

MISSIONS & MINISTRY

The Newsletter of The Blue River-
Kansas City Baptist Association

Page 01

Are You Prepared for
Retirement, Pastor?
(Part 1)

Page 02

Pastor's Huddle Returns &
Conversations: A Simple
Approach to Sharing the
Gospel

Page 03

Caring for the Anxious and
Depressed in our Churches
Seminar



ARE YOU PREPARED FOR RETIREMENT, PASTOR? (PART 1)

By Gregg Boll, Director of Missions

If you think this question is none of my business, then skip to the next article. If you think retirement is an unbiblical concept and you intend to work as many years as your health will allow, you should still read this. I am one of those guys who does not sit well and know that I would grow bored within a month of retiring completely from some kind of meaningful work. However, there are a few realities that must be faced. One, you and I will become less desirable as an employee somewhere out in the future. Secondly, you may not always wish to labor at the level of intensity and time investment you are currently working. And, lastly, whether you work into your retirement years or not, you will still need a stream of income into your golden years for you and your wife. So, perhaps, a better title for this article than the one above might be, "Are You Living and Planning Today in Such a Way that is Preparing You Financially for the Final Chapter of Your Life?"

[Read
More](#)

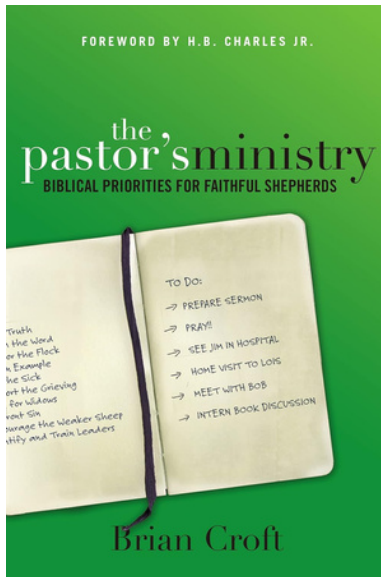


www.blueriver-kansascity.org

PASTOR'S HUDDLE RETURNS

I heard the comment recently that someone measured the distance Paul traveled by land and sea on his missionary journeys and came up with around 10,000 miles he covered preaching the gospel and starting churches. But the next comment is what grabbed me; in those 10,000 miles of travel, we never read a single verse of Scripture where Paul travelled one of those miles alone. He always had a companion. He loathed being alone. Ministry is too hard to do alone and according to the biblical model was not meant to be done alone. Yet, a recent poll of pastors found that 38% of them felt isolated. Six out of ten pastors say their role is frequently overwhelming, which means that four out of ten of them are lying about it.

We have a remedy for loneliness and isolation in ministry. It's called the Pastor's Huddle. Pastors/elders get together and share the real struggles they face in their church and ministry. We read and discuss a pertinent book together, but taking time to address shared needs always takes priority. We have chosen Brian Croft's book *The Pastor's Ministry: Biblical Priorities for Faithful Shepherds*. It focuses on how the pastor can manage and prioritize the many duties he is called upon to do so that ministry is a joy and not continually overwhelming.....



[READ MORE](#)

CONVERSATIONS: A SIMPLE APPROACH TO SHARING THE GOSPEL

Even though every Christ-follower is called to regularly share their faith, few actually do. *Conversations: A Simple Approach to Sharing the Gospel* is a two-hour personal witnessing training course from The Gideons International where you will discover the simplicity of the Gospel and learn practical ways to share your faith with confidence.

March 2nd, 9am-noon at Summit Point Church. Full details and RSVP here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/conversations-gospel-sharing-tickets-811510007277?aff=oddtcreator>



Check out Job
Postings

Check out the
Classifieds

DR. STEVE PRINGLE, PRESIDENT OF DIAKONOS COUNSELING, TO LEAD SEMINAR ON CARING FOR THE ANXIOUS AND DEPRESSED IN OUR CHURCHES

III John 1:2 says, "Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers." I don't think I'm reading anything into the text to point out what we all know from experience; that our physical, mental and spiritual health are all interrelated and interdependent upon one another. Soul care is one of the things we are tasked with as Christian leaders. In a post-COVID world the incidence of anxiety and depression are at all-time highs and the members of our churches are not immune. A recent survey of college students in America found that 55% of them had experienced depression in the last year, 70% of them had experienced anxiety, 25% of them had contemplated suicide and 2.1% of them had attempted it.

The pastor and church leader/teacher is called upon to wear many hats; one of these hats is to give biblical counsel and soul care for those God has placed in our care. I have been working with Dr. Steve Pringle, President of Diakonos Christian Counseling, to provide training events this year which will equip pastors and lay leaders to be better care-givers and counselors. The first seminar we plan to offer is on **March 12 from 10-11:30** with lunch served. The seminar will provide Christian leaders who attend, a work booklet with a counseling outline. The outline will help leaders develop greater skills when talking to folks about depression and anxiety.

The seminar will be held at **The Church At Three Trails, 1229 W 31st St, Independence, MO 64055.**

Please register by emailing Amy at amyc@kcbaptist.org and let us know if you're planning on staying for lunch.

Our Pastors and Wives Appreciation Banquet is fast approaching, on Friday, February 16, at 6 p.m., in the Atrium of Connection Point Church in Raytown.

This is always a night of fun, food, and fellowship.

Pastors, please RSVP to amyc@kcbaptist.org by February 12th.

