

# COACHING PASTORS

*Rev. Richard W. LaFountain*



Pastor Dick LaFountain and his wife Marilyn have served in full time pastoral ministry for over 40 years. During this time they have pastored four churches, each of which experienced substantial growth in attendance and church health while under their leadership.

Under his ministry every church has moved from plateaued growth to packed facilities and healthy ministries. During that time they have experienced all of the ups and downs that you may be experiencing in your current ministry.

They have ministered to people of various demographics in towns of 3,000 to cities of several million. While pastoring these churches so successfully, they have also fulfilled their greatest calling of raising a God-honoring family and a strong loving marriage relationship.

Presently Dick is semi-retired and is passionate about helping other pastors succeed in their calling through the priority prayer, the ministry of the Word, and loving pastoral leadership skills.

# Pastor to Pastor Mentoring

By Rev. Richard W. LaFountain

<http://www.MinistryToday.org>

## DO YOU NEED A COACH?

Honestly ask yourself these questions:

- Have you recently considered giving the ministry up?
- Have you wondered where to go from here?
- Do you feel discouraged, drained or burned out?
- Do you pray for answers and nothing seems to happen?
- Do you have a mentor you connect with on a regular basis?
- Is your ministry healthy, happy and growing?
- Have you wondered if you should leave or stay?
- Do you have a clear vision from God for this church?
- Do you have a clear strategic plan and direction?

### *How does pastor coaching work?*

There are several areas of ministry we will visit together:

**Personal Disciplines, Prayer Disciplines, Ministry Disciplines, Your Vision, Your Strategies, Your Planning, Your Preaching, Your Leadership Style, Your Elders and Your Reading.**

- Unlimited Access to online helps and tutorials.
- At least two 30 minute accountability phone calls per month
- Nine sermon reviews per year and evaluations (must be recorded) and you will not get to choose which sermon gets reviewed.
- Unlimited emails or phone calls to discuss small issues.
- Three Prayer & Planning Retreats. We will spend nine (9) days together before the throne of God in three 2 ½ day retreats.
- I will mentor and coach you in three areas 1) prayer disciplines 2) preaching with passion 3) vision and prayerful planning.
- If you are in the Pittsburgh area I will visit with you in person at your church on request.

**The Cost: \$600/year for those in the *Parakletos:Alongside Ministry* and 1,200/year for pastors not in that program. (Your church should pay this, not you. Your elders should be fully supportive of this mentoring.)**

# WHY PASTOR COACHING?

## COACHING BENEFITS AND OBJECTIVES



- BE SURE OF YOUR CALL TO MINISTRY
- CAPTURE A CLEAR VISION FOR YOUR CHURCH AND MINIISTRY
- DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE MINISTRY PLAN
- STAY FOCUSED ON GOD HIMSELF IN PRAYER & WORSHIP
- IMPROVED RELATIONAL SKILLS
- MAINTAIN A WINNING ATTITUDE & BE GENUINELY HAPPY
- HOW TO BE ALL GOD WANTS YOU TO BE
- OVERCOMING THE FEAR OF FAILURE
- IMPROVE LEADERSHIP SKILLS
- OVERCOMING DISCOURAGEMENT AND DEPRESSION
- HOW TO DEAL WITH DIFFICULT PEOPLE
- HOW TO INCREASE YOUR WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICE?
- HOW TO BRING JOY BACK INTO MY LIFE
- TO HAVE SOMEONE TO TALK TO OUTSIDE YOUR OWN CHURCH
- KNOW WHEN TO SAY WHEN - KNOW WHEN TO LEAVE OR STAY
- SHARPEN YOUR PREACHING & COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- LEARN TO BUILD A TIGHT KNIT PASTORAL STAFF

### In Favor of Coaching:

*“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.”*  
- Proverbs 27:17

# THE PASTOR'S SPIRITUAL LIFE

*“CHARACTER is what you really are when no one else is looking.”*

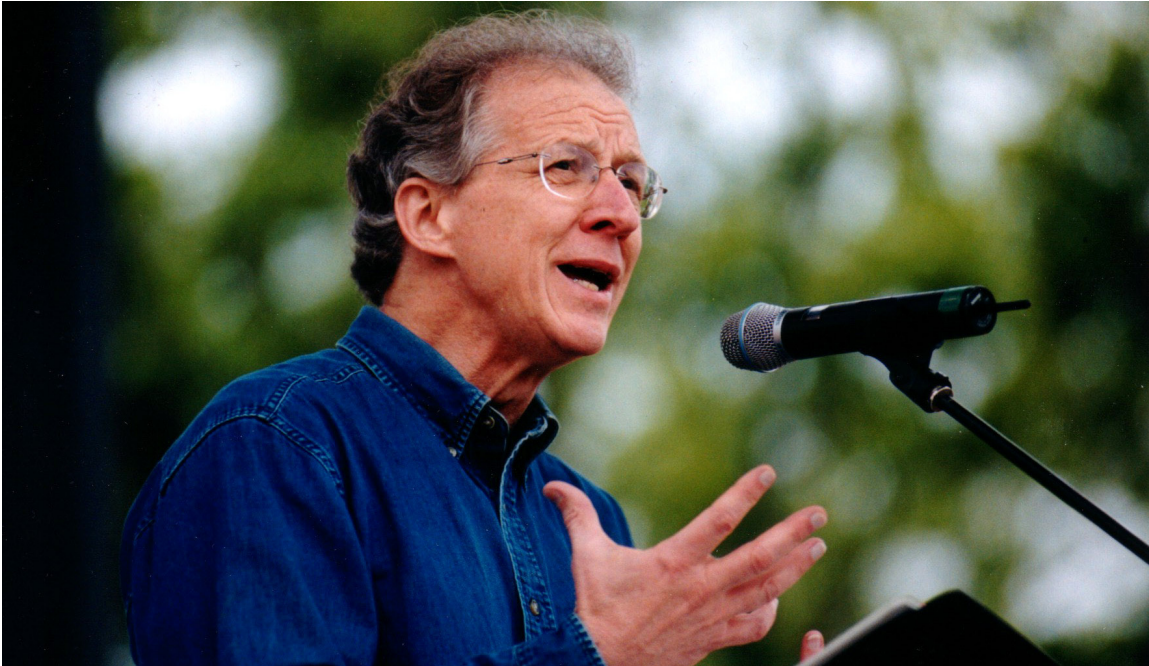


As a coach, I draw from my own experiences of success and failures to encourage and guide you through your tough times.

- DEALING WITH TEMPTATIONS & IMAGINATIONS
- TAKING CHARGE OF YOUR THOUGHT LIFE
- LIMITING YOUR ENTERTAINMENTS
- THE INTERNET AND E-MAIL TEMPTATIONS
- THE HARDEST THING FOR A PASTOR IS TO ADMIT DEFEAT
- A PASTOR'S SPIRITUAL LIFE IS VITAL TO HIS SUCCESS
- YOUR CALLING AND PURPOSE CAN CHANGE
- THE HOLY SPIRIT DOES GIVE DIRECTION TO YOU
- MY EXPERIENCES CAN BENEFIT YOU IN YOUR TIMES OF TRIAL
- DON'T IGNORE THE WARNING SIGNS, TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEM
- DON'T LIMIT GOD, HE IS STILL GOD AND YOU BELONG TO HIM

**GOD HAS NOT GIVEN YOU THE SPIRIT OF FEAR, BUT OF POWER, LOVE AND A SOUND MIND. - 2 TIMOTHY 1:7**

# THE PASTOR'S PREACHING STYLE



You are God's man for this job. He called you. He put you into this ministry. He has made you His spokesman. Speak as the oracles of God. Do the work of an evangelist. Make the Gospel clear. Invite people into a closer walk with God. Be passionate. Be genuine. Be transparent. Be real. Be practical. Preach the Word! Be urgent in season and out of season. Reprove, rebuke, exhort, encourage, instruct, correct, with all the compassion of Christ.

- How to decide what to preach
- Where to go for background research
- Exegetical preaching from the text
- Using PowerPoint
- Using Visual Illustrations
- Building a sermon or proclaiming a message?
- Passion in preaching
- Powerful Illustrations & Story telling
- Practical Application & An Invitation to make a decision
- Presenting the Gospel in every sermon
- Sermon Notes and Study Guides
- Audio and Video recordings
- Web Site availability and archives

# THE PASTOR'S PROFESSIONAL LIFE



There is a difference between amateur and professional. Webster's dictionary says a professional is one who is an expert in his or her work. An amateur is non-professional who is not sure of what he is doing or how to do it.

I believe God deserves our best in all that we do. As a coach I will challenge you to be the best that you can be with the gifts, abilities, intellect and personality God has given you. I will pray with you, for you and over you as you navigate through ministry's tough situations. I will advise, counsel and coach you in being a good pastor who is pleasing to God and loved by men.

Pastoring today is not like it was 20 or 30 year ago. The times are changing. Ministry is more demanding that ever before. Pastors are expected to be experts in a myriad of efforts. The administrative tasks of pasturing even in a small church can be daunting. Expectations are that you will be an expert at everything. Learn where to go to get the help you need.

Pastor LaFountain will train you to seek a vision from God for your church and how to cast that vision to your church. Then he will lead you to a systematic way to pursue that vision through regular prayer and planning sessions alone or with your staff. This training includes goal setting and "how to get things done."

# CHALLENGES PROFESSIONALS FACE

## ADMINISTRATION

- Knowing when to release a responsibility to someone else
- Open communication
- A Policy and Procedure booklet for church ministries
- Office staff training, phone courtesy

## FINANCES

- Budgeting and financial management
- Reimbursement policies and ministry expenses
- Salaries

## STAFF

- Building a team that works together
- Having good relationships
- Staff Meetings & Retreats
- Detailed job description of each employee
- How to handle a conflicting staff member

## SHEPHERDING

- THERE IS A WAY A PASTOR MUST CONDUCT HIMSELF IN RELATIONSHIP TO GAIN AND MAINTAIN RESPECT WITH HIS CONGREGATION.

## TRAINING LEADERS

- Building a lay team that works together
- Selecting godly Elders
- Training Deacons
- Training Under Shepherds

## ENLISTING VOLUNTEERS

- Personally invite your volunteers
- Be specific about what you are asking them to do
- Give them freedom to develop the ministry
- Removing a poorly performing volunteer