

# KINGDOM WARRIORS

## FAITH FORCE MULTIPLIER UPDATE



### WARRIOR MESSAGE

**Mike Smith, Sunday School Specialist  
Sunday School FAITH Department  
LifeWay Christian Resources**

#### It's Not Just About Us, Is It?

I can never forget that fall afternoon, walking across the lawn of the church.

It was a gorgeous day. The sky was blue. The air was crisp. The trees were blazing with colors that only God could paint. I turned and looked at the church building and thought about the huge responsibility that my Lord had placed across my shoulders as Pastor.

The thought turned into a conversation with the King. "Lord, you sure have placed a lot of confidence in me." If He had shaken the ground and screamed, I would not have heard Him any clearer than the "still, small voice" that whispered: "My confidence is not in you. My confidence is in Me!"

Throughout our lives and ministries, our wonderful Lord continually works to help us understand how critically dependent we are upon Him. By leaning on Him, we are strengthened. By loving Him, we are sustained. And the focus is continually upward and outward. By looking upward, we see the King. What a marvelous King He is! By looking outward, we see His kingdom. How vast is His kingdom's reach!

I have a confession to make. For years, I thought that my job was to strengthen and grow "my church." Oh, if I had a dime for every "how to grow your church" conference that I attended. You know the routine. But as time went on, God began to speak to me about His church. The light began to come on --- it is not merely about my church and my community. It is about His church

and His kingdom. It is about helping your church to see itself as a kingdom enterprise....an enterprise that effects positive and eternal change in other churches, in other communities, in other states, in other nations. It is not just about us, is it?

One of the great effects of Sunday School FAITH is that it is helping churches understand and experience a kingdom view related to the role of the church in this world. Many FAITH churches are growing to understand just how vital they are in the work of encouraging and developing leaders in other churches, not just their own. That kingdom connectedness is seen throughout the New Testament. As a multiplier, you know that very well.

As you read the testimony of Pastor Keith Joseph, you will be encouraged. Emmanuel Baptist Church in Stanton, Kentucky is a Kingdom focused church. Like you, they continually reach out to other churches and extend His kingdom beyond the walls of that local body.

Remain faithful, my brothers. Run the race well. Continue to lead your church to see themselves as a kingdom people whose focus is always outward and upward. From where I stand, there are great days ahead of us. You bless so many and I thank my God for you.



### WARRIOR TOOLS

**Keith Joseph, Senior Pastor  
Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Stanton, Kentucky**

#### Multiplying FAITH Beyond Your Church

What an honor it is to be counted as one of the FAITH FORCE MULTIPLIERS. By God's grace the church I serve will begin its eleventh semester of FAITH. During these glorious days the Lord has grown our church from 15 to nearly 600. Early on in FAITH, as does everyone, I struggled to keep up with the administration of this great process.

Somewhere around semester three, I began to catch the true heart of God for FAITH -- FAITH is about growing the kingdom of God, not simply about growing your church or my church. I realized we had to multiply FAITH beyond Emmanuel Baptist Church. The Apostle Paul said in Acts 20:25 "Wherever I have gone I have preached the kingdom of God." It was at this point I began to be burdened for other churches that wanted to see the kingdom grow. Out of this burden, Emmanuel Baptist Church began a ministry called FAITH ABROAD.

This ministry has four simple goals:

- REACHING NEW CHURCHES - In I Corinthians 3:10 "Paul wanted to lay the foundation." It is our responsibility to give FAITH to every church in our world. Who can forget the first Fort Bragg experience with Brother Bobby? I will never forget the night walk, and the commitment I made to God to take FAITH to the world.
- RECONNECTING WITH CHURCHES - The numbers concerning churches that have been FAITH trained, but are not currently using FAITH are startling. Often we find the church did not properly prepare to do FAITH. These churches were not equipped for the work or for the spiritual warfare. In these churches we help to organize the work of the kingdom.
- REKINDLING THE CHURCH - In 2 Timothy 1:6, Paul to Timothy "To stir up the gift of God which is in you." Many times the FAITH team rekindles the hearts of churches through revivals and outreach as our teams pound the streets with on the job training.
- RESCUING THE CHURCH - We are reminded in Galatians 6:1-2 "Bear one another's burdens." There are many pastors who want to do FAITH but do not have the spiritual support they need. This means you and I must spend time ministering and mentoring those who are called to grow the kingdom.

The cost of such a ministry is great. Our church has learned there will be long hours and little if any financial compensation. However, God's blessings have been even greater than the cost. The Lord will bless your church in such a way that you will not be able to handle all God will do for you. Yes, I must admit my hair has begun to gray in this race, but the sacrifice is worth it because every time you see a church turn around, you know the work has been worth it.

As a FAITH FORCE MULTIPLIER, begin praying and looking for churches around you that need the same kind of ministry as FAITH ABROAD, and go to them for the sake of the kingdom.



# Meet our South Central Regional Team...

Serving Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

## Wayne Etheridge

Sunday School Specialist  
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Wayne has been at LifeWay for over 27 years working with pastors and other Sunday School leaders in building strong, evangelistic Sunday Schools. He has served 17 years as a bi-vocational pastor. Wayne is a FAITH Team Leader and teaches FAITH Discipleship. Wayne's role at LifeWay is helping pastors and Sunday School leaders build Great Commission Sunday Schools and to implement FAITH Sunday School Evangelism Strategy®.

## Carlos Cobos

FAITH Clinic Specialist  
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Carlos has served the Lord at LifeWay for 10 years. Prior to that, he served as Director of Education for the Miami Baptist Association in Florida and as Director of World Missions Conferences for the Brotherhood Commission in Memphis. In his present role, he coordinates the FAITH Training Clinics in the Western and South Central states as well as POR FE clinics in the USA.

## Melissa Wilson

FAITH Ministry/Clinic Associate  
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Melissa has worked at LifeWay for almost 11 years moving into the FAITH Department at the beginning of 2003. Her role entails working with FAITH Training Clinic host churches in preparation for their clinic and helping to promote FAITH Awareness Meetings and FAITH Networking opportunities.



## FAITH EVENT DATES AND LOCATIONS

For the most up-to-date information, call 1.877.324.8498 or visit our Web site [www.lifeway.com/FAITH](http://www.lifeway.com/FAITH).

DATE	LOCATION	CITY/STATE
<b>C</b> Jan. 12-15, 2004	Lakeview Baptist Church	Auburn, AL
<b>C</b> Jan. 19-22, 2004	First Baptist Church	Pikeville, KY
<b>I P</b> Jan. 26-29, 2004	First Baptist Church	Daytona Beach, FL
<b>C</b> Feb. 16-19, 2004	East Side Baptist Church	Fort Smith, AR
<b>C P</b> Feb. 16-19, 2004	Trinity Southern Baptist Church	Casa Grande, AZ
<b>C</b> Feb. 19-22, 2004	First Baptist Church	Lindale, GA
<b>C</b> Feb. 23-26, 2004	Village Baptist Church	Oklahoma City, OK
<b>C P</b> Mar. 8-11, 2004	Great Hills Baptist Church	Austin, TX
<b>C</b> Mar. 15-18, 2004	Murdale Baptist Church	Carbondale, IL
<b>N</b> Mar. 18, 2004	Murdale Baptist Church	Carbondale, IL
<b>C</b> Mar. 22-25, 2004	First Baptist Church	Longview, WA
<b>C</b> Mar. 22-25, 2004	First Baptist Church	Warwick, RI
<b>N</b> Mar. 25, 2004	First Baptist Church	Warwick, RI
<b>C</b> Mar. 29-Apr. 1, 2004	Nansemond River Baptist Church	Suffolk, VA
<b>N</b> Apr. 1, 2004	Nansemond River Baptist Church	Suffolk, VA
<b>S</b> Apr. 3, 2004	Wallace Memorial Baptist Church	Knoxville, TN
<b>S</b> Apr. 13, 2004	First Baptist Church	Longview, WA
<b>C</b> Apr. 14-17, 2004	Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church	Albuquerque, NM
<b>S</b> Apr. 15, 2004	Highland Baptist Church	Redmond, OR
<b>C</b> Apr. 19-22, 2004	First Baptist Church	Mullins, SC



As a FAITH Force Multiplier, we need to hear from you regarding any information

on new churches you enlist and the clinic they will be attending. To report, contact James Walker, FAITH Director at 615.251.2686 or by e-mail at [faithforce@lifeway.com](mailto:faithforce@lifeway.com).

James Walker, FAITH Director  
LifeWay Christian Resources

- A** FAITH Awareness Meeting
- C** National FAITH Clinic (3½ days)
- I** National FAITH Institute (3½ days)
- N** FAITH Network Meeting
- P** POR FE (Spanish Tract)
- R** FAITH Rally
- S** FAITH Summit

## Registration Information

- For general information about FAITH, call toll-free 1.877.324.8498.
- To register for FAITH Training Clinics, call toll-free 1.800.254.2022. Spanish-speaking representatives are available at 1.800.257.7744.
- For other information, contact James Walker at 1.615.251.2686.

FAITH Training Clinics offer step-by-step instruction on how to introduce the FAITH Sunday School Evangelism Strategy® into your church and make it an effective means of reaching lost people for Christ. Remember, attending a FAITH Training Clinic is the required first step for becoming involved with FAITH.

## RESOURCE UPDATE

### FAITH Discipleship: Reaching Out to World Religions



Through 16 weeks of training and visits, FAITH participants will become stronger disciples and more effective witnesses in the following ways.

1. Participants will be guided to examine the claims of several world religions and formulate a biblical response to these claims.
2. Participants will learn witnessing strategies

for each world religion, based on the truth of God's Word.

3. Participants will gain confidence in confronting followers of world religions with the truth of the gospel and develop a deeper compassion for those who are lost.

Sales of FAITH Discipleship courses are restricted to FAITH churches. *A Journey in FAITH* (FAITH Basic) and *Building Bridges Through FAITH* (FAITH Advanced) are prerequisites for participation in this course. Available now!

- Journal 0-6330-0893-1 \$9.95
- Facilitator Guide 0-6330-0892-3 \$15.95
- Training Pack 0-6330-0891-5 \$149.95