

Front Line Ministries

FLM

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From Bill

SERVING THOSE ON THE FRONT LINES OF MINISTRY

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Whether here in the U.S. or across the world, we Christians have a tremendous challenge laid before us. Jesus said, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation." (Mark 16:15)

Challenges to preaching the good news are many. Satan is continually targeting Christians to discourage us in our walk with Christ so that we become more focused on meeting our own needs than on meeting the needs (physical and spiritual) of the lost among us.

Staying focused on reaching out to others in the name of Christ is made easier when we see what the rewards of our labor will be. A terrific picture of these rewards is painted in Rev. 21:3-5: *And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with man, and He will live with them. They will be His people and God Himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new..."*

Thank you for reaching out around the world with and through Front Line Ministries. This past Spring you have been a part of building up the body of Christ in 15 different countries! Our prayer is that God will richly bless you as your reward for rising to the challenge of keeping Him first in your life. *flm* **Bill Wakefield**

Not So Far Away

Botswana, Mozambique, Kenya, Nigeria— just names of far away locations in the continent of Africa. That is, until I was afforded the privilege of speaking to the African membership of the Association of Christian Schools International. The ACSI conference in Nairobi, Kenya, (April 25-29) drew Christian school leaders from diverse parts of the continent for a four-day conference addressing both their educational and relational needs. Most of the participants were principals, administrator, directors and head teachers in English-based international schools. Their staffs are comprised of missionaries committed to meeting the educational needs of other missionaries. By providing for the educational needs of these families, they address one of the greatest concerns for parents serving in foreign fields. Among the attendees were also administrators from more traditional Christian schools providing Christian education to the national believers.

My part was to present 10 hours of instruction on leading effective teams. The other speaker focused on educational topics. However, as the token non-educator with a background in counseling and theology, I was there to provide foundational material dealing with relationships and the characteristics of effective teams and team leaders. The material was divided into three sections. The first provided a theological and relational foundation for team building; the second provided insight into the necessarily diversity within a productive team. This was done through the use of the Myers Briggs Type Indicator. The third section addressed the characteristics of great teams and team leaders. The times of instruction led to wonderfully intense and productive discussions on the implementation of these principles in an educational setting.

By their written responses and expressions of appreciation, the impact of the conference was evident. Each of the response cards spoke of useful material and thought-provoking challenges that resulted from the times of instruction and discussion.

As a result of my time in Africa, those exotic names are no longer simply colored sections on a world map; they are places that God has allowed the ministry of Front Line to impact. Through your prayers and financial resources, these Christian school leaders were encouraged and uplifted in their work and were provided tools to enhance their ministries. They returned to their perspective countries refreshed and renewed in their work of educating the next generation of Christian leaders. *flm* **Keith Boyer**

What They Said...

(comments from attendees at the ACSI Nairobi conference)

Thank you for sharing and teaching. I appreciated your thoughtfulness and thoroughness.

Excellent job of explaining the need for community in many areas. I appreciated your illustrations.

*Thanks for:
the challenges
the information
the close Biblical tie-ins.
Keep on doing this--we need it!*

Thank you for speaking on a topic that was/is so pertinent for my colleagues and me! It was interesting. Having a biblical foundation first was good.

As I begin my responsibility as an Administrator, I find your information and Biblical basis of team building VERY helpful. Much to think about and do.

*It has been:
most interesting,
thought provoking,
challenging,
eye opening.*

The lectures succeeded in allowing me to understand how to be a better team leader both in school and in the church. Congrats on a great work done. Thanks a lot! flm

Please be in prayer for:

God's continued guidance for Front Line Ministries—specifically directing FLM to missions organizations that would partner with us long-term to build the ministries of missionaries better impact the world for Christ.

flm

*From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.
Ephesians 4:16*

Letter of “Thanks”

from Jennifer Lipp, Headmaster, Bucharest Christian School, Bucharest, Romania, who attended the ACSI conference in Switzerland.

Sometimes comments from conference attendees will give a much better picture of how the Lord is using Front Line Ministries in the world than our words can...

Thank you for coming to minister to us this weekend (in Switzerland). Thank you for pointing us to Ephesians 1-2, for not being afraid to delve into relationship “stuff”, for checking our homework☺, and for giving us practical tools we could apply beginning today – and take back to our staff.

Thank you too for your understanding of singleness. I'm thanking God for the gift He gave us, in allowing you to remain single into your early 30's, so that you truly do know what we're experiencing in terms of aloneness. I've been to countless seminars & workshops, this was the first that was naturally and sensitively applied to me as a single though it could easily have been geared only to couples. Thank you for valuing who and where we are in life, and for being willing to discuss some of our unique challenges. I'm sure you'll never know what an encouragement that was to us!

Finally, thank you for the clear words on male and female roles. For a long time I've wondered if there was something “wrong” with me because I relate so much more easily to the males in leadership in my world, than to their wives. I think now it's because of the “male” role I play in my professional life...and see that I need to intentionally cultivate that “female” side outside the office! Thanks for bringing a little sense to this quandary☺

May God continue to bless, strengthen, protect, guide, and speak to, in, and through you! flm