

ONE STONE A TIME

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SPRING 2009

INVESTING YOURSELF INTO THE LIVES OF OTHERS

By Jeff Collins, Program Officer

When I think of great pairs, many things come to mind. Salt and pepper. Brownies and ice cream. A good movie and a cold, rainy night. Certain things just seem like they were made for each other. The same can be said for people at times. Abbot and Costello. Ernie and Bert. Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen. Billy and Ruth Graham.

Hopefully, most of us can think of a person or two in our life who seems like they were made to be with us. They were with us at the right time, at the right place, and for the right reason. Like God made them to go with us, or us with them as the case may be.



Throughout my life I have been blessed to have many people invest their time, their energy, and their very being into helping me grow as a person. People who loved me, listened to me, and provided my life the foundation on which I grew. For me and for many people, parents, grandparents, and other close family members filled these essential roles as

nurturer, teacher, and encourager. Sometimes friends, neighbors, and teachers fill these roles, as well. Whatever the case may be, if you are healthy mentally and emotionally, chances are you had a source of stable relationship in your childhood and adolescence.

In working with young people for the past 14 years, I have become painfully aware of how many kids lack these healthy, positive, and formative relationships. Frequently, this results in a things like: poor self esteem, loneliness, depression, poor academic performance, and other more severe risk taking behaviors.



BENEFITS OF MENTORING

Mentoring works - It's been proven!

According to Public/Private Ventures, mentored students are:

- 46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs
- 27% less likely to begin using alcohol
- 52% less likely to skip school
- 33% less likely to hit someone
- 37% less likely to skip a class
- 40% more likely to finish high school
- 64% developed higher levels of confidence
- 62% more likely to trust their teachers
- 60% improved relationships with adults
- 56% improved relationships with peers

The Nehemiah Foundation recognizes the importance of fostering healthy relationships for youth in our community. The Foundation supports several youth ministries that believe the development of relationships is the foundation upon which ministry takes place. Young Life says it best: "Earning the right to be heard with the Gospel."

In addition to supporting ministries that foster positive relationships, The Foundation also is active in providing mentoring opportunities in Clark County. The Foundation oversees a community based mentoring program that seeks to reduce risk taking behaviors through the development of mentoring relationships. Part of the Safe Schools Healthy Students Initiative, One2One Mentoring seeks to foster positive, consistent, and healthy relationships between a youth in our community and an adult mentors. Drawing from local congregations, mentors invest approximately one hour per week with a young person for the purpose of building relationship in order to promote positive growth in that child.

So as you think about the people who invested in you, think about the possibility of investing in someone else. You may be the right person at the right time for a youth in our community. You may be able to help fill a void that exists in so many young people today just by giving one hour per week. You might even find that the youth helps you grow as well. For more information about becoming a mentor, please contact Jeff Collins at (937) 325-6226.

Faith Builders

By Bruce Grimes, Development Officer

Stone by stone, block by block, month by month, God's kingdom is being built in our community. Individuals making monthly contributions to the Nehemiah Foundation are rebuilding the walls of our city. We know these individuals as "Faith Builders".

These "Faith Builders" build with stones of hope, replacing rubble of hopelessness; they build with stones of encouragement, replacing stones of discouragement; they build with stones of love, replacing stones of hate; they build with stones of faith in a God that honors faithfulness.

One hundred percent of these "Faith Builder's" contributions go directly to the Street Saints (ministry leaders) who are impacting and transforming the lives of the least, the lost, and the last of our community. These Street Saints are the worthy vessels that have been called to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

We invite you to join our "Faith Builders" team by becoming a monthly donor. If you are already a monthly – or quarterly – donor, we ask you to consider increasing your monthly gift. Five, ten, or twenty-five dollars more each month can truly make a difference in reaching even more of the least, the last, and the lost.

2 Corinthians 8:7

But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us — see that you also excel in this grace of giving.

FINANCIAL UPDATE



THE NEHEMIAH FOUNDATION

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Geoffry Canada

The Nehemiah Foundation
 Annual Luncheon

“WHATEVER IT TAKES”

Friday, May 15, 2009

Noon - 1:30 PM
 Courtyard by Marriott

In his 20-plus years with Harlem Children’s Zone, Inc., Geoffry Canada has become nationally recognized for his pioneering work helping children and families in Harlem. His ideas and life’s work are profiled in New York Times reporter Paul Tough’s new book, *Whatever It Takes: Geoffry Canada’s Quest to Change Harlem and America*. He and his work have been profiled in media such as “60 Minutes”, “Nightline”, USA Today and many, many more. We are privileged to collaborate with Safe Schools/Healthy Students to bring Mr. Canada to Springfield.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Call (937) 325-6226 or email events@nehemiahfoundation.net



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Building Clark County as a Community of God



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12TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2009

SPRINGFIELD COUNTRY CLUB

| PLACE | PROGRAM |
|---|--|
| Springfield Country Club | <u>AM Registration - 7:30</u> (Breakfast provided on cart) |
| DATE Monday, August 10, 2009 | AM Shotgun Start - 8:00 |
| FORMAT Best Ball / Scramble | <u>PM Registration &</u> Lunch - Noon |
| COST \$250 per player \$25 discount if paid in full by August 1 st | PM Shotgun Start - 1:00 |
| Includes: 18 holes of golf, cart, buffet dinner, and prizes. | PRIZES & AWARDS 5:30 on the patio Silent Auction Bidding all day |



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