

# REBUILDERS

**A** fifteen day trip to South Africa in May proved very successful for SCS President Dennis Peacocke and his efforts to unify leaders internationally in the message of the Kingdom.

Out of this visit came plans for a set of national meetings for pastors, business and public policy leaders, to be held in November. These leaders will gather and discuss the role of the Kingdom of God theologically and how Christians can help shape the future destiny in South Africa.

Accompanied by SCS Pacific President, Bruce Billington of New Zealand, Dennis went first to Johannesburg, a city in the North Eastern region of the country. There he ministered at a large black church, whose pastor is the head of a Christian political party with increasing influence in the nation.

The party was formed in the early 1990's after a meeting on what the role of Christians should be in South African politics.

The ruling party in South Africa is the African National Congress (ANC), made famous by its founder, Nelson Mandela. The party is made up of politicians, labor unions and communists. As tribal tensions flare up, and the country continues to be ravaged by an AIDS epidemic, the ANC is struggling to fulfill all the promises it has made. Many Christian leaders see an opening for more influence.

Dennis and Bruce also ministered in other cities including Durban and Cape Town. Hosts John and Sharon Bendixen, who oversee a number of churches in South Africa, arranged meetings to introduce Dennis' biblically based business principles and further ignite interest in the *Business Leadership School*.

"Every meeting seemed to produce an extraordinary response to the message of the Kingdom and constant requests for us to come back and do more work," Bruce said.

The overall theme of Dennis' remarks was the role of believers in relation to Matthew 28:18,

the Great Commission, in which Jesus calls for us to make disciples of all nations. In order to do this, we must influence every area of a nation's culture.

Hundreds attended the meetings with a unique mixture of pastors, political and business leaders and students from local universities.

## *South Africa Vision*

"This trip changed me," Dennis said. "It deepened for me the reality of my anointing in bringing together the three jurisdictions of civil, marketplace and church to work for the spiritual and economic health of a nation."

Dennis was invited to be the headline speaker in Cape Town's celebration of Ascension Day, a holiday commemorating Christ's resurrection. The attendees included the mayor and many other elected officials. Dennis spoke for several hours on the role of Christians in politics and how they can make a significant contribution to the development and prosperity of South Africa.

"I left in the fear of the Lord of what our role in South Africa might be," Dennis said.



*Left-right:  
Bruce Billington,  
John & Sharon  
Bendixen,  
Dennis Peacocke*

*South Africa, May 2006*

### ***The SCS vision continues...***

***Around the world, SCS impacts thousands of believers by equipping their leadership through our schools, seminars, educational materials, and personal interaction. Since 1979 we have endeavored to serve those who are seeing God's Kingdom and seeking to express it in the whole of human life and culture.***



# SPIRIT TO SPIRIT

## ~ *Obstacles to Discipleship* ~

Our culture and much of the church is built on appearances, fear of rejection and delivering people from responsibility. We have to understand how these ideas are hindrances for us as disciples.

Three major obstacles to discipleship are religion, the fear of evaluation and the fear of responsibility. Religion wants appearance, not change. In our fallenness, we want others to see something in us, but we don't care if it is real. What we're really after is appearance, not reality. Jesus used the Pharisees as an example to illustrate this point in Matthew 6. They loved to walk down the street with a long face, talk about their fasting and give their alms in public, so they could be seen by men. Religion can also involve thinking that if we know things, we are living them out. Knowing is not being. It is the first step towards being. It is a critical, vital step, but it is only a step.

The second obstacle we face in our fallenness is the fear of evaluation. Rejection is almost always a part of the evaluation we experience in our lives. This builds a pattern in us. We feel the evaluation coming and immediately think we are being rejected.

In a real discipling relationship, it is not about rejection, it is about correction. It is helping the person by removing errors from their life. When correcting someone in athletics it is easy. We love it, because the correction is making us better. Why can't we do that in the Spirit as well? When we receive correction in the Spirit, we should be excited and not defending ourselves. Correction will bring us into more of what God wants us to be.

The fear of taking personal responsibility also keeps believers from seeking to walk out discipleship. In our society, few people are willing to stand alone. Women blame the men. Republicans blame the Democrats. Ethnic groups blame each other. The truth is, no one is making us do anything, except ourselves. We are making ourselves do what we do. We cannot run from the responsibility for our actions and choices.

As disciples, if we understand and avoid these obstacles, we should not be easily deceived in the journey. We will see change in our life as we live in reality, respond and grow from correction and rise up to new levels of responsibility.

~Based on *The Discipleship Seminar*, Tape 3

## *Growing Via the Web...*

SCS is in the initial planning stages of a website renovation. Two of our primary goals for the project are:

1. To add features that will enhance the services offered for our current users and new visitors.
2. To set in place a format that can be used by our schools and by those wanting our materials in a global market.

As we proceed with current projects and continue to develop materials we will strive for an expanded use of the website in order to increase our accessibility, particularly internationally, and to broaden the distribution of the message of the Kingdom of God.

Among the nations, whatever their stage of development, leaders in all jurisdictions and generations have an orientation to use the web to broaden their understanding of the world and gain access to knowledge resources which may be very limited in their home country. These limitations can be caused by economics, politics, or religion. We want to create a website that bridges the gaps for those seeking answers with the truth of the Kingdom of God and training in His ways. Our supporters play an important role in underwriting this work.

We appreciate having you as co-workers. All contributions bear fruit. They do make a difference.

## PRAYER & EVENTS

## CALENDAR

*Please pray for those attending a Transforum that they will experience transformation, and that the students in the schools will study the materials and train to live it daily.*

### JULY

Lille, France:

Transforum: 11-16

Melbourne, Australia:

SLT Intensive: 11-16

### AUGUST

Biel, Switzerland:

BLS: 1-3

SLT: 2-5

Transforum: 4-5

Plymouth, MA:

SLT Intensive: 9-13

### SEPTEMBER

Ajax - Ontario, Canada:

Meetings: 7-10

Kirkland, WA

SLT Intensive 19-23

Marketplace Legacy Conference: 21-24

*THE OBJECT OF BIBLICAL DISCIPLESHIP IS TO PRACTICE THE PRINCIPLES OF GOD'S TRUTH TO THE POINT WHERE THEY BECOME INSTINCTUAL TO OUR REAL LIFE BEHAVIOR.*

DENNIS PEACOCKE

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