

Dear friends,

We just had our first marriage conference in Huntsville, AL and it was wonderful! If you could only have been there. I know you may get tired of me saying that, but you really have to see them to understand the meaning. Our speaker, Joe Ludwikowski (a former Navy pilot and now a minister) **connected** with the couples. He'd been at the top of his game, yet without Christ's leading. Even though a believer, Jesus was not his first commitment. He took all of us there and showed us using his own life, the major mistakes and emptiness of self-reliance.

He showed us the four pillars of the spiritual life in the four chapters of the book of Colossians. His exposition, Michael Bridges' music, the small groups, all combined I believe to reach deep into the lives of 45 coaching couples ... especially those who had "ears to hear" as our Lord often said.

Early Sunday morning I was going over next year's Coaches' Bible study in a corner in the hotel lobby. A Mississippi coach at the conference (we had 5 states represented) came up to me and said, "This weekend has given meaning to all I do. I've been so encouraged. I can't wait to get more coaches involved and start a CO Bible study." He came to a new team last year that was 0-20 and now are 0-30. But this special Christian coach told me that 8, yes 8, young men on his team had received Christ last year! He was so proud of how much the team had improved physically and spiritually. This is why **solid** Christian coaches are essential.

This is our third year in Alabama and I truly believe God is honoring the faithfulness of Jon Guthrie (our former representative in the area) and our willingness to reach out to new areas. The atmosphere was alive and you could sense the Holy Spirit's presence.

Please read your monthly letter for June coming soon to see how you can help with our conferences. Thanks again.

God bless,
Tommy Maxwell