

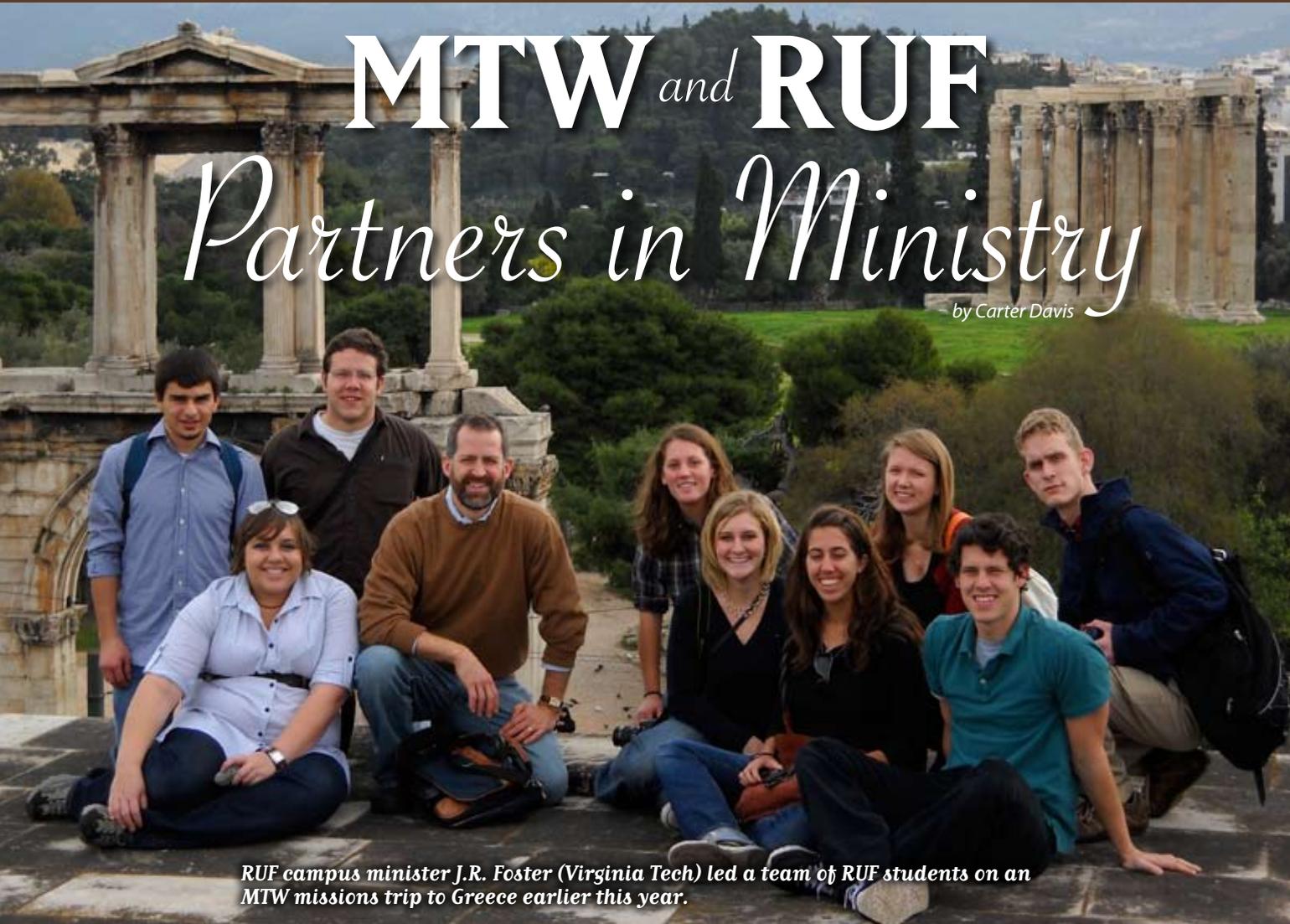


# Network

MISSION TO THE WORLD • PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA • WWW.MTW.ORG • SUMMER 2010

## MTW *and* RUF *Partners in Ministry*

*by Carter Davis*



*RUF campus minister J.R. Foster (Virginia Tech) led a team of RUF students on an MTW missions trip to Greece earlier this year.*

Modern missions is said to have begun in the shelter of a large haystack.

A haystack was not where the five Williams College students usually prayed, but on that Saturday in August of 1806, their regular outdoor prayer meeting was interrupted by a cloudburst. So they hastily sought protection in the leeward side of an about-to-be-famous haystack and continued to pray. Something

profound happened that day, and as a result, they all walked away with a personal commitment to spread the gospel at home and around the world.

By 1808, they had formed a group to evangelize their fellow students. By 1810, the first American mission board was formed, and by 1812, the first missionaries left for the field. Thus, the modern missions movement began.

Movements have historically been led by young people. John Calvin wrote the first volume of his *Institutes of the Christian Religion* by the age of 27, only one year after his conversion. Graduating from Yale at age 17, Jonathan Edwards later reported that at his commencement, he resolved "to live with all my might while I do live." He went on to play a major role in the Great >

Awakening. The history of missions is filled with similar stories.

## MTW and RUF: A Fruitful Partnership

MTW and Reformed University Fellowship (RUF), the PCA's campus ministry, share a commitment to reaching, teaching, and equipping college and university students, just like those young men from Williams College. It has also become apparent that both organizations can help each other accomplish their individual goals.

As they disciple students, RUF pastors are looking for practical ways for their students to understand and participate in missions. And MTW offers to RUF students a real-life look at the mission field. Some of these students are returning with a vision for their own Jerusalem—their campuses. And the experiences of a student picking up trash or working with children in Greece today will influence his view of missions tomorrow.

"We have enjoyed developing a closer relationship with RUF recently," says Mitch Gindlesperger, MTW's two-week director. "We're learning more about their philosophy of ministry to understand how we can best serve them through our mission trips."

Though no formal agreement or contract is in place, the relationship is an organic one that seems to be greater than the sum of its parts. For example,

working with MTW provides the RUF teams with a vast support system.

"By utilizing MTW's resources, the RUF teams are able to focus on the fundamentals of the trip, rather than the logistics," Mitch says. "We monitor their finances; we buy their plane tickets; we send the campus ministers on vision trips."

## Preparing Future Leaders

But, according to Rod Mays, RUF's national coordinator, the partnership is more than just symbiotic harmony.

"This is an example of PCA committees and agencies needing to work together," he says. "Our ecclesiology demands it, and we've found a great partner with MTW because they have certain goals that they want to accomplish, and we can help them do that with our students going on these

mission trips. Additionally, we're hoping that some of these students will feel called to missions."

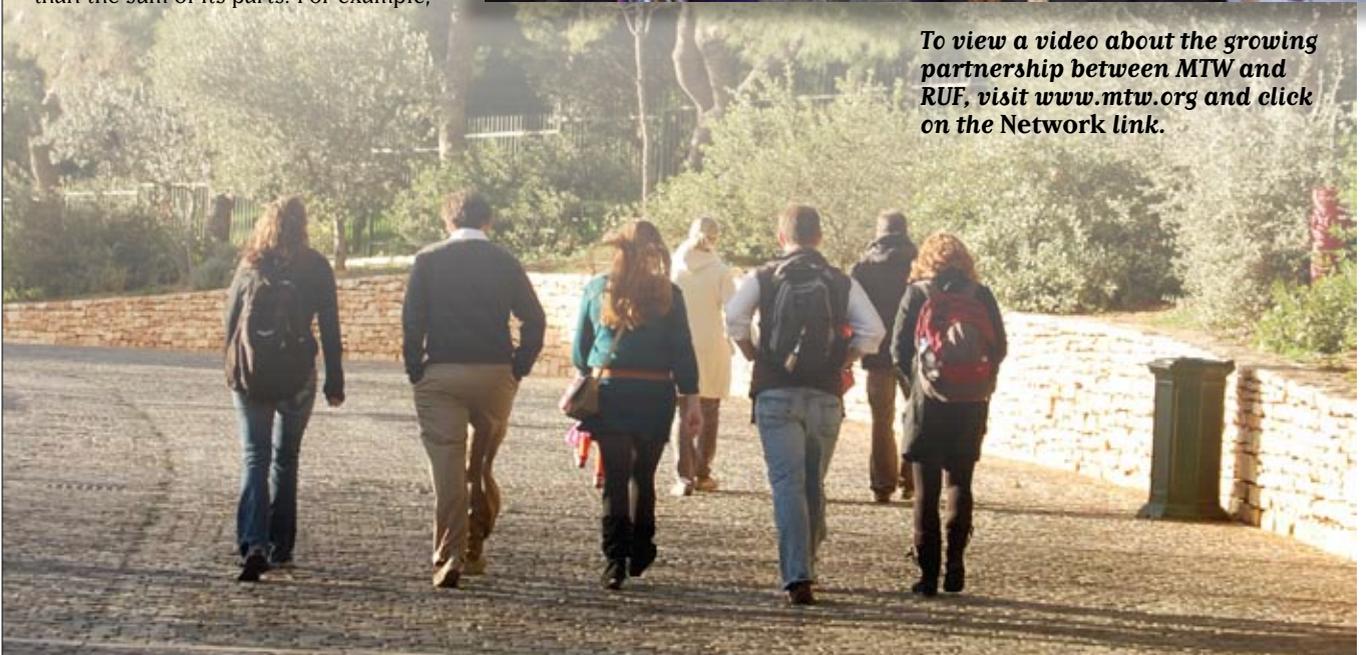
One benefit MTW offers to RUF students is an experience of life on the mission field—perhaps providing a glimpse of God's plans for their future lives and ministries.

"The students who are going on these trips are future leaders of the church, and we want them to have a bigger picture of who God is," Mitch says.

Mays agrees: "We want to equip our students to do whatever it is they want to ... whatever their calling might be. But we're hoping that some of that is toward the church and missions. That's what this partnership seeks to facilitate." ■



**To view a video about the growing partnership between MTW and RUF, visit [www.mtw.org](http://www.mtw.org) and click on the Network link.**





# REBUILDING LIVES IN HAITI

by Terri Hintz

After rolling past miles and miles of flattened houses and crushed structures in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, MTW's Sam Haupt was surprised at the sight that awaited him at the church "Reformation D'Espoir D'Haiti."

"We had seen so much devastation," he said. "But we

children. Reformation D'Espoir had a 2,000-member church, a school for dozens of orphans, and an established network of local pastors."

MTW is now partnering with Jean Paul, pastor of Reformation D'Espoir Church, and with his U.S.-based mission organization Refomation

help—they need training to know how to pray and trust God."

Jean Paul never imagined that his engineering background, seminary training, heart for orphans, passion for mercy ministry, and network of Haitian pastors would become so pivotal. Today, his ministry is perfectly positioned to meet needs in his homeland.

"I still don't know how I can bring comfort to these people," said Jean Paul, "but the Lord is always in control. And He can do anything."

Reformation D'Espoir is well-positioned to rebuild its church and school, to reach out to its community, and to work through its extended network of pastors so they can do the same, with the help of partners like MTW.

Sam reflects, "While I tend to think of destruction in terms of damaged buildings, calamity, and economic implications, what we're really trying to do is rebuild lives." ■



**Jean Paul shows MTW's Philip Ajamian (L) and Sam Haupt (R) the rubble of Reformation D'Espoir's church building.**

were amazed to see that they were already rebuilding their church. As we pulled up, the church members were singing worship music. It seemed to be a picture of their name: 'Reformation Hope.'

Sam, who serves as MTW's assistant director of Global Support Ministries, had embarked on this journey to find a long-term ministry partner for MTW's disaster response efforts in Haiti. "It was clear that God had gone before us," recounts Sam. "We wanted to connect with a church. We wanted to help

Hope, to continue rebuilding its church and school—representing the completed work of Christ to those who have lost so much. (Jean Paul's congregation lost 250 members in the quake, but no one on their property was harmed.)

"My hope is to see the whole country of Haiti reformed," said Jean Paul, a Haitian national who studied both theology and engineering in the U.S before returning to Port-au-Prince in 2003. "Christ can transform the whole country. But people need

**MTW is helping rebuild livelihoods in Haiti by hiring a Haitian worker for every short-term worker who comes to work on Reformation D'Espoir projects. Short-term teams will travel to the church in future months to provide medical care, counseling, and construction help.**

**To learn more about MTW's efforts in Haiti, to give, or to volunteer on a short-term team, visit [www.mtw.org/haiti](http://www.mtw.org/haiti) or mail in the response card on page 7.**



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Want to hear a huge overview of what God is doing around the globe?

MTW and Covenant College are partnering to host the 2010 PCA Global Missions Conference, November 5-7, in Chattanooga, Tenn.

"This conference doesn't fit the natural box categories," said MTW's Jack Beall, director of the Global Missions Conference (GMC). "Everyone is encouraged to attend. We'll be exploring missions in practical and theological ways, giving updates on the church around the globe, offering how-tos for local churches, and hearing insights from PCA missions pastors."

**"I was really challenged to make missions a central part of what our church is about rather than just one of many ministries."**

—Brett Carl, missions pastor

While drawing the customary audience of MTW missionaries and potential missionaries, PCA pastoral staff, and missions committee members, the conference especially hopes to attract students to global missions.

## Making Missions Central

Jack Beall says that the theme of the weekend, "The Hope of Nations," will connect students, missionaries, pastors, and church members, as all unite in the worship of Jesus Christ. Beall emphasizes that there will be "all flavors" to savor, from works of church planting, mercy ministry, medical outreach, student internships, and more. "Most of all," he says, "we hope that each attendee will explore their role in connecting with God in building His church globally."

Brett Carl, missions pastor at Westminster Reformed Presbyterian Church in Suffolk, Va., says that was exactly what characterized his experience at the PCA Global Missions Conference three years ago. "I was really challenged to make



# nations

by Susan Fikse

missions a central part of what our church is about rather than just one of many ministries," he said. "I learned a lot from the seminars and was able to grow in my love for communicating and partnering with missionaries in greater ways. My thinking was challenged and stretched. Soon after this conference, I became the missions pastor at our church."

## The Student Connection

Rather than its usual Atlanta location, the 2010 GMC will take place a stone's throw from Covenant College, at the Chattanooga Convention Center in Chattanooga, Tenn. With this partnership, MTW anticipates that the conference will draw students from Covenant College, many other campuses, and beyond. "This conference provides a wonderful opportunity for our students—without leaving Chattanooga—to meet and learn from those who are serving with and alongside MTW," said Christiana Fitzpatrick, coordinator of special programs and mentoring for Covenant College's chaplain's office. "Hearing stories of how God is working in other places through His people will allow our

students to get a richer picture of the global church."

MTW will also host its first ever Mercy Ministry pre-conference, offered on November 4, to challenge and stretch attendees' thinking about topics such as medical ministry, disaster relief, and outreach to street children. Fitzpatrick believes students will find this discussion particularly relevant: "I think Christian students face a particular challenge in knowing how to accompany social justice efforts with the message of the gospel of grace," she says. Beall describes the pre-conference as addressing precisely these issues. "We will discuss how to pair mercy ministry with teaching and evangelism, and hear encouragement about how it's being done in fields around the globe," he said.

Fitzpatrick contends that MTW can be a strong force within this rising generation with "its increased focus on holistic ministry and community development as part of its church-planting efforts, its focus on relational ministry, and its desire to partner with believers and leaders from other cultures." ■

**To learn more about the 2010 PCA Global Missions Conference, or to register, visit [www.mtw.org](http://www.mtw.org).**

## 2010 PCA Global Missions Conference



**DATES**  
November 5-7

**LOCATION**  
Chattanooga Convention Center  
Chattanooga, Tenn.

**FEATURED SPEAKERS**  
Dr. Paul Kooistra  
Rev. Joseph Novenson

**SATURDAY STUDENT CONCERT**  
Shai Linne

**COST**  
\$200 (early-bird discount \$175 by July 30)  
Scholarships: Students attend for \$100  
Group discounts available

## Mercy Ministry Pre-Conference



**DATE**  
November 4

**COST**  
\$60

Register now at [www.mtw.org](http://www.mtw.org)

# Myrtille: Mother to Many

by Melanie Benedict

More than 30 years ago, a young woman named Myrtille came to faith through an MTW missions team in Acapulco, Mexico—a decision that would transform her life and the lives of countless abandoned and at-risk children for years to come. For the last three decades, Myrtille Rullan has faithfully served at Casa Hogar, a children's home that works alongside MTW's StreetChild ministry in Acapulco.

Myrtille has also served as host and facilitator to hundreds of MTW participants who have traveled through Acapulco over the years. "For many years, Myrtille has been a mother to all our interns, team members, and missionaries," said Mitch Gindlesperger, director of the Two-Week Department at MTW. "We couldn't have done it without her. She's been such a huge encouragement."

Bill Goodman, MTW's director of field operations, served as a missionary on the team that helped lead Myrtille and her husband, Tolo, to Christ in 1980 and remembers her well. "I remember Myrtille and Tolo coming to that first Bible study we had with non-believers," Bill said. "It's amazing to see how God has worked in their lives and in the lives of others through them."

This April, Myrtille made the difficult decision to step down from her official position at Casa Hogar to focus on her health. She recently wrote a letter to MTW, expressing gratitude for her years of service with Mission to the World.

"She's the kind of person who just wants to help in whatever way she can," said Tom Stewart, director of MTW's

Over 30 years ago I started as a volunteer at Casa Hogar, when it was a boys' home. I wanted girls to have a home as well. Praise the Lord, it became possible. After my last child left Acapulco to attend the university, I felt sad and lonely. The Lord's response was, "You miss your children, let Me give you 90 of them."

I enjoyed working directly with the children. The youngest children were receiving a poor education in the public system and the Lord made it possible for them to attend a private Christian school—one more battle won! With the Lord's help I convinced the leadership that higher education should be a priority. I am so proud of the many young people who have graduated from universities and pray that many more will have the same opportunity.

I want to thank all the people who trusted and believed in me, all the churches that invited me to attend their missions conferences to raise all the money for schools, universities, construction, and the rest. I also want to thank the MTW staff for the help they gave me and all the interns who have blessed us in so many ways, for their love and prayers for the children and for myself. Nothing would have been possible without you.



StreetChild ministry. "If someone had a medical emergency in the middle of the night, or needed a ride from the airport, they'd call Myrtille." ■



Myrtille, fifth from left, with the children of Casa Hogar.



After the reporters and celebrities have left, **Haiti** will still be hurting and **MTW** will still be helping administer the life-saving gospel in word and deed. In the next few months, giving and interest will drastically decline for **Haiti's disaster**. But the crisis won't be over. **MTW** is offering PCA churches and members a **direct route to meet the physical and spiritual needs of Haitian people**. Will you join with **MTW** in meeting needs, helping with recovery, and building the Church in Haiti? By committing to give monthly or quarterly for one year, you will ensure we're there ministering for the long haul.

Go to [www.MTW.org/Haiti](http://www.MTW.org/Haiti) for more info and online giving. Or fill out the form below and mail it to us with your first gift. **May God bless the people of Haiti through you!**

Please make checks payable to MTW, write **"Project 91491"** on the memo line, and mail to:  
**Mission to the World**  
**P.O. Box 116284**  
**Atlanta, GA 30368-6384**

This is my statement of intent to give to MTW & Haiti Disaster Response **"Project #91491"** for one year in the amount of : \$   
 to be given  monthly,  quarterly or  one-time gift. (check one)  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address/state/zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



Explore the Mission Engage the World Expand the Impact

[goglobal.mtw.org](http://goglobal.mtw.org)



[www.mtw.org](http://www.mtw.org) SUMMER 2010

Mission to the World is the mission-sending agency of the PCA, helping to fulfill the Great Commission by advancing Reformed and covenantal church-planting movements through word and deed in strategic areas worldwide.

**Paul Kooistra**  
Coordinator

**Marty Davis**  
Editor

**Melissa Kelley**  
Managing Editor

**Beth Beaver**  
Graphic Design/Production

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**Editorial offices:**  
1600 North Brown Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043  
(678) 823-0004  
[www.mtw.org](http://www.mtw.org)

**Please send address changes to:**  
MTW  
1600 North Brown Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043

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## "Page Flip" Enhances Network Online

Network is now available online in both PDF format and a new, easy-to-use "Page Flip" version.



"The Page Flip application provides our readers with an experience similar to that of reading the paper publication," explained Dennis Swinehart, MTW's webmaster.

Readers can view pages side by side and turn them like they would a paper

publication. In addition, the Page Flip version of *Network* provides one-click zoom, keyword searches, and easier printing functions, and includes embedded audio and video capabilities.

Visit [mtw.org](http://mtw.org) to view *Network* in the Page Flip format.

## MTW Women Serve at Ridge Haven

Eight MTW employees traveled to Brevard, N.C., in April to volunteer their gardening manpower at Ridge Haven Conference and Retreat Center. The eight women, along with two children and a former MTW employee, weeded, landscaped, and cleaned up dozens of flowerbeds. "I feel like we accomplished a lot," said MTW's Opal Hardgrove,

who organized the project. "I hope this will become an annual tradition that continues to benefit the hundreds of children, youth, and adults who enjoy events at Ridge Haven each year."

Wallace Anderson, executive director of Ridge Haven, agrees. "They were unbelievable. The

amount of work they did was only surpassed by the fun they had doing it. This helps us keep our costs down so that we can offer more scholarships for needy campers to attend our conferences and retreats."



## FROM THE COORDINATOR



Dr. Paul Kooistra

## LOOKING LIKE JESUS

Some time ago, I went to hear a seminary classmate of mine preach. He has worked for years for one of the most renowned preachers of all time. I was amazed at how much he sounded like the one for whom he worked. Certainly, that is to be expected. Those with great gifts and talents are going to rub off on others. While this happens almost automatically, the Bible is clear that in order to be effective in Christ's kingdom work it is critical that we look like Jesus.

In Philippians 2, Paul writes that believers are to hold out the word of life like stars in the dark universe (v. 15, 16). He even suggests that we not complain and argue, in order to look different from the darkness or lostness all around us (v. 14).

If you study the context of Paul's directive, you quickly realize that Paul is putting forth the challenge to look like Christ to all who desire to live for and serve Christ. Our holding out

the word of life is predicated on our humbling ourselves before others as Christ did when He "humbled Himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross" (v. 8).

Why is this so important? Because in order to introduce men and women to Christ they must see Him in us. Words are the foundation of our witness, but if they are not backed up by our attitude and actions, then the words will be unintelligible.

Looking like Jesus begins with changing how we think. We are to have the mind of Christ (v. 5). It means exercising humility before God and man (v. 3, 4). As you read these verses you get a sense of how important Paul considers this issue. To challenge our thinking concerning the virtue of humility he holds up the example of Christ's life. Christ's incarnate humility is magnified between the glory of His eternal existence and His present resurrected glory. An admirer

once asked Leonard Bernstein what the hardest instrument was to play. "Second fiddle," he replied, "I can get plenty of first violinists, but to find one who plays second violin with as much enthusiasm, now that's a problem." Paul believes that only the humiliation of our Savior can cause us to desire this virtue for ourselves.

If harmony was the only issue it would not be a big problem, but to represent the Servant of servants we must look like Him. Lorne Sanny, who was the president of the Navigators, was teaching on the importance of a servant-like attitude when he was asked how one could know when he had such an attitude. "By how you act when you are treated like one," he replied.

Try this for a day: remember you represent the supreme source of humility and approach each event and person with the attitude He displayed in saving you. ■