



THE GOSPEL AND YOUR CHURCH

Thinking Shrewdly VMC National Conference
May 10-12, 2012

INTRODUCTION

Canada is a country in transition. New peoples and cultures, new ways of thinking and behaving call us to look for new ways to engage its people with the Gospel. In 2012, Thinking Shrewdly will explore the good news and the various ways we can partner with God in seeing it reach into every nook and cranny of this country.

Our Hope: to help set in motion a movement of the Gospel that permeates throughout and beyond our network. We have identified 5 themes that we believe are crucial for this movement. During the conference all participants will be part of one of these “streams.” Through plenary and work sessions we will explore the theme with the intent of establishing practical action-oriented pathways.

Our Prayer: that God would ignite our church's passion to make Him known and enable us to be creative and courageous in our expression of His loving commitment to all who call Canada home.

DATE AND TIME

May 10-12, 2012

Begin: Thursday 10:00 A.M.

End: Saturday 1:00 P.M.

PLENARY SPEAKERS

Bruxy Cavey, during his tenure as the teaching Pastor of The Meeting House – A Church For People Who Aren't Into Church, has earned his reputation as one of the most gifted and creative communicators of the Bible to today's world. He will coach and guide us on communicating the Gospel to a generation of people who think they've heard it all but have missed its power and relevance. His first book – The End of Religion: Encountering the Subversive Spirituality of Jesus – became a Canadian best-seller and continues to gain attention globally. The focus of The End of Religion is the same as The Meeting House – to invite spiritual seekers to consider and commit to the message and mission of Jesus. Bruxy is a sought after communicator on university campuses, leadership conferences, and churches throughout North America.



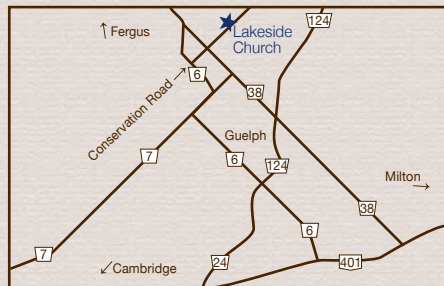
Gary Nelson as the president and Vice Chancellor of Tyndale University College and Seminary, one of North America's most distinguished education facilities, is uniquely positioned to lead our study of the church and leadership. He is the founding director of the “Baptist Urban Involvement in Leadership Development” that shaped pastors and others to work in urban settings. He has expertise in many areas, including: missional living, contemporary ministry, urban musicology, leadership and governance for Christian organizations. Dr. Nelson is author or co-author of: Borderland Churches: A Congregation's Introduction to Missional Living (Chalice Press, 2008), and his most recent, Going Global: A Congregation's Introduction to Mission beyond our Borders (Chalice Press, April 2011). He is passionate about creating ways that organizations can optimize their capacities, and in helping churches impact the local and global community.



Greg Paul has served and lived extensively among some of Canada's most marginalised and desperate people. Together, with the staff of Sanctuary he has forged a community committed to such kingdom values as justice, compassion and restoration. Sanctuary is a community in which people who are wealthy and people who are poor, live, work and share their experiences and resources on a daily basis. Sanctuary makes a priority of welcoming and caring for some of the most hurting and excluded people, including those struggling with addiction, mental illness, prostitution, and homelessness. Greg is the author of *Close Enough to Hear God Breathe* (Thomas Nelson, 2011), *The Twenty-Piece Shuffle* (David C. Cook, 2008), and *God in the Alley* (Shaw Books, 2006).



MAP



View online at: www.vision-ministries.org/calendar.php

THE GOSPEL & YOUR CHURCH

The conference will have five complimentary streams. Plenary sessions will involve everyone. But each participant will be invited to join the work sessions for a specific stream. By the end we will produce substantial and practical guides and workbooks.

"Tell a 2000 year old Story to Unresponsive Canadians"

Bruxy Cavey
with Ken Taylor

"Practice Effective Church Leadership"

Gary Nelson
with Mike Stone

"Show Compassion & Fight for Justice"

Greg Paul
with Jeremy Horne

"Reach & Learn from Millions who are New to Canada"

Gord Martin
with Tim Nielsen

"Start New Outreach, New Congregations and New Churches"

Terry Wiseman
with Jay Gurnett

REGISTRATION

Register:

Online: www.vision-ministries.org
By Phone: 1-877-509-5060
Includes 5 meals and all snacks.

Early bird registration by April 10, 2012
\$250 Individual/ \$300 Couples

Registration received after April 10, 2012
\$300 individual / \$350 couple

Subsidy and scholarship:

Subsidy of \$250 is available for first 50 registrants from outside of Ontario and Quebec.

Leaders 30 years of age and under pay only \$100.

Groups:

Register as one group of 7 or more from same church and the 7th registrant is free.



Accommodation:

Check the VMC website for the latest options for accommodation or call the VMC office at (877) 509-5060.

Location:

Lakeside Church, 7654 Conservation Road, Guelph, ON

Directions: 600m North-East on Conservation Road from the intersection of Conservation Road and Victoria Road (38).

Conference Director:

Jeremy Horne: (519) 590-5316

Registrar:

Henrietta Koenig: (519) 725-1212 ext. 324
Email: info@vision-ministries.org





A BIG GOSPEL FOR A VERY BIG COUNTRY.



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