

Born to Win

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Newsletter of the CEM Network

December 15, 2001

Personal from. . .

Ronald L. Dart

Dear Friends,

While CEM is not a church and directs the affairs of no church, we are naturally concerned with the affairs of the churches of God wherever they are found. As everyone knows, the churches in our tradition have suffered terrible trauma in recent years and have had no small difficulty in recovering from it. I can testify from bitter experience that it takes time to work one's way through something like this. And the way we work our way through it is by talking it out. But when we have talked and talked and seem no closer to a solution, it may be time to take stock and see what is hindering us from moving on.

When Martin Luther made the break with the Roman Catholic Church and started the Protestant Reformation, he left a culture that had become corrupt and oppressive. What Luther did not know, in fact *could* not know, was that he still retained more of that culture than he had left behind. He did, however, make one important contribution to the generations to come. He taught a liberty and freedom in Christ that is absolutely essential to Christian growth and development. The problem with freedom, though, is

that it can rapidly degenerate into confusion. And out of the Protestant Reformation has come the potpourri of religious organizations that we see today.

Something similar has happened in the churches of God in this generation. We left a corrupt and oppressive culture behind, but we retained more of it than we realize, perhaps more than we can realize unless an observer can point it out to us.

At this point, I need to draw an important distinction. When I speak of culture, I am not speaking of "doctrine" or "truth." The definition of culture I am using is this: "the sum total of ways of living built up by a group of human beings and transmitted from one generation to another." The Jewish culture, for example, has a strong tradition of the proper way to begin the Sabbath day. It is charming and instructive, but hardly binding. It is cultural, not biblical. Judaism is an ancient culture, and is the response of the Jewish people to God's revelation.

The culture of the Worldwide Church of God was the response of its people to the revelation of God as interpreted by a narrow range of teachers. Much of what

these teachers taught was true, but much was not. And over time, the culture built up around these teachings was simply unendurable by a large number of people and it finally provoked the revolution of 1995. What happened is not dissimilar to the way in which the Renaissance Popes provoked the Protestant reformation.

Now, the churches have to decide how they are going to move forward with the freedom they now enjoy. Are they going to move forward into chaos and ultimate failure, or are they going to find a new way to serve God acceptably in their new found freedom? We are at a crossroads today, and it is not clear what we will become.

My sermon last week in Waco

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was a meditation on this very question. Titled, "What Does the Church Need Now?" it is an exploration of some of the things we need more of and other things we need less of. You could probably make your own list, but if you would like to hear my thoughts on the matter, just request a free cassette tape of the message. You can do that by checking the box on the enclosed card and sending it back to us.

Thank you for your continued interest in the work of CEM and the *Born to Win* program.

With love in Christ's service,

Ronald L. Dart

CHRISTIAN EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2001	
RECEIPTS	
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$265399.84
CEM BOOKSTORE	14755.76
INTEREST INCOME	5773.32
	\$285928.92
EXPENSES:	
A/V SUPPLIES	\$ 10682.67
RENTS	8241.99
OFFICE & ADM. EXPENSES	2250.42
MAILING EXPENSES	4590.63
POSTAGE	21525.93
PRINTING	11964.95
RADIO EXPENSES	112969.49
TELEPHONE & UTILITIES	2675.85
YOUTH MINISTRIES	6410.95
CONFERENCES	1783.13
CEM BOOKSTORE	2162.68
COMPUTER & WEB EXPENSES	2996.17
FOREIGN OPERATIONS	2383.26
ANNUAL AUDIT	5675.00
EQUIPMENT	149.99
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	13501.27
WAGES & PAYROLL TAXES	74071.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	284035.38
INCREASE IN FUND BALANCE	\$ 1893.54
FEAST OF TABERNACLES STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS 2001	
TOTAL OFFERING	\$36681.10
TOTAL EXPENSES	33559.27
FUND SURPLUS	\$ 3121.83

Build the Future Today!

People everywhere are beginning to ask, "What can we do to help our church grow?" Congratulations! You've asked *exactly* the right question. The answer is a very simple formula – start attracting, teaching, loving and developing your youth. Then watch your church grow! The Prophet Isaiah says, "As the rain and snow come down from heaven and stay upon the ground to water the earth, and cause the grain to grow and to produce seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry, so also is my Word. I send it out and it always produces fruit" (Isaiah 55:10-11 TLB).

Remember this Scripture when you start thinking every Generation X kid is characterized by anxiety, anger and alienation. There are a lot of kids with a positive outlook who are fun to be around. Sure there are some kids who are ticked off at the world or their parents for such things as divorcing. But these kids need the church more than ever. They should be sought out and encouraged to attend as well.

As CEM has grown, the YEA program has expanded as well. More than one hundred and ten kids were involved in excellent YEA Feast classes in Niceville in 2001. They were motivated to go back into their churches as active participants. Have you been utilizing these assets?

Better resources are now available for your church than ever before. The YEA Sabbath School lessons address the issues kids in five different age groups face in their daily lives. Kids are learning that God is a lot bigger than the temporary problems of their generation.

YEA also offers a one week summer camp for teens 13 through 18 every year. Twice daily, teens participate in group interactive Bible studies. Small groups bond, learn to work together, and develop leadership skills in the Group Initiatives program. A variety of sporting activities fill the day with fun. These teens return home with a zest for service needing a place to fill and a job to do in their local church.

CEM and YEA are always here to support church growth. We believe that our youth are not only the church of the future, but *they are the church today!* They should be loved, taught, encouraged, motivated, recognized and utilized. We saw a teenager do a superb job leading singing on Youth Day. One of the best sermonettes I have ever heard was given by an eleven year old boy. Teens are perfectly capable of doing such things as helping set up and clean up, passing out songbooks and bulletins, leading in prayer, writing cards, baking goodies and taking them to a sick person, song leading, etc.

Are you really *building the future today* with the youth in your church? CEM wants to provide you with yet *one more tool* to help with this task. You can have *FREE* very attractive, laminated, reversible posters to keep this idea perpetually before your church. Put this

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Feast of Tabernacles

(Kendal in the Lake District, Cumbria, England)

Kendal is a lovely market town in the south of probably one of the best scenic areas in England. The festival was held in the meeting room of Stricklandgate House, which is right in the center of the town. This was the second year we have held the festival here, and because of its popularity we have booked it for 2002.

It was well attended by various groups and churches who came together for fellowship, teaching and to worship God, by keeping His appointed days. This year the speakers were Frank Scherich, Anthony Miles, Trevor Smith and myself, Dave Kingston. The people attending varied from thirty to forty throughout the period, which made for a warm family atmosphere. This promoted the growth of new friendships and the renewal of old ones.

Every festival seems to pick up a theme and this year it was difficult not to miss the recent tragedy that hit America, especially when it had a direct bearing on the travel arrangements of some of our friends from that country. Thankfully God brought them safely to us. There was a focus on end time events and much biblical searching in the studies and the mes-

sages given by the speakers.

We had two “free” days during the week, one of which some of the group visited the writer Wordsworth’s homes in Grasmere; this is a few miles along the road. Both these houses are now run by the National Trust and are open to the public. One of the problems with the Lake District is that a person is spoiled for choice when it comes to places to visit, even though everything is close at hand. Last year we had an excursion over “Hard Nose Pass” which climbs over one of the fells, and visited a Roman fort at the head of the valley, the view was unforgettable.

Everybody worked hard to make this festival as enjoyable as possible, nobody waited to be asked to lend a hand if they saw a need. This was evident on the social evening where everybody joined in with the fun. However the children and young people found it hard to compete with some of the older folk who seem to be very competitive when it comes to organized games.

If this festival had a jewel in its crown, it was the warmth of its fel-

lowship. I know many of us met to socialize after services, and for meals in the evenings throughout the week, taking advantage of the many cafe’s and restaurants which Kendal has to offer. The highlight of this was the night of the Last Great Day when many of us gathered in an Italian restaurant for a farewell meal. The atmosphere was remarkable and food, just as good.

So next year in Kendal!



Born to Win
Making Life Work

Tune in for the latest weekly broadcast.

December 15 - December 21
Love and Sex

December 22 - December 28
Too Late for Christmas

December 29 - January 4
Religion or Faith

January 5 - January 11
Middle East in Prophecy 1

January 12 - January 18
Middle East in Prophecy 2

Calendar Of Events

January 19th - Arlington, Texas **Meet the Teacher**

Ronald L. Dart will be speaking at a “Meet the Teacher” session on Saturday, January 19th at the Bob Duncan Community Center, 2800 Center Street, in Arlington. The session will begin at 2:00 p.m., followed by a question and answer period and refreshments. If you would like more information, or directions, please contact Ralph or Becky Collins at (817) 246-1874, or call Faye Brown at the CEM office.

Daily Radio

The *Born to Win* broadcast can be heard daily on these stations:

- Huntsville, Alabama**
3:30 p.m. daily - WBXR 1140 AM
- Montgomery, Alabama**
8:30 a.m. daily - WAPZ 1250 AM
- Jonesboro, Arkansas**
6:30 p.m. daily - KBTM 1230 AM
- Little Rock, Arkansas**
5:30 p.m. daily - KAAV 1090 AM
- Denver, Colorado**
5:00 a.m. daily - KLT 670 AM
- Pensacola, Florida**
7:00 a.m. daily - WASG 550 AM
7:00 a.m. daily - WZNO 1230 AM
- Atlanta, Georgia**
10:30 a.m. daily - WGKA 1190 AM
- Augusta, Georgia**
5:30 p.m. daily - WFAM 1050 AM
- Morrow, Georgia**
7:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. daily
WSSA 1570 AM
- Kansas City, Kansas**
4:00 p.m. daily - KCNW 1380 AM
- Richmond, Kentucky**
12:30 p.m. daily - WCBR 1110 AM
- Gretna, Louisiana**
4:30 a.m. daily - WLNO 1060 AM
- Denton, Maryland**
10:00 a.m. daily - WKDI 840 AM
- Jackson, Mississippi**
7:00 a.m. daily - WTWZ 1120 AM
- Omaha, Nebraska**
3:30 p.m. daily - KLNG 1560 AM
- Buffalo, New York**
4:30 a.m. daily - WDCX 99.5 FM
- Asheville, North Carolina**
4:00 p.m. daily - WSKY 1230 AM
- Mount Olive, North Carolina**
11:00 a.m. daily - WDJS 1430 AM
- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**
4:40 p.m. daily - WWNL 1080 AM
- Anderson, South Carolina**
9:00 a.m. daily - WRIX 1020 AM
- Charleston, South Carolina**
4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. daily
WZJY 1480 AM
- Greenville, South Carolina**
4:30 p.m. daily - WELP 1360 AM
- Chattanooga, Tennessee**
5:00 p.m. daily - WLMR 1450 AM
- Knoxville, Tennessee**
5:00 p.m. daily - WITA 1490 AM
- Beaumont, Texas**
8:30 a.m. daily - KQHN 1510 AM

Daily Radio

The *Born to Win* broadcast can be heard daily on these stations:

- Dallas, Texas**
6:30 a.m. daily - KSKY 660 AM
- Jacksonville, Texas**
5:30 p.m. daily - KLJT 102.3 FM
- Ephrata, Washington**
6:00 a.m. Monday - Saturday
KTRW 970 AM
- The following stations broadcast daily at 2:30 p.m.**
- Ephrata, Washington**
KTAC 93.9 FM
- Moses Lake, Washington**
KGER 95.9 FM
- Pasco, Washington**
KGDN 101.3 FM
- Spokane, Washington**
KSPO 106.5 FM
- Wenatchee, Washington**
KTBI 810 AM
- Yakima, Washington**
KYAK 930 AM

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poster on the bulletin board in your church. Give other posters to your youth to put on the wall in their bedroom. One side has a collage of kids' pictures from all age groups. It says, "Build the Future TODAY! Teach YEA" This side is intended to go on your church's bulletin board. The poster side intended to go on the walls in preteens and teenagers' rooms has a Jack Russell dog behind a microphone. Daisy is saying, "I can't stop talking . . . about YEA." Either side can go either place. All you have to do to get your *FREE* posters is call or write us. Order today while the supply last! Get your poster on the bulletin board in your church and in your kids' rooms. Let these posters be a constant reminder of what it takes to build a church.

Your Letters. . .

Dear Brother Dart,

Praise God for He is GREAT! I have been meaning to write for so long. Your broadcast has been interrupted in this area. . .but thank God I still receive your monthly transcripts.

I just want to thank you and let you know that your postage is not being wasted. There are a couple of us who receive your transcripts and of course we pass them along. I thank you for your obedience to the Lord in spreading His Word.

Yours in Christ,
D.

Christian Educational Ministries



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That the man of God may be proficient and equipped for every good work.