

REDEEMER

R E P O R T

JUNE 2003

REDEEMER NEEDS YOUR HELP...

BY CREGAN COOKE

The more efficiently we administer, the more we can minister to.

What kind of help?
As you might imagine, maintaining the information for approximately 20,000 contacts in our current database is a tremendous undertaking for our staff. Since we recently moved our entire database onto new software, we need your help to insure that your information is up to date.

In the month of June you will receive a letter with instructions on how to update your information either by paper form which you can mail back to us or by going on-line with a User ID/ password to use at www.redeemer.com. You will also be able to choose at that time whether to continue receiving your communication from Redeemer through the US Mail, or to begin receiving the newsletter and other information by e-mail.

Does it make a difference whether I choose on-line or

by paper communication?

YES, by updating on-line and receiving your information the same way, you can help us:

- *redirect thousands of dollars to ministries rather than data input and database maintenance.*
- *reduce annual costs when you sign up to replace your postal mailings with e-mail (significantly reducing costs of printing, postage, and staff hours).*
- *to facilitate better communication with you.*

Does my single mailing really make that much of a difference?

The average savings per person to Redeemer's annual budget for everyone who changes over to receive e-mail of newsletters and other print materials instead of regular posted mail is approximately \$20. So for every 1000 people in our database who change over to e-mail from postal mail, Redeemer

will save \$20,000 annually.

What if I don't have access to the Internet?

If you are not able to update your profile on-line, you can fill out the form (enclosed with your letter) and mail it back to us. We will continue to mail print materials to everyone who wishes to receive them.

All updates must be submitted by August 31, 2003.

If your information is not "updated" by the deadline, your profile will be made inactive in the database and you will not receive future communications, i.e. the Redeemer Report Newsletter, until you update your profile.

If you have any questions upon receiving your letter, you can call the church office. Thank you for your help in improving our communication.

TOWARDS A TRANSFORMATIVE MODEL OF LAWYERING

BY HYUN SIM

Is law your calling?

Redeemer's Marketplace Ministry is a forum within which attorneys and those of other occupations can meet to engage in dialogue related to serving Christ in our professional, as well as our personal, lives. Please join us at 7:00 p.m. on June 5th at the American Bible Society at 1865 Broadway for a short panel discussion of "Is Law Your Calling?" and the launch of the new Redeemer Legal Fellowship.

Lawyers often claim the dubious honor of being the most dissatisfied with their jobs. Attorneys complain about the long hours, constant stress, and their lack of contribution to societal good. We, as Christian attorneys, face additional spiritual uncertainty

as we buy into the contemporary image of lawyers as amoral hired guns.

Today's lawyer both expects and is expected to be a mere employee, obligated to advance the client's wishes and goals at all costs, irrespective of the attorney's own personal values or morals

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YOUNG LIFE IN NEW YORK CITY

BY: CHRIS COCKFIELD

[Editors note: Young Life is a ministry to high school students which is unusually effective at reaching kids. Both Tim and Kathy Keller were active in Young Life as teenagers, and later as leaders. Much of what they know about ministry they credit to their involvement with Young Life.]

Being in ministry ought to...

- *Be so unreachably big that you can only see through the eyes of Christ by faith.*
- *Be harder than you can handle on your own to make you more dependent on God.*
- *Give you enough disappointments to make you humble and break your spiritual pride.*
- *Be difficult enough to make you weep for others that you might become more compassionate.*
- *Have enough demanding, insensitive, ungrateful people in it to teach you to love like Jesus loves.*
- *Have enough impossible, insurmountable obstacles in it to teach you the goodness and power of God.*
- *Teach you how to love when you are tired, give when you are spent, pray when you are weary.*
- *Teach you the power and truth of His word, the strength of His voice, and the might of His commands.*
- *Teach you how to turn your mourning into dancing, your sadness into joy, and your sorrow into laughter.*
- *Teach you to love the only one worthy of all our love— the one who became poor that you might become rich, who died so that you might live.*

- *Help you become more like Jesus Christ and more in love with Him.*

These words describe so accurately what it's been like to be involved in Young Life's ministry to teenagers here in New York City. Young Life staff and volunteers have the great privilege of being adults who unconditionally love non-Christian kids in New York City in creative and powerful ways. We have the privilege of being real friends with teenagers. We build friendships by playing pick-up basketball with kids on the neighborhood courts, providing an after school drama program in a public school and tutoring English as a Second Language one evening a week. Everything we do is designed to build solid relationships with kids and earn the right to share the love of Jesus with them.

Hope For New York volunteer leader Renee Houser says, "As a Young Life volunteer I am part of a fun, spirit filled fellowship of believers joined in our passion for Christ and our passion for kids. We pray together, worship together, laugh together, and love kids together. My life is blessed by loving kids and by being loved by them, and by the fellowship we have among our team."

Young Life volunteers are friends with all kinds of kids:

"Josh" is 16 and attends one of the best public high schools in the city, if not the country. He scored a 1450 on his SAT and hopes to attend an Ivy League university on scholarship. He is involved in lots of extra-

curricular activities and sports and his family has high expectations for his future. Josh is articulate and outgoing and mature but feels the pressure to be perfect in all areas of his life. Josh needs to be loved unconditionally by an adult who appreciates him as a 16 year old boy who really is just a kid. Josh needs to know that Jesus loves him for who he is and not for what he does.

"Maria" is 15 years old and lives in a tough neighborhood in East Harlem. She attends a special public middle school for kids with discipline problems. This "bridge program" school is her last stop before being kicked out of New York City schools altogether. Both of Maria's parents are dead and she lives with her grandmother and uncle. Her teachers describe her as volatile. The Young Life leader who is coaching her in a drama class describes her as angry yet talented, intuitive and compassionate for the underdog. Maria needs to be loved unconditionally by an adult who sees her potential and is willing to walk alongside her as she grows up. Maria needs to know that Jesus loves her in the midst of her circumstances.

"Natalia" is 17 and moved with her family from Poland to New York City last summer. She didn't speak any English when she arrived and attends a special high school in Manhattan for recent immigrants. There she is learning English and American culture and math and computers alongside 500 other kids from all over the world. She feels a bit lost and overwhelmed in her new city and clings to her

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REDEEMER REPORT

Kathy Keller
Rebecca Lock
Fred Liedtke

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HUNTER COLLEGE AUDITORIUM
East 69TH (Between Park & Lexington)
services at 9:30AM • 11:15AM • 6:00PM

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Corner of West 79TH and Broadway
service at 7:00PM

TOWARDS A TRANSFORMATIVE MODEL OF LAWYERING

(continued from page 1)

(*The Lawyer's Calling: Christian Faith and Legal Practice*, Joseph Alligretti). *The American Bar Association's Model Codes of Professional Responsibility and Conduct* claim to correct many of the ethical abuses inherent in the modern legal system by emphasizing the loyal and zealous representation of the client by the attorney, but little else.

Under these guidelines, the lawyer has been pigeonholed into being a neutral partisan by ignoring his own moral values for the sake of advancing the client's objectives, limited only by the law itself. Is it possible to stop compartmentalizing our lives by divorcing our work and spiritual spheres? To combat the disillusionment of many lawyers with their profession, can we reconcile our work lives with our religious beliefs and think of our profession as a vocation, or religious calling from God?

This transformative model can be manifested in lawyers' balancing the zealous representation of clients with their obligations to third parties and the legal system as a whole. Under this model, lawyers would serve as counselors and healers to encourage their clients to seek reconciliation and mediation, minister to clients to

encourage moral reflection when pursuing questionable tactics, advocate for the poor and needy, and resort to litigation as a last resort. In direct opposition to the *Model Codes*, Alligetti challenges lawyers to say "no" to clients rather than abandon their own moral values and to refrain from tactics that are ethically ambiguous or distort the search for truth, both for their own and their client's sake.

Tim Keller's recent sermon series on Luke addresses this struggle of striving to live out one's Christian values in the temporal world. In his sermons depicting "inside-out," "upside-down," and "forward-back" living, Dr. Keller illustrates the Gospel of Luke's exhortations to "be dressed for service and keep your lamps burning" by living radically different lives devoid of secular definitions of wealth, success, and worthiness.

The workplace is no exception. Luke's depiction of the master's waiting on the servants at the table reminds us that we, in turn, are expected to live our lives embracing the radically transformative truths of the gospel. As Christians and as attorneys, the Book of Luke calls us to be humble in our dealings with others, to use no unfair leverage against them, and to always seek to

serve others. How can we reconcile these Gospel truths with our professional code's emphasis on maximizing every advantage and leverage that our client holds against the other party, whether in the courtroom or during corporate transactions?

As the Gospel demonstrates, we, as Christian lawyers cannot continue to ignore our scriptural responsibilities in carrying out our duties as legal professionals. It is through adopting this transformative model in the workplace that attorneys can hope to reform our individual spiritual lives, our profession, and ultimately, our world.

DONT FORGET:

Redeemer Financial Services Ministry

Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on June 6 at the American Bible Society
1865 Broadway

Tim Keller will be speaking
Contact Jonathan Moore at redeemerfinance@yahoo.com
or call (212) 288-1974
Or Katherine Leary at kleary@redeemer.com
(212) 808-4460 ext.132

PHILOSOPHY AND STEWARDSHIP

We have all heard the philosophical question – "If a tree falls in a forest, and no one is around, does it make a sound?" The NYC Summertime equivalent is – "If you are out of town on the weekends, does Redeemer continue to minister?"

As the months of June, July and August approach, many of our regular attendees and members take well-deserved vacations out of New York. This is a friendly reminder that even though you might be out of town more during the summer, the ministries and programs of Redeemer continue. For example, getaways, fellowship groups, counseling appointments, and preparation for the upcoming morning West Side service are all on the summer agenda for our staff.

To that end, please remember to financially support Redeemer during the summer months. Our weekly obligations in the three months of June – August are approximately \$80,000 **per week**. You can mail in your checks and contributions to our office at:

Redeemer Presbyterian Church – 271 Madison Avenue, Suite 1600 – New York, NY 10016
Attn: Stewardship

(You can also contact David Bisgrove at david@redeemer.com if you have additional questions.)



YOUNG LIFE IN NEW YORK CITY

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family and native culture that flourishes in her Brooklyn neighborhood. She doesn't really know yet what the future will bring, but she is eager and excited to learn and assimilate into this new culture. Natalia needs to be loved unconditionally by an adult who can provide stability and guide her as she figures out who she really is and wants to become. Natalia needs to know that Jesus loves her when all around her is

confusion and that He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

Loving these kids isn't always easy. True relationships take time and sacrifice. Our pride has been broken by their sometimes unkind words and actions and our hearts have been broken by their stories, which help us understand their behavior. Most importantly, though, our faith has been increased as we catch glimpses of them in their full

potential – precious sons and daughters created in the image of Christ.

For more information about how to volunteer with Young Life, or any of Hope for New York's 30 affiliates, please go to www.hfny.org or call the Volunteer Manager at 212-808-4460 x114.

A THANK YOU FROM HOPE FOR NEW YORK

The board of directors and staff of Hope for New York would like to thank you for the generous response to this year's Easter Sacrificial Offering.

The funds collected will be distributed in June to our affiliates. These affiliates are committed to reaching men, women and children throughout New York City who are suffering from a variety of difficult circumstances. Each affiliate approaches the individual's need from a holistic perspective - reaching mind, body and spirit.

To learn more about the organizations we support, or to review a calendar of volunteer opportunities, please go to www.hfny.org.

Thank you.

Michael O'Neill

Executive Director – Hope For New York

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