

# POINT AFTER

## Scripture

Fall 2020

This has been an unforgettable season of ministry... stretching us all in countless ways. But, as you have heard many times, the central feature of the ministry of CO is the Word of God. The unchanging truth of Scripture is what transforms our lives. It transforms coaches and their marriages.

Jesus made this staggering statement in the heat of battle with evil and the evil one: *"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."* The truth of God's Word is the essence of all reality. By it we exist and survive. It is the ultimate essential.

I learned something interesting recently that drives this home. When the 2004 Asian tsunami hit Aceh (the vulnerable northern tip) in Indonesia, 167,000 people died. Even more vulnerable is the small Island of Simeule which sits just off the coast. Its population is 90K. Amazingly, only 7 people died. The reason for this is something called, smong. It is the storytelling tradition of the elders. It's the warning that's woven through all the other stories told from one generation to the next. It goes like this:

"If a strong tremor occurs, and if the sea withdraws soon after, run to the hills, for the sea will soon rush ashore."

Everybody, the young and old, knew the gravity of the situation and acted swiftly because of ingrained teaching. I am reminded of another profound statement by Jesus:

"Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock." (Matt 7:24-25)

At a time when life as we know it has been seriously altered and radical adjustments required – as well as judgments made about what is essential and non-essential, I am proud to say that coaches all over this country have remained faithful to the Scriptures and found a way (ZOOM) to continue to meet and study God's Word. I am also proud to say, that the staff of CO have worked extremely hard (from home as you will see) to assist in making Bible studies accessible to any and all.

Last Spring, with our study of The Parables of Jesus, we launched our audio version of the playbook. This has been especially helpful to coaches and has provided yet another way to access God's Word. In addition to the audio version of our Fall study of Genesis entitled, Begin with God, we've introduced our interactive PDF. This allows participants to bring a digital version of the study wherever they go. They can read the Scripture and Study Notes, and then fill in their answers in boxes under each question. Further, the interactive version automatically links the additional resources of the printed version's QR codes (more than ever before) by just clicking the link.

Our commitment to biblical truth is unwavering. At CO, we believe that the knowledge and application of the scriptures truly changes lives – saves lives. I want you to know your investment and participation in this ministry makes this all possible. Please continue to pray for our staff as we seek to make God's Word accessible to coaches everywhere.

Blessings, *Pete*



**PETE CHIOFALO**  
President





# Coaches Outreach

## at Home

What's your favorite marriage retreat location? I've been asked this question a hundred times over the last 17 years. My response is always the same. I like them all equally. Why? Because the retreats are not about the location, they are about the people. This past summer marked the first time I didn't go to the retreats. Honestly, I didn't miss the travel, but I did miss the people. I often joke that the retreats were like family reunions, but you actually like everyone! I'm thankful for the sadness I feel from not having the retreats because it is confirmation they are important and needed.

The COVID break allowed me to be still and focus on my role and God's purpose for the ministry. My dogs Sadie and Daisy thought I had quit my job to spend more time with them and enjoyed our daily walks. My cat Tiger assumed I had been fired and felt the need to join many of our Zoom meetings. Needless to say there were some adjustments to working from home.

During this time we implemented a new online database system that allows staff, field reps and lay leader's access to better manage their areas as well as provide the framework for expansions throughout the US. I was able to connect with many of our donors, coaches, and field reps during this time. Our world slowed down and we talked. I'm thankful for those meaningful conversations. We have some incredible people that love this ministry!

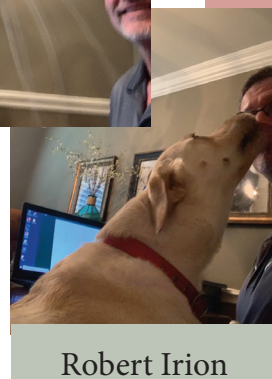
God's timing is perfect and we have grown through this time of separation. However, I am so glad to be back in the office! We have a special group of men and women working together to minister to coaches and their spouses. I miss the daily interaction. Coaches are ESSENTIAL more than ever and it is an honor to serve them.



From my chair at home, I've had the great pleasure and unique privilege of Zooming into coach's studies across Texas, neighboring states, and as far as California!--Mark Chalemin



Anne Ryon



Robert Irion

Like the Bible Studies, The Reach was challenged by the shelter in place. However, many carried on communication through zoom, or facetime. From April to July, I sent out bi-weekly emails as opposed to the traditional monthly resource. These short emails contained Scriptural challenges for wives during a time of isolation.

In response to racial tensions, I recorded an interview with a personal friend who is a black coach's wife in Corsicana, TX. The objective was to empower coaches' wives to be a light within their community.

Canceling retreats challenged the growth of The Reach. However, we have added several groups in Kansas, west TX, and the east TX area. We have also added more wives to existing groups as we kicked off our new season on Sept. 1.

### The Reach



Zoom has allowed me to be more connected to our field reps than ever before. I've had weekly zoom office hours and monthly meetings with Field Reps across the country. We were able to start a study in California. Zoom has freed us with flexibility to do things virtually to stay more connected.

*Mike*

### Field Ministries

### Texas

As these days continue to go by with the Covid cloud seemingly always here, I've learned to be patient with the world around me and myself. How busy my days can be. I see my wife at her high school, seem to change their guidelines and rules at a moment's notice to meet the demands of protecting our students and teachers. Now, this morning, I made my coffee and went out on my back porch and watched the hummingbirds come for breakfast at the feeders. How fast they are, but how special to watch a hummingbird up close. I now stop to see God's creations all around me. How perfect God has made all these things around for me to enjoy. God loves and blesses me.

Our coaches are facing challenges that are unprecedented. Coaches Outreach with our Bible Studies provide stability, strength, and encouragement to equip coaches for such a time as this. The Fall Study on Genesis is the perfect platform to guide and support men and women on the front lines (our coaches) in all areas of their lives so they can fulfill their mission of making disciples.

Strengthening my relationship with my wife, Sherrie, has been a great result of us both working from the house. Jesus Christ has used this pandemic to bring families together, even when the day starts off with a new challenge. I lift up prayers for my wife and family, and for all the teachers and coaches in Texas. We all know that God has this.

God Bless



Milton Cooper

### Inner Cities

The pandemic really changed our approach to ministry in the urban area of Kansas City. God allowed us to build on the success we had early on. That is due to the establishment of a prayer team that keeps the ministry lifted up daily. They receive monthly reports on how the ministry is doing via text and through zoom calls.

All of our studies were virtual this spring and will continue to meet virtually this fall. Because of the virtual meetings we have been able to invite other coaches to join which maximizes our time and also enables them to meet coaches from around the city.

We will continue to communicate on the phone and via text. Our goal to start the year 2020 was to have four new studies and the Lord has allowed us to have four as we started the fall semester.



Ron Callahan

## COACHES OUTREACH, INC.

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We are back in the Office!  
Let us know if you'd like  
to by and say hello. We'd  
love to see you!

## Honorariums & Memorials Fall 2020

### *In Honor of....*

#### **Melvin Boelter**

Dearl & MaryJo Dotson

#### **Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Bourland**

Annoymous

#### **Pete Chiofalo**

Stephen & Donna Jones

#### **Tommy Maxwell**

Eric & Catherine Peters

### *In Memory of...*

#### **Donna Boelter**

Dearl & MaryJo Dotson

#### **Mike Jantzen**

Larry Lee

#### **Barney Welch**

Larry Lee

#### **Grady Allen**

Larry Lee



### *Drury Playa*

SANTA FE, NM  
JUNE 18-20

### *T-Bar M*

NEW BRAUNFELS, TX  
JUNE 4-6

### *Degray Lake*

BISMARCK, AR  
JULY 9-11

### *Marriott Grand National*

OLPELIKA, AL  
JUNE 11-13

## 2021 SUMMER MARRIAGE RETREATS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

### *Hilton Garden Inn*

GRANBURY, TX  
JUNE 25-27