



February-March, 2011

Dear Ministry Partners,

The two calls came just 48 hours apart, but the subject matters were worlds apart. The first call came late on Sunday night from a Children's Director who apologized for the late hour. He said that he had a "big problem and needed help" with their new Awana Club. He offered to call back on Monday due to the late hour, but assured him that that was not necessary as we are always glad to help. I recalled how excited he was in October when on their third night of Awana they had over 60 in attendance (40+ children and 20+ leaders). He now proceeded to explain that they had a "Big Problem," because they were "out of room, tonight we had 113 in Awana." I asked, "how many were children?" And, he shouted, "Brother, they were all kids, 113, and we had 36 Leaders. I just had to call you and share our excitement and shout Glory to God!" He said that their whole town was "buzzing" about the new children's ministry at their church. A local Pastor had asked to bring some folks to "see what God was doing that has everyone so excited."

Well, we decided to go and "see" what God was doing, as well. So, we went to visit this church on Super Bowl Sunday. From the moment we arrived, everyone that we spoke with shared their excitement for what God was doing in their church through the Awana ministry from Cubbies to T&T, and from Trek & Journey to the Leaders. It was a great club night, then during Large Group Time, two young men in the Journey group came forward to accept Christ as their Savior. For everyone at the church, that evening will always be remembered not as the night the Green Bay Packers raised the Super Bowl trophy, but as the night that God raised two young men to eternal life.... Praise His Holy Name!

← Please remember Donnie & Matthew in your prayers -

The second call came on Tuesday evening and regarded another Big Problem. This caller was updating us on the number of churches that had not renewed their Awana registration for the 2010-2011 Awana year. It was one of those calls that leaves a knot in your stomach, as he stated that 14 churches in Eastern SC had not renewed. Of those churches, the majority listed either insufficient volunteers or the need for a new, more exciting program as the reason for "dropping."

Within a 48 hours period, there were two calls, two Big Problems, but opposite ends of the "vision" spectrum. One caller overwhelmed with excitement "seeing" the impact on their entire community through their children's ministry. The other caller concerned with how to help those churches that had lost the "vision and excitement" for their ministry. The first caller "saw" the harvest fields, the second caller "saw" the need for prayer to "the Lord of the Harvest to send forth laborers." Please pray that we will have wisdom with regard as to how to help those churches that are struggling with a shortage of servants and/or a loss of vision. Also, please pray for four new churches that will be starting their Awana ministry over the next few weeks, for several churches already making preparations to start their new Awana Club in September, and for a handful of churches that have asked for assistance to re-focus their vision.

Please pray for the many Awana Bible Quiz and Awana Games events around the state in the next two months, and especially for the 24/7 Summit for Trek and Journey ministries on April 16<sup>th</sup>. We are planning for both Jr. Hi and Sr. Hi Bible Quiz and Awana Games events and a special Praise & Worship Service at this event, see [www.scawana.com](http://www.scawana.com) or e-mail [billf@awana.org](mailto:billf@awana.org) for more info.

We want to especially thank you for your continued prayers and financial support of our ministry. We are continually humbled by God's constant care and abundant supply of our every need. Please let us know if we can be of assistance in any way.....

In His Service....for His Glory,

Bill & Dee

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Thanks for all you do to serve our Lord!  
God Bless!