



Personal Message from Eric Johnson, M.Div.

Our mission seeks to relationally extend God's grace to all adults, helping them to explore and mature in their faith. Why? Because God has called us. One need that God has shown us is that many believing adults are unprepared to truly share their faith with other adults. The reasons are many. One reason is the lure of the shiny thing. Business leaders understand that the temptation to be distracted by too many ideas or the latest fad can dissipate efforts by luring them to go off in a thousand directions. This loss of focus costs them in lost productivity, lost hours, and lost dollars. It even has a name: Shiny Object Syndrome (SOS). Sadly, Church leaders and adults have fallen for the same insatiable desire: for the newest minister, program, ministry, building, movie, book, etc. that will bring all the people back to or into the church.

Our ministry serves thirteen relationship groups and more than 130 adults. The diversity of our groups enables us to welcome all adults, ranging from those with little or no faith to others who want to be better equipped and motivated to reach their adult friends. To help you better understand the breadth and depth of our ministry, we will highlight a particular group each month in our newsletter. Please check the

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June 2016

back of this letter; perhaps you or someone you know would benefit from participating in one of the groups.

Gospel Message

Jesus addressed the uniqueness of a community of faith in the Sermon on the Mount. He said, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Jesus called this band of misfits - "the light of the world!" So, too, He calls every little band of disciples to shine forth His light in us to those around us. We are to simply "Go where we are!"

This world is a spiritually dark place. The seriousness of that darkness is compounded by the fact that the unbelievers cannot "see" their true condition. Our experience has shown that even among believers, many do not accept the fact that darkness is the default spiritual condition of a person apart from Christ. Every individual must experience light in order to see his or her true condition.

Jesus declared, "You are the light of the world." In the Beatitudes, He had just described the blessings that belong to those whose lives show the marks of their being citizens of the kingdom of God: poor in spirit, mourn, meek...merciful, pure in heart, peacemakers, and persecuted for righteousness sake. These are foundational. You, in your loving communities, are the true believers and are light because you have the light, the Spirit of Christ, in you.

True believers follow the One who said, "I am the light of the world." Conscious of the darkness that Jesus wants to penetrate, they go individually or in genuine fellowship together and loving one another wherever He leads. God draws unbelievers to Jesus. These, in turn, will be attracted to His light in us and will come to our gatherings. We, therefore, need not look outside for the latest "Shiny Object"...**We** are the true shiny object that dispels darkness.

Thank you for sending us into our community with your prayers, love, and support.

Sincerely,

Eric

Eric Johnson, M.Div.

Save the Date:
September 15, 2016
Celebration at
Mr. & Mrs. Brad Dunham

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Mission Update

Adult Life is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit ministry relying on private support – and your generosity. Your gifts are investments in the biblical counseling, discipleship, and evangelism of people who may have little hope, and need more faith. Please consider joining us now with a monthly investment. Adult Life is now doing business as Vantage Point Ministries – Enjoying Life from the Vantage Point of God’s Grace. Use the enclosed coupon and envelope and make checks payable to “Vantage Point” or “Adult Life.”

Thank you! We are blessed by your friendship and support.

Eric Johnson, M.Div.



Tuesday Group

We are excited about this particular group for several reasons. We subdivided our Monday night group in order to reach more adults. The result was more adults attending our Monday and Tuesday night meetings – literally doubling our work. We recently studied the marks of mature faith in the book of James. One couple was so challenged that they asked me if I would speak to their church group.

They wrote me, “We wanted to thank you again for coming to our group and spending two hours discussing this topic [gossip] with us! It made quite an impression on everyone. The group had a brief time of discussion after you left, then some pretty intense prayer time as EVERYONE was obviously convicted by the Holy Spirit after your talk; we each prayed for forgiveness and greater discernment in the future. It’s so amazing to see the effect God’s Word has on those who really desire to be obedient. We were so thankful and amazed to see that each and every one in our group was strongly impacted by your talk. Thank you again for a very enlightening evening!”

Prayer for local mission with adults...

Eric and Jenny Johnson

Extending God’s grace to all adults and helping them explore and mature in faith

Men and Women meeting in small groups will grow in grace

Our ministry to those who have left the traditional church

Our ministry to the prisoners on Monday morning at Northampton County Prison

Thankful for your partnership in this important ministry with adults

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