

Leaders Predict Where the Church is Going

Five Keys for 2010

There are 5 strategic keys that will help propel you into your future and the destiny God has for you this year. Ask Him for specific insight and direction for you and your life, and allow Him to manifest in these areas throughout 2010.

1. God is sounding a wake-up call.

God is sounding a wake-up call to the body of Christ! There has been a lull and a spirit of slumber that has spread over much of the body in the last couple of years. We have become satisfied with “church as usual.” Unfortunately, many people have settled into a place of comfort and complacency—but God is shaking and waking this sleeping giant once again!

21 Emerging Leaders

Jaeson Ma is a church planter, filmmaker and music artist.

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Avoid the 'Wouldas' and 'Couldas'

Charisma tracked down a few veterans in the faith to give young people sage advice about faithfully standing the test of time. Go to mentors.charismamag.com and get advice to avoid your own "wouldas" and "couldas."

Embrace Change

One of the most important lessons for any leader to embrace is that change is constant, and change is our friend. God has ordained a life of change, for our entire lives. David wrote, "Because they do not change, therefore they fear not God" (Ps. 55:19). It is during times of change that we realize our need of God.

What Are You Chasing?

This month we're highlighting young ministers who are  sharing their passions for the next generation. What are you passionate about? **In the comment section below, tell us what you're pursuing.** We may feature your answers in an upcoming issue of the magazine.

A Cry for Intimacy With God

I'm part of a generation that hungers to know God. We want a real relationship with Him—the kind

that's filled with the laughter, tears and honesty even when it hurts. We want a relationship with God that isn't tampered with by artificial additives that promise to make it sweeter, sourer or tastier than it really is. We want an organic relationship with God. Why organic?

The Generational Elephant in the Room

For far too long young people have experienced God from one side of the church while the "older folks" resigned to do ministry from a separate corner. Why is there such a wide generation gap in today's church? Below you can hear *Charisma's* roundtable conversation with leaders from within the body of Christ. We talk about the generation gap and discuss a remedy. In the comment section below tell us if you agree or disagree. It's high time we start talking about this elephant in the room.


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Dennis Bennett: May 1980



Charisma featured Dennis Bennett on its fledgling cover in May 1980. Click on the pdf to see the article.

God's Communication Tools

 As a Christian counselor I have listened

to many married couples express feelings of frustration and hurt because of their inability to effectively communicate with one another. Studies prove that communication breakdown is a major source of conflict, one that can eventually lead to other problems in the marriage, such as a lack of intimacy and divorce. Statistics prove the truth of what the Bible says in Proverbs 18:21: "The tongue has the power of life and death" (NIV).

However, there is a remedy. Many of the struggles married couples face, in fact, can be avoided with the use of some simple communication tools. Learning to use these tools to express ourselves in more effective ways fosters better understanding, which results in greater emotional intimacy.

A God-Honoring Hollywood

Marriage

For his first onscreen kiss with fellow cast member Chelsea Noble on the ABC sitcom *Growing Pains*, Kirk Cameron secretly rubbed numbing gel on his lips that left the actress' mouth briefly paralyzed after the big smooch.

Cameron, who was a teen heartthrob at the time, made the most of Noble's dismay by hamming up the post-kiss moment for the TV audience: "What can I say? That's the effect I have on girls. My kisses are *electrifying*," he quipped.

The first kiss proved to be the charm. Cameron and Noble (pictured) soon began dating offscreen and married in 1991.

That was 21 years ago. They remain inseparable today and now have six kids.

In fact, Cameron has refused to kiss anyone since. For his role in *Fireproof*, he was required to kiss the actress playing his wife. But he wouldn't.

"I have a comittment not to kiss any other woman," Cameron said on TODAY.

To get around this, filmmakers dressed Noble like the movie's female lead and shot the scene in silhouette.

"So when I'm kissing my wife, we're actually husband and wife honoring marriage behind the scenes," Cameron explained.

A Life on the Screen

From *Growing Pains* to *Fireproof*, Kirk Cameron has matured as both an actor and a Christian.

It seems like Kirk Cameron was destined for a career in television and film. He was only 9 when he started acting, first in commercials and then on TV shows. He was even named after his dad's favorite TV character, Capt. Kirk of *Star Trek*, when he was born in 1970 in Panorama City, Calif. Today he's an award-winning actor who most recently starred in the evangelistic movie *Fireproof* (2008). Here's a look at his life onscreen:

TELEVISION

- 1981 *Bret Maverick* (boy #1)
- 1982 *Disneyland* (boy)
- 1982 *Herbie the Matchmaker* (young boy)
- 1983 *Two Marriages*
("Eric Armstrong")
- 1983 *ABC Afterschool Specials* ("Jeff")
- 1984 *Children in the Crossfire* ("Mickey Chandler")
- 1984 *More Than Murder* ("Bobby")
- 1985-92 *Growing Pains*
("Mike Seaver")
- 1988 *Full House* ("Cousin Steve")
- 1991 *A Little Piece of Heaven* ("Will Loomis")
- 1993 *The Horde* ("Chauncey")
- 1994 *Star Struck* ("Runner")

- 1995 *The Computer Wore Tennis Shoes* (“Dexter Riley”)
- 1995-96 *Kirk* (“Kirk Hartman”)
- 2002 *Family Law* (“Mitchell Stark”)
- 2001 *Touched by an Angel* (“Chuck Parker”)
- 2003-present *The Way of the Master* (himself)
- 2005 *Night of Joy* (host)
- 2009 *18 Kids and Counting* (himself)

FILM

- 1981 *Goliath Awaits* (“Liam”)
- 1982 *Beyond Witch Mountain* (boy)
- 1983 *Starflight: The Plane That Couldn't Land* (“Gary”)
- 1986 *The Best of Times* (“Teddy”)
- 1987 *Like Father, Like Son* (“Chris Hammond”)
- 1989 *Listen to Me* (“Tucker Muldowney”)
- 1991 *A Little Piece of Heaven* (“Will Loomis”)
- 1998 *You Lucky Dog* (“Jack Morgan”)
- 2000 *The Growing Pains Movie* (“Mike Seaver”)
- 2000 *Left Behind* (“Buck Williams”)
- 2001 *The Miracle of the Cards* (“Josh”)
- 2002 *Left Behind II: Tribulation Force* (“Buck Williams”)
- 2004 *Growing Pains: Return of the Seavers* (“Mike Seaver”)
- 2005 *Left Behind: World at War* (“Buck Williams”)

- 2008 *Fireproof* (“Caleb Holt”)

AWARDS

Young Artist Award

- 1986 for TV series *Growing Pains* (won)
- 1987 Best Young Male Superstar:
Growing Pains (won)
- 1987 Exceptional Performance by a
Young Actor: *Growing Pains* (won)
- 1989 for film *Listen to Me* (nominated)

Saturn Award

- 1987 for film *Like Father, Like Son* (won)

Golden Globe Award

- 1987 for *Growing Pains* (nominated)
- 1989 for *Growing Pains* (nominated)

People’s Choice Award

- 1988 Favorite Young TV
Performer (won)
- 1989 Favorite Young TV
Performer (won)

Nickelodeon Kids’ Choice Award

- 1990 Favorite TV Actor:
Growing Pains (Won)
-

More About Grace

Joyce Meyer, a New York Times best-selling author and one of the world's leading practical Bible teachers, gives insight into the topic of grace.

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Free from Sin

❌ ??“For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace” ([Romans 6:14](#), NKJV).

Why shouldn't sin have dominion over us? Because we no longer possess a sin nature, but we have entered God's empowerment, possessing the nature of Jesus Himself. We are free from the power of sin!

The Message says, “Sin can't tell you how to live.” God's Word, the truth, declares here that gossip, slander and lying no longer have dominion over you. Adultery, sex outside of marriage, homosexuality, pornography or any other impurity no longer dominates you. Hatred, bitterness, unforgiveness, prejudice and envy no longer

control you.

Uncontrolled anger, rage and outbursts of wrath have lost their

authority in your life. Stealing, substance abuse and alcohol addiction

are no longer a master over you. Disobedience to authority, stubbornness

and insubordination have lost their dominion over you. And the list

continues.