

# Emmanuel Living

volume 2, issue 4



## Emmanuel Exists...

to glorify God through the prayerful nurturing and sending of disciplined believers to present Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

## What's Inside:

### Connecting ...

- Global Day of Prayer

### Growing ...

- The Measure of Success

### Serving ...

- Rhinerniners 2010 was the Ultimate!
- Missionary Hi-lights
- Pick Up & Walk

### Multiplying ...

- Children's Ministries
- Partnering Page**

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## The Measure of Success

By David Rafeedie

Success! Don't you just love that word? I do, especially when it is attached to something I have done or am doing. I like being thought of as successful, and even more than that, I like to actually be successful. I think most people like to be successful and actively seek success in life. One famous and successful person, Abraham Lincoln once said, "Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other one thing."

In another church, in another life time, a gentleman, let's call him Bill, sat in my office bemoaning his fate. He didn't understand why everything he put his hand to had seemed to fail. First it was his new job. Bill recounted to me how he had prayed for God's guidance and that he felt "peace" about his decision to change jobs. But the his first week there he realized it was not a good match and now he felt he was in a dead end position with no hope of bettering himself. At first he felt that he was a successful person but now he was not so sure. Is success being in a job you love?

Then there was young Mary (not her real name) who was convinced that God had led her to the man of her dreams. She had a beautiful family and her time and energy were gladly given to managing her home. She felt very fulfilled and successful as a wife

and mother.

While in Dallas recently, I spoke with a pastor of a large church who had doubled in size as soon as their new building was completed. People were streaming in from other churches in the area and they were growing rapidly and struggling organizationally to keep up with the growth. As a result of the tremendous growth he felt that God had blessed his ministry and his church.

Success! We all want to be successful. Life is a lot more fun when we feel we are successful. But what is success? How does one measure success in life?

Some people measure it by how much money they make or how much material stuff they have. In my family of origin that was how we measured success. Money! Our family is very successful that way and when I first when into ministry they didn't get it. "How much does that pay?" they wondered.

Others say that success is measured by advancement in a career, the right title or perhaps fame or receiving a coveted award. Others by how well they do at a given sport, take my golf game—please!

Ministry and church people tend to measure success by how many people attend their church and how their budget ends up at the end of the year.

I remember that in high school I measured

(cont. p.2)

## The Measure of Success *(continued)*

success by how popular I was. I could not use grades as a measure because my grades were terrible.

What about failure? Surely if someone fails it is safe to say that person cannot be successful. Michael Jordan said, *"I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life and that is why I succeed."*

Hmmm, I think I might be able to make it as an NBA player. I am sure I can miss more than that. All kidding aside, if we learn from our failures, the lessons we glean can indeed lead to growth in life. Most great homerun hitters in baseball also have more strike outs than anyone else on the team. So I am not sure we can use failure as a measure to determine success or lack of success.

### How do you measure success in your life?

That is an important question to consider. The fact is what we measure will determine what our priorities will be. What we measure will direct our actions and give direction to our life. For example, if we measure success by money, we will work hard at doing what it takes to find a job that pays well. We will go to university or earn a ticket to a well paying trade. We might take a job that leads to much travel and time away from family for the sake of making a lot of money. In Alberta people went in droves to the oil fields, leaving behind whatever they were pursuing before and sometimes leaving their families behind too. How do you measure success?

### How should a follower of Jesus measure success in life?

Is there really a difference or should there be a difference in how a Christian measures success than the how non-Christians measure it? The answer is yes. The Christian faith sets a standard that is antithetical to all of the measurements mentioned above or any that the broader culture we live in would use.

Jesus, in discussing what the Second Advent would be like, explained what it would take to be successful in that day. What he said should give us direction for our lives today and is probably a radical departure from what we would normally consider a measure of success: *Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.* (Luke 17:33)

Success for the follower of Jesus is ultimately measured by our Lord. It is Jesus who has given us the measure of success that all of his disciples should strive for. As Jesus was explaining the kingdom in the parable of the talents he gave us the ultimate measure of success. We should all strive to hear, *"Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"* (Matthew 25:23)

**Dr. David Rafeedie** is the husband of Ellen, father of Tom and is the Executive Pastor at Emmanuel Evangelical Free Church.



Connecting

Growing

Serving

Multiplying



## The Daae Family in Concert

Place: Here at Emmanuel

Date: April 23rd

Time: 7:00 pm

Cost: \$5 at the door

Sponsored by 2nd Chapter

## Missionary Hi-lights

### April 18<sup>th</sup> – Missions Sunday

#### 9:15 & 11:00 am Worship Services:

Prayer of Dedication for our Romania and Haiti Missions Teams

Missionaries: Mark & Pat Emsheimer with NTM in Brazil

Short term Interview/report: Jason & Shannon with AFCC in Cuba

Speaker: Brian Hamilton, National Director of Ambassadors for Christ Canada

**12:00 Noon:** Fund raiser lunch for our College & Career Short-term Missions Team to Haiti

**7:00 pm:** Meet & Greet in the Chapel with Mark & Pat Emsheimer

Connecting

### A New Missions Project!!

**Support for a Thai Bible School Graduate to go into the Phrao District of Chiang Mai Province to do evangelism and church planting**

We as a missions committee receive the monthly newsletters from EFCCM missionary, Larry Willems in the country of Thailand. In his January newsletter Larry introduced a project regarding support for indigenous leaders who will be leading evangelism and church planting efforts in the Phrao District of Chiang Mai Province. Larry writes this:

Growing

*Did you know that there are still many un-reached sub-districts in Thailand? Will you join with us in reaching one of these sub-districts for Christ? The truth is that there are many missionaries in Chiang Mai but very few are working with church planting among the Thai Buddhists, because they are the slowest in responding to the gospel. That is why I feel I must build a team of Thais who have the burden to do it themselves, and to influence others to do likewise. I am excited about our new outreach in Phrao which was started by our Centre team. It is one hour north of Chiangmai at a small campground type resort run by Faay and her mother. Pray for Faay who believes but is not ready to take a strong stand for Jesus. This area has seven Thai Buddhists un-reached villages and one un-reached tribal Karen village. I have also taken Ploy and Suwat (speaks Karen language) with me to form a friendship with Mr. D (a former headman of the village) and now they want to go there with me every other week. So what is needed to make this vision come true? We need your prayers! We also need support for 2 Bible School students who will graduate on April 10th, and be church planters in Phrao as well as helping our church plant in Nan from time to time. In addition, we need funds for teaching materials and transportation cost to do outreach in these 2 areas. The full-time workers will need \$120 each per month to start with. The transportation and materials will be \$60 per month. Total needed for each month will be \$300.*

Serving

After communicating with Larry in this regard we have made the decision to support one of these Bible School graduates in the amount of \$1800 per year. **Suwat** is from the Karen tribe and speaks the language of one of the villages they are targeting. He has been to Bible School for 2 years, is from a very large poor family of 11 kids and his parents are Christian. He has a desire to eventually be a pastor in a new church. He is quite talented, plays guitar, leads singing, and can preach or teach the Bible. He is 26 years old.

Multiplying

Two years ago our College & Career Missions Team led by Isi Masi spent time with Larry Willems and worked on a new church building in the village of Nan. We thought this connection in Thailand would be a good one for our congregation and something that a few would relate to very well.

We hope to have pictures and a bio of Suwat to share with you in the near future. In the meantime we encourage you to pray for Suwat and Ploy, his partner in ministry. If anyone would like to pick up the remaining \$100 per month support for Ploy they would be very grateful I'm sure. Donations towards this project can be earmarked: Phrao Project Account 2-2777 and sent to: EFCCM, Box 850, Langley Stn. LCDI, Langley, BC, Canada V3A 8S6.

### Pray for our Short Term Missions Teams

**Ukraine: (April 17 – May 3)** Team Leaders – Bruce & Cathy Reimer. Team Members: Russ & Karen Wolgemuth, Gary Geisheimer, Jake Friesen, Ed Wieler, Mike Heppner

**Haiti: (April 30-May 9)** Team Leader – Rachel Giesbrecht. Team Members – Ian Dickey, Bethany Manke, Jen Hildebrand, Elaine Peters, Graham Lowes, Danae Lowes, Dianne Reimer, Christine Hildebrand, Kyle Dyck, Jared Dueck, Courtney Giesbrecht

**Romania: (May)** Team Leaders for both the Tenderfoot and the Work Teams – Dan & Luella Hewson.

**Tenderfoot Team (May 4-17)** – Ruth Koop, Janie & Holly Thiessen, Yvonne Barron, Gwen Olsen, Audrey Neufeld.

**Work Team (May 18-29)** – Eugene Poiron, Mark Toews, Kelsey Penner.

## Connecting & Serving

Connecting

Growing

Serving

Multiplying

**THE GLOBAL**  
Day of  
**Prayer**

13-23 May  
2010

**Pray globally.  
Gather locally.** Pray with many around the clock for ten days, 13-22 May.  
Pray with millions around the world on Pentecost, 23 May.  
For more information see [www.globaldayofprayer.com](http://www.globaldayofprayer.com).

**Prayer Summit**  
**May 13, 7:00 p.m. at Steinbach Bible College**

**PICK UP  
& WALK**

SPONSORED BY THE STEINBACH AREA CHURCHES

### COMMUNITY WIDE CLEAN UP

April 24th, 2010

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

*free lunch to follow*

**TG Smith Arena**

See the Sunday bulletin insert or call the church office for more details and to register

# Rhinerniners 2010 was the Ultimate!

**O**n March 29-31, fifteen grade nine students and three adult leaders blitzed through a task list for the maintenance department at Red Rock Bible Camp. Serving others is a big part of being a Jesus follower and this was a great chance to help out in a practical way. We washed...everything! Mattresses, walls, floors, windows, bathrooms, even pots and pans could not escape our cleaning fury! We also raked leaves, cut down trees, moved skis and bikes, tightened bolts on the climbing wall, checked rope, vacuumed, and organized. We consumed wonderful food and had time at night for ultimate Frisbee, fiddle music, huzzlefunter, devotions and talks about moving from junior high into high school. The RRBC staff are thankful for the groups' dedicated work and I think we all had fun while we served.

**RHINERNINER CREDITS:** [students] Jessica, Gianna, Jenna, Taylor, Chelsea, Carlee, Trenton, Lucas, Tyler, Mitchell, Caleb, Nathaniel, Zach, Gavin, Elliott. [leaders] Angela, Trevor, Kent [drivers] Louis, Ted, Sharron, Len, Kevin, Trevor.



Connecting

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Serving

Multiplying



**Pastor Kent Martens** has been serving as Youth Ministries Pastor here at Emmanuel for 10 years. Kent and his wife Pam live in Steinbach with their kids Mitchell, Kyle, Jadon, and Kelsey.

**Angela Plett** is our Youth Ministries Assistant and is in her second year of serving at Emmanuel. Angela and her husband Brendan were married last summer and now live in Steinbach.



Rhinerniners  
2010



## Children's Ministries - PARTNERING PAGE



### What to Do When Kids Are Annoying

*Connecting*

**D**ealing with annoying behavior is not like disciplining for defiance or teaching a child to follow instructions. When it comes to impulsivity, the child can't always make changes just by choosing something different. In many cases, kids don't realize that they're being annoying and they don't know what to do to be more appropriate.

Furthermore, these patterns often come from habits that have been practiced for a long time. These reasons are not excuses for inappropriate behavior but they're a further indication that the job will take concentrated effort from the child and the parents.

*Growing*

Part of the issue is immaturity; the child hasn't learned how to pick up on the social cues or restrain behavior as much as we'd like. But these children need more than just time to grow up. They need concentrated work to develop two character qualities: self-control and sensitivity. These qualities not only help children when they're young, but they become tools for success as children get older.

Here are some working definitions for sensitivity and self-control to get you started with your children in this area:

**Self-control** is the ability to control myself so that Mom and Dad don't have to.

**Self-control** means to think before I act.

*Serving*

**Self-control** is the ability to talk about problems instead of grabbing, pushing, or hitting.

**Self-control** means that I limit the noises I make when others are around.

**Self-control** means that I focus on one thing until it gets done, before I move to the next.

**Sensitivity** means that when I walk into a room I look and listen before I speak.

**Sensitivity** is thinking about how my actions are affecting other people.

**Sensitivity** means thinking about how I could help someone else.

*Multiplying*

Sign up for more parenting tips at: [www.biblicalparenting.org](http://www.biblicalparenting.org).

This parenting tip comes from Chapter 7 in the book [Good and Angry. Exchanging Frustration for Character In You and Your Kids](#) by Dr. Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller, RN,BSN.

### Prayer Corner

Pray for the Children's Ministry Team as they start to invite individuals to join in with Children's Ministry this fall. Pray that God will lead individuals as they consider how He wants to them to be involved.



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