



## IT'S CLEANING TIME

by Wenton A. Fyne

One of the common philosophies of goal oriented people is a single-mindedness that allows them to focus on their priority. American poet Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote in the *Secret of Life*, "Focus is the secret of strength in politics, in work, in sports, in trade, in all of human affairs."

**While so many people squander their God-given ability, successful people learn to focus and concentrate on their life's mission and purpose.**

So what do we need to clean out now that spring is on its way? What are the things that clutter our lives? Here's some of the clutter that writer John C. Maxwell says must be paid attention to:

1. **Emotional clutter:** This is the relational baggage that can accumulate when we don't forgive those who have wronged us. When we hold a grudge or when we carry a chip on our shoulder because of a grievance long past. The price of holding onto emotional clutter is too high, not only will it steal emotional and physical energy, but it has serious emotional and spiritual consequences as well.
2. **Administrative clutter:** After pastoring for 27 years I have discovered that it is very important to develop a system that will help me deal with the multiple deadlines of tasks and projects. The older I get, the more complicated this becomes. More meetings, more paper work, more sermon preparations, more conferences, and more boards to sit on. I have learned to organize so as not to waste precious time looking around for things that are needed to complete a task. I have discovered that there is nothing magical about systems, one just has to find one that works. An organized pastor will be productive and effective. If he or she gets organized before Saturday night, Sunday will be less stressful.
3. **Calendar clutter:** We live in a very busy world. Everything seems to be moving so fast that it's almost impossible to keep up. I have a daily calendar on my desk, one on my blackberry, and one on the computer. All three call for my time and often conflict with each other. It's so hard sometimes to pay attention to all of the activities on the calendar and keep focus, but I'm doing my best to avoid unnecessary clutter.

So remember, my fellow pastors, mastering the basic principles of time management is very important. We must prioritize our time and work and spend our best effort on the projects that will yield the most and best results. We need to ask ourselves

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if what we are doing needs to be done at all, or could some things be done by others or through our influence without our personal involvement.

We also need to step back and ask ourselves the question, "Am I giving a couple of hours a week to something that has no payoff whatsoever, and if so, could those hours be used to concentrate on my priorities instead?"

If we practice living clutter free we will develop a clearer focus and we'll have fewer anxieties. We'll become more productive and we'll receive the freedom to better concentrate on our purpose and mission in this life.



— Wenton A. Fyne, Senior Pastor  
Beulah Church of the Nazarene  
Brooklyn, New York



For more on clearing away clutter . . .  
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**THE LAMB'S MANHATTAN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK  
GABRIEL A. SALGUERO, SENIOR PASTOR

The word "globalization" has been a topic that has generated an immense amount of interest. Churches all over the world are talking about the Global Church. Over two millennia ago our Lord challenged us to go into the entire world and preach the gospel. Today going into the all world seems faster and easier than ever due to massive global immigration, the world-wide web, and people being just a "click" away.

Yet, the challenge I face in living the Great Commission in the twenty-first century is remembering the world that is just across the street. No doubt, international service work is very important, but as I sit at my computer in Times Square the temptation is to forget that just a few blocks away is Hell's Kitchen—a neighborhood that is in need of the hope of the Gospel. And at the same time there are over 1 million people under the age of 30 on *Myspace* or watching *YouTube* daily. I'm simultaneously encouraged and overwhelmed at the opportunity that this new global society affords us as servants of Christ.

Recently, I met a young woman who was a first-time visitor to church. I asked her where she was from and how she found our church. She said, "Pastor, I found you by browsing on the internet. And now I'm sending others to your church website." She reminded me that as pastors and global Christians entering a new time in history, we need to continually seek God's wisdom and grace to discover how to use these global tools for the benefit of the Kingdom.

Overall, I've learned several things about globalization. First, I need to remember that God is the God of all nations and He works in new ways and through new things. Second, every encounter is a global one, every person, as we say in Spanish, "Es su propio mundo (Is their own world)." And finally, *Maranatha*—the Kingdom is continually advancing. The day is near when we, like John, will see people from every tribe, nation, race, and language worshipping before the throne and the Lamb.

In a church near where I grew up there was a sign on the inside doors that we'd read as we exited the service that said, "You Are Now Entering The Mission Field." We should all make this our mantra.

For more resources on evangelism . . .  
*Each One Win One*  
COZZ978-0-8341-2239-0 \$29.99



# How's that Wor in' for ya?



**FAMILY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**  
TULSA, OKLAHOMA  
BRETT RICKEY, SENIOR PASTOR

**WHAT:** *Celebrate Recovery*

**WHY:** After spending a year as a new start pastor, I was overwhelmed by the great amount of personal baggage people were bringing to the feet of Jesus. They were being saved and learning how to be set free, but they needed more than Sunday mornings to keep them accountable. God showed us that we needed a system to show them how to embrace this new way of life.

**HOW:** We decided to use Saddleback's "how to" kit to start our own Celebrate Recovery ministry. While searching for a leader, I received a call from a recovering cocaine addict who had become a Christian. He said he'd had a revelation that morning during prayer and believed he was supposed to help people like him. He wanted to tell everyone about this new freedom in Christ. It was evident that God was working toward building this new ministry.

**RESULT:** Our goal was to have at least one Celebrate Recovery service every night of the week at various churches throughout the Tulsa area—today there are 11. We reach around 160 people every Saturday night with worship, food, and the ministry of recovery. We're also able to bus people in from 12 and 12, a court ordered rehab facility, and another group from a local minimum security prison. Here they meet their families and worship together, and when they are released from their program or sentence, they have a new church family who will welcome them.

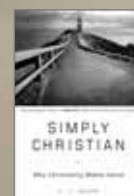
This has by far been our most successful ongoing outreach event and the lives of people in our community are being transformed by His grace.

(For more information about this ministry, visit [www.familychurch.tv](http://www.familychurch.tv) or call Pastor Brett Rickey at (918)369-4250.)

Improving Your



## Spiritual Growth



**Simply Christian**  
*Why Christianity Makes Sense*  
N. T. Wright  
COZZ978-0-0605-0715-2  
\$22.95, Harper Collins, 2006  
This book makes the case for the Christian faith without the assumption that the reader has any background of religion, especially Christianity. It is a simple, yet scholarly, yet practical reference to often for teaching.

### CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Dear Brother Eli, I have been out of town on vacation, and I would have sent you my tithe, but I already sealed the envelope."

## A Way with Words. . .

Let a man set his heart only on doing the will of God and he is instantly free. If we understand our first and sole duty consists of loving God supremely and loving everyone, even our enemies, for God's dear sake, then we can enjoy spiritual tranquility under every circumstance.

—A. W. Tozer, *The Pursuit of God*

## Corny Pastor Joke

YOU MIGHT BE A PREACHER IF...

- You find yourself counting people at a sporting event.
- Running red lights in a funeral procession makes you feel important.
- You've secretly wanted the worship team to drench you with Gatorade after a particularly good sermon.

—Excerpted from *The Best of You Might Be a Preacher If...*, Stan Toler & Mark Hollingsworth, Vibrant, 2002

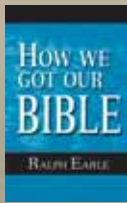
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### Rendezvous

*A Sacred Encounter with God*  
Frank Moore  
COZZ978-0-8341-2297-0  
\$9.99, Beacon Hill Press, 2007

Spiritual growth occurs when we spend everyday moments with God. *Rendezvous* encourages us to begin to encounter God throughout our day—not just during daily devotions. It strives to reawaken our understanding of spiritual practices as extensions of our love for God and not simply something to check off a ‘to do’ list. This book is the foundation of the *Rendezvous Church Campaign* which will help your people look at spiritual disciplines in a whole new way and turn spiritual routine into romance.



### How We Got Our Bible

Ralph Earle  
COZZ978-0-8341-0226-2  
\$12.99, Beacon Hill Press, 1971

This best seller continues to help pastors, Sunday School teachers, small-group leaders, and the curious better understand where the Bible came from and how its truth has been preserved and translated through time. Ralph Earle's insights are timeless for both new and growing believers and provide great material for sermons and small-group studies.



### Spiritual Disciplines 101

*Pathway to God*  
Ralph Earle  
COZZ978-0-8341-2214-7  
\$12.99, Beacon Hill Press, 2005

This collection of articles from ministers and spiritual leaders is intended to help new and growing believers embrace the biblical means of grace in everyday life. It's also a great sermon resource for discussing the Christian disciplines apart from unbiblical legalism.

### Pastoral Tenure Lengthens

According to recent studies in The Church of the Nazarene the average tenure for a senior pastor at a local church has lengthened by one year and two months. In 1996, a pastor's tenure was 3.3 years. In 2006 it became on average 4.5 years.

For more on this trend, see *GROW Magazine*, Fall 2006 edition, pp. 55-56 or visit [www.growmagazine.org](http://www.growmagazine.org) or [www.nazareneresearch.org](http://www.nazareneresearch.org).

### Here's what some well-known pastors and authors believe will be some of the greatest challenges for young Christians in the next ten years...

- For the Church—individually and congregationally—to become more than just hearers of the Word: they will become doers of the Word.  
—Rick Warren, pastor
- Our failure to tithe. I hear all the time, “I just can’t afford to give right now.” If we can’t afford to give now, when will we be able to afford to give?  
—Lauren Winner, author
- To learn how to move massive amounts of wealth and consumer goods at our fingertips into blessings for others.  
—Rob Bell, pastor
- To serve the least and the lost and not abandon our inner cities.  
—Efrem Smith, pastor  
—*Relevant Magazine*, “7 Big Questions”, Jan/Feb 2007, pp. 74-79.

### Multi-Site Church Model

Many were enlightened by some of the best speakers and leaders on the sweeping trend of “one church—multiple locations” at the recent M7 conference in Kansas City. For those who could not attend the conference or missed the multi-church track and are interested in multi-site ministry, you can order *The Multi-Site Church Revolution* book at [www.nph.com](http://www.nph.com).



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### Our Call to the Cities

**1/2** of the world's population live in cities. By the year **2050**, it's estimated that this will grow to **2/3** of the world's population, or **6 billion** people. **One billion** people live in urban slums. By the year **2030**, it's estimated that it will be **2 billion**.

—Excerpted from *Relevant Magazine*, Nov/Dec 2006, p. 46.

### 100 Years

October 5, 2008 is the official date of the Centennial Celebration for the Church of the Nazarene.

For promotional resources, historical data, and much more, visit [www.nazarene.org/ministries/administration/centennial/display.aspx](http://www.nazarene.org/ministries/administration/centennial/display.aspx)

## Win a Trip for Two to Palm Springs!

Beacon Hill wants to reward you for your commitment and service by offering you a chance to rest, refocus, and refuel. The trip includes 7 nights in a 5-Star resort plus airfare for you and a guest. As a senior pastor you're automatically entered to win when your church purchases a *Rendezvous Church Campaign Kit* and one case lot of *Rendezvous* books by **May 1, 2007**. The winner will be drawn May 2, 2007 and the trip will be awarded to the senior pastor of the winning trip entry.

For more information, trip dates, and specific rules, visit [sacredencounter.org](http://sacredencounter.org).

Turn your routine into romance. A 40-day introduction to spiritual practices.

HELP YOUR CHURCH FALL IN LOVE WITH CHRIST LIKE NEVER BEFORE

# rendezvous

## CHURCH CAMPAIGN

The *Rendezvous Church Campaign Kit* includes:

The book *Rendezvous: A Sacred Encounter with God*

A **campaign guide**, which contains everything needed to run the *Rendezvous Church Campaign*

A **leader's guide** and a **study guide**

Teaching **DVDs** for **adult small-groups, youth, and children**. Each DVD contains an introductory video and 6 video lessons that correspond to the weekly topics. (Adult small-group DVD also includes a worker training video)

A **resource CD**, which includes electronic copies of the campaign guide, leader's guide, and study guide as well as leader's guides for children and youth; artwork for banners, postcards, etc.; bulletin inserts, sermon outlines, PowerPoint presentations, weekly email encouragements, and much more

A **Rendezvous music CD** and information on the components of the *Rendezvous Worship* package

**All products—with the exception of the book and music CD—are reproducible for church use!**

Rendezvous Church Campaign Kit  
COZZ978-0-8341-2317-5  
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Case lot of 14 books  
COZZU-605 **\$7.99 per book**

[sacredencounter.org](http://sacredencounter.org)





**www.consumingworship.com** – This site features a new consuming worship podcast and is a great resource for anyone looking for relevant music that speaks to the emergent church.

**www.mynewhopeonline.org** – *New Hope Church of the Nazarene, Princeton, IL*

This site offers easy navigation through the use of scrolling columns. It's a great example for using your website layout to effectively offer viewers the communication and information they need.

**http://www.wesley.nnu.edu** – *The Wesley Center for Applied Theology, Northwest Nazarene University*

This site should be bookmarked by every Nazarene pastor. It includes new book releases, Wesley Theological Journal entries, and more.

*God's Spirit is on me; He's chosen me to preach the Message of good news to the poor, sent me to announce pardon to prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to set the burdened and battered free, to announce, 'This is God's year to act!'*

[Luke 4:18-19 TM]

### A Word from *Matt*



*"Rendezvous."* *v:* to meet or bring together. *n:* a meeting at an appointed place and time.

Remember the love, passion, excitement, and joy you felt when you accepted Christ and felt His love for the first time? Spending time with Him wasn't mundane and spiritual disciplines were not practiced out of guilt. You made time to be in Christ's presence just for the pure joy of being with Him. His presence in you was life-changing.

Today, though, many of us—even pastors—tend to perform the acts of daily spiritual renewal because guilt tells us we "need" to instead of love leading us to "want" to. Too often our daily rendezvous with God become mundane functions instead of anxiously awaited sacred encounters.

But what would this year look like if you and I, and those we serve, began to seek God in all the daily moments of our lives? We approach God as Master, Lord, Healer, and Savior, but how about as Lover? What would happen in our spiritual lives if we borrowed a bit from human romantic behavior and began to use spiritual practices as ways to passionately meet with the Lover of our soul? And what if we began to meet with Him in every moment of our lives—in an engaging conversation with a friend over coffee, in an on-line discussion with several of our friends, in a church member's prayer during choir practice, or through the cheers of the crowd at our child's soccer game? How would it change our understandings of faith and love, relationship and community, and grace and holiness if we began a sacred romance with Christ?

Our hope is that the *Rendezvous Church Campaign* will help you and your people rediscover what it means to know Christ and fall in love with Him as never before.

— **Matthew S. Zimmer, Editor, Church Resources Manager**  
**Nazarene Publishing House**

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COZZCD-4000	Hand in Hand	\$14.99	N/A
COZZ978-0-8341-0226-2	How We Got Our Bible*	\$12.99	\$10.39
COZZ978-0-8341-2297-0	Rendezvous: A Sacred Encounter with God*	\$9.99	N/A
COZZU-605	Rendezvous (case lot of 14 books)	\$111.86	N/A
COZZ978-0-8341-2317-5	Rendezvous Church Campaign Kit	\$99.99	N/A
COZZ978-0-8341-2214-7	Spiritual Disciplines 101*	\$12.99	\$10.39
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