

To encourage and equip Christian business and professional women to reflect Christ in their world.

January/February 2003

## The Journey of Personal Achievement

### Leadership

#### The Journey of Personal Achievement

By Les Taylor

One Woman's Story

#### An Example of Leadership

By Kristen Wehrli

Upcoming Events

#### CBWA Retreat

#### Cookbook Fundraiser

#### The 17 Essential Qualities of a Team Player

By John C. Maxwell

#### Program Information

See the back cover

### Moving from Activity to Achievement

By Les Taylor

Do you ever get the feeling that you are on the treadmill of life? You are making good time but you don't seem to be going anywhere? You find yourself in a state of constant motion. Your day begins with a quick nod to God, possibly a few minutes in a daily devotional and you are off! You are out the door to begin a day filled with ...activity, some of it meaningful, most of it not, and you are faced with the reality that you are smack in the middle, if not leading the pack in the rat race. A race, by the way, no one ever wins.

I would like to offer an alternative lifestyle. One in which our activities are planned, purposeful and in alignment with what we really value most. I want to suggest seeing life as a journey not a race and charting a course for a life of achievement not just activity.

The apostle Paul offers a glimpse of this kind of life in Philippians Chapter 3. After realizing that having it made from man's point of view was essentially meaningless, he begins to describe his life of purpose and his plan for meaningful achievement.

*"Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me*

*heavenward in Christ Jesus. All of us who are mature should take such a view of things." Phil 3:12-15a*

These important verses remind us that Paul clearly understood the process of moving from activity to achievement. Paul had an accurate view of himself; he understood that life is about direction not perfection and he did not let the past, and especially past failures influence his future. He understood that achievement involves effort. Hard work is part of the deal when it comes to becoming the person God wants us to be.

I would like to offer a process for moving from activity to achievement. This process is time-tested and works every time and in every circumstance.

### "See" What You Want To Accomplish

Embarking on a journey of personal achievement involves taking advantage of a time-tested process that almost guarantees success. This process begins with having a clear vision of where we want go. John Richardson says that **when it comes to vision there are three kinds of people; those who hope it will happen, those who make it happen and those who wonder what happened.**

Life is impartial when it comes to achievement. It really doesn't care whether we have a plan or if we just take it as it comes. The starting point for a journey of personal achievement is to

see *The Journey of Personal Achievement*—page 2

We believe the Bible to be the inspired Word of God, without error, and the final authority in our lives. We believe in one God eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died as a sacrifice for our sins, was raised from the dead, and that all who receive Him by faith are born of the Holy Spirit and enter into a relationship in which they are eternally secure.



# An Example of Leadership

by Kristen Wehrli

I would like to share about a wonderful friend who has given me an amazing example of leadership. Every single person he knows is a better person because of the godly influence he has had on them. He has been the salt in his family's lives by preserving, above all else, God's standards. He has done this not by being timid, boring, bossy or judgmental, but by causing a thirst for Jesus.

His life is contagious. Everyone he meets wants more of Jesus because of him. He has always been more interested in preserving God's standards than preserving his own image. He sees the positive side of everything. He is never too serious or overbearing. His enthusiasm for life allows his kids to be kids. His amazing faith in God has influenced even the youngest hearts. He has been a living example of God's Word for his children and grandchildren. He welcomes others into his family with open arms. He sees the struggles of others and somehow always finds the right thing to say or do to give them confidence to keep going forward. He doesn't have to preach because his life demonstrates what he wants us to learn. He walks the talk.

He encourages people to be their best, never expecting too much, but setting the standard to follow. He constantly reminds others of God's hope. A hope that no matter our circumstances, no matter our sufferings we can rejoice in the truth of God's promises. His consistent character shows others that it's okay if we are not perfect and that our strength can only come from God. He has taught me to forget what is behind and strive toward what is ahead. He shows the value of working hard; that nothing is handed over on a silver platter. He has taught me

that the secret is Christ in me, not me in a different set of circumstances. He has had an amazing effect on everyone that knows him. We are all better people because he has been a part of our lives. I know God is smiling down on him. *This friend is my Dad!*

It's tough to be a successful leader. I would compare leadership to a building that needs a strong foundation. Any architect will tell you that the most important part of a building is the foundation. God has called us all into leadership – whether it be to lead a family, lead a business, lead a child or lead a friend – and Paul says in 1 Corinthians 3:11 that *“no one can lay any foundation than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ.”* Simply put, when God is the foundation on which we build our families, our businesses, our lives, the winds of adversity cannot bring our building down. To get a true handle on our role as a leader, we must first understand God's view. By recognizing our dependence on God we can fly higher and travel farther than trying to do it alone. We must step out in faith and trust God without hesitation. Our faith should be followed by complete obedience even without full knowledge of the game plan. Faith demands a commitment of the heart, but obedience demands a commitment of your feet.

**So how do we find the courage to act?** Start by learning about the nature and character of God. What would Jesus do? Jesus taught us to love, not hate; to forgive, not hold a grudge; to be humble, not prideful; to be thankful, not ungrateful; that there is dignity in serving others, instead of demanding to be served; and that there is virtue in reaching out to others. Often the problem

is not that we don't know what to do, but that we don't want to do it. Knowing what Jesus did and then doing what we can to follow his example is a clear reflection of what God's will is for us in our role as a leader.

In our sin tainted world, faithful and selfless service often goes unnoticed. The reality is, however, that God sees it all – and is pleased. In the sight of God, the true mark of a person is character – not accomplishments, ideas or net worth. Jesus is the perfect example of character and leadership. No one can lay any foundation than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. God has called us all into leadership. May God help us all follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

*Kristen Wehrli is a wife of ten years to Mike, mother of two boys (Cody 9 and Dylan 6) and a mortgage loan officer for AM Trust Bank in Scottsdale.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CBWA RETREAT

Come join us for a wonderful program January 31-February 2 with guest speaker Bethany Bice Helm, CISW at the SpringHill Suites by Marriott, Prescott, AZ. To find out more call the CBWA Events line #3 480-948-2292.

### COOKBOOK FUNDRAISER

New Fundraiser – A CBWA cookbook – full of favorite recipes from the women of CBWA. Please consider becoming a part of this wonderful project – by submitting three or four recipes in their choice of various categories. Since everyone loves tried and true recipes, CBWA cookbooks will make terrific gifts. For more information please contact Betty Cornish at [bcornis@camelbackbank.com](mailto:bcornis@camelbackbank.com).

## The 17 Essential Qualities of a Team Player

### *Becoming the kind of person every team wants*

By John C. Maxwell

**Adaptable:** If you won't change for the team, the team may change you

**Collaborative:** Working together precedes winning together

**Committed:** There are no half-hearted champions

**Communicative:** A team is many voices with a single heart

**Competent:** If you can't, your team won't

**Dependable:** Teams go to "go-to" players

**Disciplined:** Where there's a will, there's a win

**Enlarging:** Adding value to teammates is invaluable

**Enthusiastic:** Your heart is the source of energy for the team

**Intentional:** Make every action count

**Mission Conscious:** The (big) picture is coming in loud and clear

**Prepared:** Preparation can mean the difference between winning and losing

**Relational:** If you get along, others will go along

**Self-Improving:** To improve the team, improve yourself

**Selfless:** There is no "I" in team

**Solution Oriented:** Make a resolution to find a solution

**Tenacious:** Never, never, never quit - to finish first, you must finish



## PHOENIX LUNCHEON MEETINGS

Phoenix Country Club, 7th Street & Thomas Rd., Phoenix  
Lunch/Speaker—\$20/person with advance reservation  
\$25/person without advance reservation; Program only—\$5

### ■ Monday, January 13, 2003 12:00-1:15 p.m.

RSVP by Wed., Jan. 8, 480-948-2292, line #1 OR cbwa@primenet.com

#### **A Passion for People-Authentic Faith in the Marketplace - Naomi Rhode, CSP, CPAE Speaker Hall of Fame**

Sharing our faith shouldn't be a duty - but a passion!! Is your life marked by a concern for the lost? Are you striving to be more Christ-like and reflect Him in every area of influence that God has given you? Come and hear a message that will ignite your heart to reach others for Christ. Naomi Rhode has authored two inspirational books, is the co-owner of SmartPractice of Phoenix, and serves on the board of Phoenix Seminary.

### ■ Monday, January 27, 2003 12:00-1:15 p.m.

RSVP by Wed., Jan. 22, 480-948-2292, line #1 OR cbwa@primenet.com

#### **How to Go The Extra Mile - Mike Burnidge**

Mike will speak about how to provide superior service by regarding service as a radical revelation of love, taking the initiative when a need is spotted, setting aside our pride, developing service by "Modeling the Master" and recognizing

the rewards of serving. Mike is Senior Pastor at North Ridge Community Church in Cave Creek.

### ■ Monday, February 10, 2003 12:00-1:15 p.m.

RSVP by Wed., Feb. 5, 480-948-2292, line #1 OR cbwa@primenet.com

#### **Sacred Marriage - Chris Christiansen**

What if God designed marriage to make us holy more than to make us happy? And what if your relationship isn't as much about you and your spouse as it is you and God? Everything about your marriage is filled with the capacity for discovering and revealing Christ's character. Whether you are married or hoping to be one day, you will be encouraged and challenged by this profound look at God's design for marriage.

Chris Christiansen is Pastor of Family Ministries at East Valley Bible Church and former regional director for Growing Families International.

### ■ Monday, February 24, 2003 12:00-1:15 p.m.

RSVP by Wed., Feb. 19, 480-948-2292, line #1 OR cbwa@primenet.com

#### **One Woman's Story**

Come be encouraged as two of CBWA's members share their own "One Woman Story" and how God has impacted their lives personally and professionally.

*The CBWA Connection* is a monthly newsletter published by the Christian Business Women's Association, a nonprofit organization based in metro Phoenix area, Arizona. Newsletter ideas and comments, and editorial contributions supporting CBWA's statement of faith are welcome. *The CBWA Connection* is an outreach of CBWA and donations are tax deductible. To help underwrite newsletter expenses, a suggested donation of \$25 would cover the annual cost of preparing and mailing each newsletter. Editor: Joy Cervantes, cervantes@mpmcpa.com; Copy Editor: Kristen Wehrli; Format Editor: Cheri Schafman; Newsletter Advisor: Diane Lippard and Carol Poore; Graphic Designer: DreamCreek Design; Printed on recycled paper by Techniprint. **CBWA 24hour Phone 480-948-CBWA (2292) Email: cbwa@primenet.com**

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