

M T P

A Newsletter for BWC Ministers Training Program Participants

Upcoming MTP Events:

ONE CONFERENCE

February 24–25 at New Life Providence Church on Flag Road. Special leadership sessions scheduled for Saturday morning.

TIMOTHYGROUP

March 2–3 at Augusta Camp and Conference Center. Greg Godwin will be teaching “Over & Under” seminar for ministers and aspiring ministers.

SOULWINNERS BOOTCAMP

March 16–18 at BWC. Matt Maddix and team will teach and lead us in a special weekend of soul winning emphasis.



February 11, 2012

Directions for Use of Twitter and Facebook

Many, if not all, of the Ministers Training Program participants are on Twitter and Facebook! It seems like everyone is enjoying the benefits of social networking these days. Most use the technology in a good way, though from time to time I’ve had to have conversations and consider removing MTP participants for what they put online. I’m asking you to apply some simple guidelines when using social networks.

Remember What You Post Is Public

A joke that is funny between a few friends might not be funny at all out of context or in the harsh light of public view. Everything you post – picture, status update or essay, becomes completely public the second you push submit. You can never really take it back once its out there, so be wise and use discernment with everything you post.

Remember What You Post Influences Others

BWC worshippers are looking at your profile and Tweets. They look up to you. They are eager to make a connection with you, and since they’re always on Facebook and following Twitter they’ll almost always see what you post. But it is so much more than just seeing – what you say, what you value, what you show yourself doing – it all influences BWC worshippers – the good, bad and ugly. When you give an inch, they may take it a mile. Of course, it works the





other way as well, when you use social media positively, it can have a significant encouraging influence on them, too.



Remember What You Post Is A Reflection On Our Ministry/Church

Your character and faith is reflected in every post that you make so if you are doubtful about something, here's a simple rule to follow: DON'T POST IT. Know that what you post adds or detracts to the reputation of the church and ministry ... and ultimately Christ.

Remember To Ask Three Simple Questions Before Posting

Bishop T. F. Tenney sent out a Tweet this morning regarding the use of Facebook and Twitter with the following three questions: (1) Is it true? (2) Will anyone be hurt? (3) Is it necessary to be told?

Remember Pastor Is Following You

One of my responsibilities is helping you become the minister God has designed you to become. That means that I am always watching. Watching to for signs of attitudes and/or actions that reflect your calling, and watching for signs of attitudes/actions that diminish the call of God upon your life. Frankly, every now and then I see things that are not becoming of a minister of the Gospel. Let me list some generic examples of the types of posts a minister should avoid: (1) Posts that are clearly designed to rebuke a

person or group of people. (2) Excessive posts between the opposite sex. Remember "familiarity breeds contempt." (3) Posting your personal business on-line. (4) Posts with sexual or flirtatious connotations. (5) Spiritual self-promotion. (6) Proudful and arrogant statements. (7) Retweeting questionable people – even if they do say something good. (8) Posting statements or pictures that do not reflect the values and standards of BWC. (9) Gossip – if it is not supposed to come out of our mouth, it shouldn't be on Twitter or Facebook either. (10) Personal shortcomings, mistakes, sin – past or present – your's or your spouse's. Remember, we want the people we lead to respect us and trust us.

Remember Twitter and Facebook Can Be Powerful and Positive Tools

As ministers we are constantly looking for effective means of communicating our message. When used properly, both Twitter and Facebook can be powerful and positive tools. Use these cutting-edge tools for the good of the Kingdom of God. Make sure the things you put out there through social media does not become a source of reproach on you or God's church.

~ Jack Cunningham, Pastor
BIBLE WORLD CHURCH

Check out the new Ministers Training Program website
www.bwcmtp.com