

# REDEEMER

R E P O R T

AUGUST 2003

## GOSPEL & LIFE DISCIPLESHIP SERIES TO START THIS FALL

*We want to develop and equip individuals for distinctive leadership.*

Whenever someone asks, “How can I be discipled?” I urge them to get involved in a Fellowship Group. “Discipleship happens in community,” I tell them. We grow as we interact with the gospel in the context of our ordinary relationships in the Body of Christ. Fellowship Groups are the primary way in which we seek to build community at Redeemer. And while we have developed curriculum for use in Fellowship Groups and various other training materials, we have never been systematic about dis-

cipleship or leadership development. We have assumed that if you remained in the Redeemer community long enough, and participated in a Fellowship Group, you would get what you needed. We still believe this is largely the case, but we also believe its time to adopt a more systematic approach to discipleship.

Sometimes when people ask about discipleship or leadership development they are thinking narrowly about the “spiritual” life alone or about particular leadership needs within various

BY TUCK BARTHOLOMEW

ministries in the church community. As we have thought about these subjects we have tried to think a little more broadly. Discipleship has to do with the full-range of life in God’s world; there is no aspect of our lives that Jesus isn’t interested in. And in addition to equipping people for leadership within the church community, we want to develop and equip individuals for distinctive leadership as Christians in our society. So over the last year we’ve worked on a comprehensive plan for basic

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## KIDS WITH A PROMISE

*WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE REALLY NEED ON A DAILY BASIS ARE SAFE PLACES, CHALLENGING EXPERIENCES & CARING PEOPLE*

When a group of experts in the field of child development were asked to describe what young people need, their response was surprisingly simple: “What young people really need on a daily basis are safe places, challenging experiences and caring people”.

That’s exactly what **Kids With a Promise** has been offering to children from New York City’s most at-risk communities since 1894. We challenge young people to dream and equip them with the tools to develop the confidence, competence and character to achieve those dreams — preparing them for a world of opportunity

they might otherwise never know.

For 110 summers, our Mont Lawn Camp – located in the beautiful Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania – has been a special place where young people can enjoy a respite from the challenging economic, educational and spiritual circumstances that threaten to rob them of hope and opportunity. It’s a place where hundreds of kids every summer experience the peace and serenity of God’s Creation in ways that open their hearts to receiving the message of His Love. Countless children tell us that they love Mont Lawn Camp because the counselors

BY: JAMES WOODY

really care about them.

In addition to Mont Lawn Camp, Kids With a Promise operates after school and day camp programs that offer educational enrichment, homework assistance and Christian character development – in space provided by generous church partners around the City.

While most **Kids With a Promise** programs are aimed at elementary school-aged children, this fall we are looking forward to launching a one-on-one mentoring program primarily for young people who have become too old to continue their participation in our camp or after-school programs.

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# LEADERS OF CHANGE

BY KATHERINE LEARY

*Develop and nurture gospel-transformed leaders*

Many years of my business career were spent looking for and developing leaders – creating management teams that could grasp (and add to) the vision of what we were trying to accomplish and execute on our agreed-upon plans. I often bemoaned the shortage of leaders and management talent. There seemed to be so few “practice fields” for potential leaders – places they could learn and grow. I wished there were something like the church’s small group structure where people could learn how to listen, facilitate, and lead humbly in groups of 5-15 before moving into larger roles. In that, I now realize, was the germ of a good idea.

The church – our church – can develop leaders for business, all professions, and our culture at large. In fact, inherent in Redeemer’s earliest vision of being a church for the city of New York has been the requirement to develop and nurture gospel-transformed leaders who can impact our culture. What if the leadership development opportunities within our Redeemer community could become a world-class training ground for leaders in all aspects of modern life?

*“We are not only a ministry for ourselves but also for the peace and benefit of the entire city. The goal of our ministry is not just to create a great church but to build a great city.”*

*(Redeemer Annual Report, 2002)*

The kind of leader I envision is one that grasps a future that stems from an understanding of God’s plan for creation and re-creation in Christ. He develops a moral standard for his conduct based on the moral excellence of God. Yet, at the same time, he knows fully his inability to live up to that standard and his need for God’s grace. He develops a character of integrity and trustworthiness that holds up in crisis. And on top of that, he must know his craft and command respect for his work from others in his field. Becoming that kind of person and leader is a lifetime pursuit.

Redeemer is far from providing a world-class training ground, but we’ve made a start. Beginning this fall, you can participate in the Gospel & Life conferences for an immersion course in how the good news of Christ transforms our entire way of thinking about life. You can lead or join a fellowship group – our laboratories for experimenting with living the Christian life.

Redeemer’s Center for Faith and Work (formerly Marketplace Ministries) also offers a number of leadership development opportunities. Leadership 101 will be offered again as a Sunday SOCC class. This 5 week class is led each week by different leaders in different professions, with a focus on integrating their Christian identities with their

leadership roles. There are also opportunities to serve as leaders and practice leadership skills in a Christian context. We will be expanding and solidifying the leadership teams of the vocation-based groups already launched: the Writers Group, Educators Fellowship Group, Financial Services Group, and Legal Professionals Group. In addition, we are looking for entrepreneurial leaders to start new vocation-based groups. The Center for Faith and Work (CFW) will provide coaching and strategy support for these leadership teams.

We want to take the solid grounding of good theory (the theology) we receive through the teaching of the church and work it into the whole of our lives through, discussion groups, friendships, role models, opportunities to serve as leaders, and feedback – all foundational to growing as leaders. We desire to grow leaders of character who will strengthen our businesses, professions, and city.

Marketplace Ministries has been renamed Redeemer’s Center for Faith & Work – a name that encompasses more professions than those traditionally associated with the “marketplace.” For more information or to volunteer as a teacher or vocation-based group leader, please email Katherine Leary at [kleary@redeemer.com](mailto:kleary@redeemer.com).

The Center is also seeking volunteers to help with the design of brochures and communications materials.

**Editors note:** The June Redeemer Report contained an article titled: Young Life in New York City. In crediting Chris Cockfield for this article, it should have been noted that the first part of the article that starts “Being in ministry ought to...” was received in an email by the author from another Young Life staff person who received it from an unknown source.

## REDEEMER REPORT

Kathy Keller  
Rebecca Lock  
Fred Liedtke

The Redeemer Report is a publication of the Redeemer Presbyterian Church.  
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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

# GOSPEL & LIFE DISCIPLESHIP SERIES TO START THIS FALL

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discipleship and leadership development. This plan will be implemented over the next few years. In September, we will introduce the first stage of this plan, "The Gospel & Life Discipleship Series." This is a year-long intensive discipleship plan that consists of weekend

conferences, fellowship group curriculum and classes.

We have not abandoned our conviction that discipleship is wed to community, or our commitment to Fellowship Groups as the context for discipleship. We remain committed to a teaching system that places discipleship and lead-

ership development within community, not primarily in the acquisition of information through classes and seminars. The Discipleship series will, however, add needed scope and sequence to the content being talked about and practiced in our community.

## THE GOSPEL & LIFE DISCIPLESHIP SERIES

*Three weekend conferences, Gospel & the Heart, Gospel & the World, and Gospel & Community, will be offered during 2003-2004.*

These conferences will take place in the city and will lead participants to consider the implications of the gospel personally, communally and missionally. The first conference is not a prerequisite for the other two. We have also developed Gospel Christianity, a series of three 10 week studies for use by Fellowship Groups as a follow-up to the conferences.

In addition to the conferences and Gospel Christianity studies, core classes in Theology, Ethics, World & Life View, Bible Overview, and Christian Living will be offered through the School of Christian Community. The discipleship series is designed so that you can complete it within a year, but the content of the conferences, group material and classes can be worked through over a longer period of time as well. Who should participate? We are encouraging all of our current leaders to participate in the conferences. We also encourage anyone who is new to the Redeemer community to consider being a part of the weekend conferences and then joining a Fellowship Group that is working through the new curriculum.

### Contact and Registration information:

**Conference Registration:** online at [www.Redeemer.com](http://www.Redeemer.com) or if you have other questions contact Kari Jo Cates, [karijo@redeemer.com](mailto:karijo@redeemer.com)

**Fellowship Group Curriculum:** Kari Jo Cates, [karijo@redeemer.com](mailto:karijo@redeemer.com)

**Discipleship & Leadership Development:** Tuck Bartholomew, [tuck@redeemer.com](mailto:tuck@redeemer.com)

**School of Christian Community:** John Lin, [johnlin@redeemer.com](mailto:johnlin@redeemer.com)

### 2003-2004 Gospel & Life Conference Schedule:

#### *Gospel & the Heart – September 12-13, 2003*

The Gospel & the Heart conference focuses on the nature and use of the gospel in our lives. Tim Keller will lead plenary sessions on: What is the Gospel? How Does the Gospel Change Us? and The Two Prodigals. Seminar topics include: What is a Christian? What is the Kingdom of God? and What are the Spiritual Disciplines?

#### *Gospel & the World – January 9-10, 2004*

The Gospel & the World conference focuses on the missional calling of the Christian to engage the life of the world with the gospel of Christ. Tim Keller will lead plenary sessions on: The Gospel & the City; Belonging to a Missional Church; and Cultural Renewal. Seminar topics include: Sharing Your Faith; Holistic Ministry; and The Gospel and Work.

#### *Gospel & Community – April 2-3, 2004*

The Gospel & Community conference focuses on the implication of the gospel for Christian community. Tim Keller will lead plenary sessions on: Vision for the New Community; Building a New Community; and The Lordship of Jesus Christ. Seminar topics include: Sex & Singleness; Wealth and Possessions; and Justice and Power.

## DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR CYCLING OR RUNNING ... AND GOD'S BURDEN TO HELP OTHERS?

**Hope for New York (Redeemer's Mercy Ministry) will be sponsoring two sports events this fall in an effort to raise funds to support mercy and justice ministry in New York City.**

***The first event, the 2nd Annual Charity Bike Ride will take place on August 23rd.***

Cyclists will participate in a 1-day ride in New York for HFNY and the Lustgarten Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research. HFNY will provide tee shirts and a pasta dinner! Interested?

**Contact: Suzy Ulrich [suzyulrich@yahoo.com](mailto:suzyulrich@yahoo.com)**

***The second event, the 34th New York City Marathon, will take place on Sunday, November 2.*** If you have been accepted to run in the Marathon, why not train with other Redeemer members and friends and turn the event into a fundraiser? HFNY will provide tee shirts and a pasta dinner! Interested?

**Contact: Ross Barrett [Ross@vcecapital.com](mailto:Ross@vcecapital.com)**

**Please contact Tracea Routie ([Tracea@faithmail.com](mailto:Tracea@faithmail.com)) if you are willing to donate time, funds or resources to support the cyclists and runners.**

## "WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE"

**If you're new to New York City, or new to Redeemer and in the financial services profession, please consider attending this reception.**

***For all incoming associates or analysts in the financial services professions.***

Redeemer's Financial Services group wants to welcome you with this reception and panel discussion.

September 7th, 11:30am to 1:00pm, to be held in Redeemer West.

For more information, please contact: [redemerfinance@yahoo.com](mailto:redemerfinance@yahoo.com)

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY, BUT DON'T KNOW HOW?

**Hope for New York, Redeemer's Mercy Ministry, sends out an email at the end of each month with information about volunteer opportunities.**

**This brief email contains:**

Special one-time events for the coming month – Opportunities for groups – New Opportunities – Special needs

**To sign up for this monthly email, go to [monthlyupdate@hfny.org](mailto:monthlyupdate@hfny.org)**

For more information about HFNY, to make a tax-deductible donation, or to view a calendar with the complete list of volunteer opportunities, please go to [www.hfny.org](http://www.hfny.org)

BY: JOHN LIN

Over the next few months, there will be a noticeable overhaul of Redeemer's adult education ministry (School Of Christian Community). With the opening of a new West Side morning site, along with the launching of a new year-long Discipleship program, the coming year will present Redeemer with some interesting new challenges and opportunities in the arena of education. Though the new face and initiatives of our adult education are still under development, here are some things you can hope to see beginning in the fall.

**Increased community.** Our intent is that classes will become increasingly interactive, and that a community of learning will be developed around Sunday adult education.

**New classes.** In addition to the core, "Gospel Foundations" curriculum that will be a part of the Discipleship program, there are several new "elective" classes currently under development. Likewise, many of the classes that have been taught before will undergo an overhaul. We are planning for the new classes to explore the various macro-themes Redeemer is built on. So for

instance, in exploring the theme of cultural renewal, there are classes under development that will explore topics such as the gospel in modern film or music.

**Different class formats.** Some classes may begin using resources such as video and testimonies as educational tools. In the future, we may even see online classroom resources available for building a learning community at Redeemer.

Please be in prayer both for the upcoming changes and for your participation in Redeemer's educational ministries. Stay tuned to [redeemer.com](http://redeemer.com) to see our new face in the fall!

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## KIDS WITH A PROMISE CONT. FROM PAGE 1

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"Antonio", for example, has been participating in **Kids With a Promise** after school, day camp and summer camp since he was 7. He lives with his mother and two aunts in a modest one-bedroom apartment in the Bronx. A bright student, like many young men in the City, Antonio has far more potential than he's yet realized. Now 14, and no longer eligible to attend our after-school program as a participant, he volunteers in the afternoons to stay connected to relationships that have become

vitaly important to him over the years. A formal relationship with a caring adult mentor will help insure that Antonio and others like him won't be lost to the temptations of the streets before they have an opportunity to experience their considerable potential.

**Kids With a Promise** is looking for volunteer mentors — adults who are willing to share themselves with a young person on a consistent basis for at least one year. There are no special quali-

fications — they can be business people or college students, skilled laborers or retirees. The main requirement is a love for Christ and a willingness to be used by Him as an agent for change.

We'll be hosting an orientation for prospective mentors in early September. If you're interested in helping New York City young people fulfill their promise,

**contact James Woody at (212) 684-2800 extension 150, or [jwoody@chaonline.org](mailto:jwoody@chaonline.org).**

### Editors note:

**Kids With a Promise** is an affiliate of Redeemer's mercy ministry, Hope for New York.

This year, utilizing money from the Easter Sacrificial Offering, HFNY has provided a grant to Kids With a Promise to help make this new mentoring program possible. Kids With a Promise has been a popular volunteer opportunity and we trust many will want to participate in this latest project.

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## EAST SIDE EVENING SERVICE TIME CHANGE

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**Beginning on September 7th, the East Side PM service, located at the Hunter College Auditorium, is changing its start time from 6:00PM to 5:45PM.**

Please make a note of this change. No other service times will be effected. For more information about all of Redeemer's Sunday worship service times and locations, visit [www.redeemer.com](http://www.redeemer.com)