



Campbellsville Emmaus Newsletter December, 2010

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Greetings Emmaus Family!

Hope you all had a tremendous Thanksgiving Holiday and that you really took some time to recall the many blessing you have and gave thanks to God. We were so blessed and so thankful that in Nov we were able to be a part of a YAC. Those young adults that journeyed on YAC #10 were so blessed by your faithfulness. We are thankful for Mike Richerson and Jessica Farmer who persevered many things throughout their journey as God's chosen leaders for this event. We are confident that the fruits of their service to Him will be long lasting.

Our Emmaus year runs from June 1st until May 31st so we are at the halfway point of our year. As the Emmaus Community turns the page to move to the events coming in the remainder of this year, it's exciting to see how the Lord is calling and using this Emmaus community to reach out to our world. The "change" in the world begins within and then reaches out to our communities and beyond.

Let's take a mid-year review. Are we following as He leads? Are we following our own whims? Have we put so much emphasis on the three-day event that we fail to move on to a closer relationship with Him and to carry out the things that Jesus has called us to do? Do we

remember that the sole purpose of these events is to move us into our Fourth Days/Next Steps with God?

Ways of serving Him go much farther than the three-day events. He wants us serving Him 24/7, not just a couple times each year when we feel like it. The Walks are designed to help us see that He desires a deepened relationship with us all that will result in service and ministry and strengthening of our churches. Our churches are full of opportunities to serve Him. Ask any pastor, and they'll share with you the need for servants in God's church that is a result of a deep desire to be a true disciple of Jesus Christ.

As the calendar year comes to an end and we celebrate the birth of our Savior lets spend some time seeking His will! Jesus calls us to be disciples. His followers are called "*disciples*"; is there enough evidence in your life for you to be labeled a "*disciple*"?

We see people resolving to make changes in their lives as the calendar year comes to an end... taking up plans to do things differently and better in the year ahead. May **we all resolve to become true "Disciples" who** show, without a doubt, whose we are!



May peace and joy be yours this Holiday season.
Thad Prince
Community Lay Director

Preparation And Expectation

Bro Melvin Mills

Greetings to all;

I trust that everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving and you have recuperated from eating all that turkey and fellowshiping with family

and friends and now your focus is turned to Christmas with all the preparation that goes into the holiday. But with all of that, one must consider and observe “Advent”. Its a time in which Christians first started practicing during the 4th century. They viewed it not only as preparation for celebrating Jesus’ birth but also as a time of looking forward to His Second coming. They found hope and cheer in the sure promise of His return.

The gospel of Luke 2:9 describes “*the glory of the Lord*” that shone around the shepherds when the angel announced the Savior’s birth. Luke 21:27 also records Jesus’ promise that He will return “with power and great glory.” These two events frame the purpose for which the Son of God came into the world.

In Latin the word Advent means “coming.” The weeks before Christmas can be a wonderful season of repentance and expectations as we celebrate our Lord’s first advent in Bethlehem and anticipate His second advent when He returns in glory. Christ has come! And Christ is coming again!

Remember... the first time Jesus came to earth humbleness was His story, but He has promised to return with power and glory. My prayer for each and every one you is, when are in preparation with great expectations for the Christmas holiday remember that Jesus Christ is really the reason for the season.

May God Bless each and every one of you



Bro. Melvin Mills
Campbellsville Emmaus Spiritual Director

ACCOUNTABILITY IS NECESSARY

It seems that many people were caught off guard when it was recently announced that we would soon be requiring anyone serving in the conference room to be active in some type of accountability group...whether at church, small home group, or Emmaus reunion group. What is active accountability? This not something that was “dreamed up” to cause hardship in the community or complicate the team selection process...this is a very serious issue which should concern us all and our relationship with the Master. Accountability is one of the most important (although often overlooked) parts of the Emmaus Movement.

Accountability groups can be one of most valuable treasures you will ever gain from the Walk to Emmaus experience. It is a way of maintaining in the life of grace so that those things that were valuable to you during your weekend won't be lost when you return to the world. Many Emmaus Communities measure how successful they are, **not by how many Walks they hold each year**, but by the number of ongoing accountability groups that are active in their community. The result of accountability is strong Christian leadership.

Are you meeting with someone regularly who is holding you accountable to righteous living every day? I think you'll agree that no one can effectively hold him or herself accountable. It just can't be done. We all have a tendency to deceive ourselves. We tend to hold everyone else accountable by his or her *actions*, yet we hold ourselves accountable by our good *intentions*. Many of us have for years intended to lose weight, make things right with someone, or some other worthy cause, but often times we never actually carry it out. Most of the time it takes someone who loves and cares about us to “be real” with us in order to move us into action.

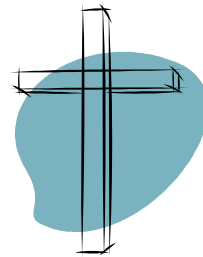
We all want to live as authentic Christians. The dictionary defines *authentic* as “*something that conforms to what it is represented or claimed to be.*” Authenticity means consistency between words and actions, and between claimed values and actual priorities. If we are not

authentic we might claim to be one thing, then prove to be something else.

Accountability should concern us all; both clergy and laity. Do we have a true desire in our community to hold each other accountable or are we so self-sufficient that we feel we have no need to be held accountable to right living? Being held accountable should be a welcomed and joyful opportunity for learning about self and improving oneself.

**The process is simple:

1. **Practice your disciplines**
2. **Be accountable to one another**
3. **Uphold one another in prayer**
4. **Focus on the group reunion card**
5. **Retreat with one another**
6. **Plan your discipleship**
7. **Act as a group in mission**
8. **Be spiritual friends**
9. **Focus on the present, not analysis of the past**
10. **Remember who you are in humility**
11. **Be open but low-key about the group**



***taken from "The Group Reunion", from the Emmaus library*

Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12, *"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: if one falls down, his friend can help him up! But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! Also, if two lie together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."* **Proverbs 12:1**, *"Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge..."*

Emmaus family, I encourage you to please consider and embrace the idea of being held accountable through group reunion. It will serve to strengthen & enrich your journey in your 4th days and make our community a better one.

Thad Prince, Community Lay Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 11 7:00pm Gathering at St. Andrew UMC in Campbellsville
5:00pm Board meeting prior to gathering

2011

<i>Jan 7-9</i>	<i>REC #23</i>	<i>Roger Sharp, LD</i>
<i>Jan 15-17</i>	<i>Girls Chrysalis #22</i>	<i>Bethany Shively, LD</i>
<i>Feb 19-21</i>	<i>Boys Chrysalis #23</i>	<i>Jr. Higdon, LD</i>
<i>April 14-17</i>	<i>Men's Walk</i>	<i>Tommy Corbin, LD</i>
<i>April 28-May 1</i>	<i>Women's Walk</i>	<i>Debbie Bailey, LD</i>
<i>May 12-15</i>	<i>Women's Walk</i>	<i>Dana Rafferty LD</i>