

Richard Ray: Conference will be a 'Call to Courage'

April 24, 2014

I again invite you to our upcoming Bivocational/Small Church Conference July 11-12 on the campus of the Baptist University of the Americas in San Antonio. The theme for the conference is "A Call to Courage," taken from Deuteronomy 31:8, "The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."



Richard RayI shared last week the Bivocational/Small Church Association understands serving in the small-church mission field takes courage. This year's conference is designed to minister to ministers and their families who have taken on the call of God to serve in the small-church mission field.

I mentioned how this conference will provide breakout sessions that will edify, educate and equip you to serve in the small-church mission field. I also noted we will host a "Ladies' Beauty Spa," where each woman can have her nails done and receive refreshments and fellowship, and the teenagers will experience San Antonio along the River Walk. There also will be childcare and activities for the children.

Along with these activities, we also will provide wonderful entertainment,

beginning with Christian illusionist Mitch Chapman on Friday night. He will entertain with his unique style of mystery. He will astound you with his illusions, and he will enlighten you with his words.

On Saturday, we will host a free health screening for all attendees and the local community, thanks to Baptist Health Systems, which is providing its mobile medical unit for the conference.



Also on Saturday, a Christian clown company will paint faces, make balloon animals and put on skits to entertain the children. The Texas Baptist Men feeding unit out of San Angelo will provide breakfast and lunch Saturday. You simply do not want to miss the two-day conference, where you and your family are lifted up in spirit and in truth.

Our goal for this conference is to touch the lives of all those called to serve in the small-church mission field, which includes the family. You can find additional information and register for the conference on our website, www.bivocational.com. You may contact me via email at brother_ray@juno.com. In next week's article, I will share the heart of each breakout session as expressed by the instructors.

Remember, God has called you to serve, but God has not called you to serve alone. Let us be your advocate, your resource and your prayer partner as you fulfill your calling. Until next time, please visit our website, www.bivocational.com.

Richard Ray is president of the Bivocational/Small Church Association, pastor of First Baptist Church in Wink and director of missions for Pecos Valley Baptist Association. You can reach him at brother_ray@juno.com.