



SHARPER MEN!

Sometimes, much can be said with just a few short stories. Here are two that capture the essence of our conference season...

A father brought his son to **Iron Sharpens Iron** for the first time and simply enjoyed the day with him. He allowed his son to choose the workshops and lead in visiting ministry partner tables, etc. With a great smile on his face, the father shared with me, *"At the end of the day, I asked him, 'So what did you think of this? Would you be interested in doing this again next year?' My son turned to me with a smile and said enthusiastically, 'You mean we can do this every year!? Yes!'"*

And this from Dave Garrett...

"Mike, I saw the wife of one of our the MCC men who attended yesterday. Her husband is a fireman and had duty today so I asked if her husband liked the conference. She said he had talked about it since he had returned home. Even again at dinner last night. This was his first ISI and it left a great impression."



Folks, let's pray that the conference experience continues to produce great conversations between this father and son and this husband and wife. Further, let's pray that these men will be surrounded by other men at their churches who will continue to encourage them to walk faithfully with Christ and lead well!

And remember, you were part of each of these stories and thousands of others. Your prayers and financial support fuel this ongoing work. Thank you for standing with us!

MINUTE WITH MIKE

Teach the masses, focus on the leaders. (Jesus modeled this.)

He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything. Mark 4:34

Jesus models leadership development strategies throughout the Gospels. Frequently, we see him teaching and speaking to the masses, then explaining details of messages and methods to his disciples and close associates.

We try to follow this example with our conference ministry. Our four conferences give us an opportunity to host high visibility equipping events that attract much attention.

BUT, the real impact comes throughout the year when we have opportunities to visit with pastors, men's ministry leaders and/or men's ministry teams to talk about strategies for discipling men in their churches.

In these sessions, I'm able to coach and encourage leaders as they consider how to truly disciple men in the context of their church culture. Last week, I met with a team of four leaders from a local church to help them plan not just a men's event but a strategy for a fall campaign to engage men from their church in ongoing spiritual growth.

Honestly, conferences are exciting. **But those intimate gatherings with decision-makers who desire to see men walk with Christ and lead well keep me going!**

Join me in praying that we'll have more opportunities like this and see many more churches invest strategically in men!

PLAN NOW FOR A FALL MEN'S DISCIPLESHIP CAMPAIGN

We've learned that summer is a bit of a no-man's land for church programming. It's challenging to launch small groups or even keep some groups together during the summer.

Noble Warriors is all about helping churches with effective strategies, powerful resources and quality execution to disciple every man in your church. I recently met with a team of 4 men from Bon Air Baptist to talk about their men's discipleship strategy!

Let us know how we can help your team develop a plan to equip every man in your church to walk with Christ and lead well. And, don't forget to pray....

Now is the time to recruit a leadership team that will spend time during the 'off season' to pray, plan and prepare for a strong fall campaign for men's discipleship.

▶ **Pray for your pastor and leadership team as they work through planning. Pray also for teams from other churches who will be planning to reach and build more men!**



Authentic Manhood: 33 The Series is an excellent resource to include in your fall campaign!

FAMILY UPDATE

There's quite a bit going on with the Young family, but this month I'd like to highlight the Noble Warriors family. **So many folks invest time, energy and expertise to make our conferences happen. They are family to us.** There's not room to capture everyone here but here are a few fun photos. Join us in giving thanks for so many who lock arms with us to see men transformed!

