event on Christmas Eve.
- The **many individuals** who contributed @\$9,000 to the health of this ministry last year.
- The **generous individuals** who made one time donations totaling \$1,100 and/or monthly support totaling \$1,000/month at the BPR (Battle Plan Review).

Our Family has been blessed by the generosity of some whom we don't even know. Just before Christmas, under the cover of darkness, someone anonymously placed an envelope with \$500 cash and a card with only Hebrews 11:6 on our door. On another occasion a supporter gave me \$200 cash for our family. At the Christmas Eve service at our church, another family gave our family a check for \$250 in a Christmas Card. Yet another card included an encouraging note and \$2,000 cash for our family. Humbled by the generosity and support of others. I wept upon receipt of those gifts. I'm honored to serve a God who works in this way!



NOBLE NEEDS

You've just read in the Blessings section that God has provided support for this ministry in a variety of forms. We are grateful for them all. The exciting thing is this, God has shown us that he has his hand on this work. It's amazing that he continues to provide new ideas and opportunities to expand the ministry.

As I said in the front page story, sometimes I just shake my head in amazement. I'm not sure what to say or do. When I hear testimonies like the one from Chris in the side bar, I know that the sacrifices we are making are producing fruit. On Page 3, three partnership areas were introduced. Would you consider partnering with us in one or more areas?

Prayer:

**Pray for NW's effectiveness in



The YOUNG carpenters build a manger for our family on Christmas Eve.

reaching and discipling men.

**Pray for churches to see the need to increase ministry efforts which target men.

**Pray for lay leaders in churches who Mike can encourage and coach.

**Pray for discernment for Mike as he prayerfully directs the ministry.

Service:

**Help with printing and mail-

ing future Battle Bulletins.

**Take over the responsibility of organizing the food for the Pastor's luncheons.

**Help coordinate the monthly enrichment seminars.

Financial:

NW has a budget of @\$80,000 for FY 2006.

**Pledge to support NW with a monthly gift. (Monthly pledges total @\$1,000 now.)

**Have your business underwrite a portion of the Radio programming fees. (Marketing Opportunity)

**Sponsor a NW participant to attend the NCMM conference.

**Consider making a one time donation to the health of NW.

Your Prayer, Service and/or Financial support will help us build better men, families, churches and communities.