

The Sufficient Word

The Institute for Biblical Counseling & Discipleship • Volume 9, Number 2 • August 2002

IBCD Celebrates 20 Years of the Lord's Faithful Provision

This year's Summer Institute was an especially joyful one, since it marked IBCD's 20th anniversary. George Scipione started this ministry (which was then the west coast branch of the Christian Counseling & Educational Foundation in Philadelphia) in May 1982. How faithful our Lord has been to provide for this organization for twenty years and to give George the servant's heart necessary to persevere through good times and bad! We are so thankful to God, and to the supporters He has given us - a small but loyal group of churches and individuals who believe that the work we do is an important advancement of the Kingdom of Christ. Truly, the Lord has consistently supplied all our needs.



IBCD Board Members enjoy lunch at the Summer Institute

We were thrilled to have almost 200 people join us for the conference in June. It was a wonderful time of learning and fellowship. We will let some of those who attended share their assessments with you:

✂ I am motivated to explore Scripture more deeply to confirm what I heard here, to honor God by correctly handling His word, to respect His children by being accurate, thorough and therefore confident when giving guidance, and to exercise active listening.

✂ I am delighted to see the true rooting in the Word of God. Accurate doctrinal view is so refreshing to encounter (even in other denominations!). What a

joy to see the church family in new environments and expressions.

✂ As always, a highlight of our year. This conference refreshes, renews and reaffirms all that is powerful and sufficient in God's Word. IBCD will continue in our prayers and support.

✂ The speaker was very bold, yet gentle, to-the-point and rooted in Scripture. Did not sugarcoat sin, yet spoke in love. Made me laugh, yet the teaching was very convicting in areas where I thought I was O.K.

✂ I was glad to hear from godly, wise women who understand women.

✂ I appreciate the book of class notes. That makes it easier for me to get the tapes to study and review. Congratulations on your years of faithful service! May the Lord bless the work of your hands.

In response to the question, "Was there any part of the conference that was particularly helpful to you?", two presentations by Stuart Scott received the highest ratings: "Biblical Decision Making" and "Examining the 'Love Covering' Principle". Every church group and every individual Christian should listen to and meditate on the presentation of what the Bible says about love covering sin. Dr. Scott said he has studied this subject for thirteen years. He dealt with questions such as: "Should we overlook some sins and confront people on others?", "If we were in a family or a church where people talked to us, in love, when they saw us committing a clear sin, would we be more likely or less likely to sin?", and "How does the 'love covering' principle relate to forgiveness?". His teaching was very thought-provoking; most of us probably need to change in this area if we want to be obedient to God.

Other topics addressed at the conference included bitterness, perfectionism and dealing with Muslims. We encourage you to look at the list of audio tapes on Sound Word's website - www.soundword.com - and order any that might be helpful to you. If you would like copies of the notes, please contact us.

by Bonnie Graham