

Dear Deacon Chairman:

I hope this letter finds you and your church family enjoying the very best of the Father's blessings. On behalf of Donny Parrish, Kevin Clayton and the entire DiscipleGuide staff I want to say "thanks" for the faithful service you give to Christ and His church. The churches of the BMA of America are blessed to have men like you assisting pastors in the work of ministry.

Not only has God blessed His churches with faithful laymen like yourself, He has also given us wonderful, God-called pastors who faithfully and unselfishly lead His churches. Many times we take for granted the sacrificial service they render to the Father and to us. We may never know, this side of heaven, how many times our names are called-out to God in prayer by our pastor-shepherd as he "stands in the gap" for us. I, for one, am very thankful to have a God-called and God-anointed man to call my pastor.

How can we express our appreciation, thanks, and love to our pastors. There are many ways but I want to mention just one. October has been designated as "Pastor Appreciation Month" across our nation. It is a special month set aside to let our pastors know how much they are loved and appreciated. In recognition of Pastor Appreciation Month, DiscipleGuide Church Resources has scheduled our annual *Pastors Oasis* for Oct. 6-8, 2010. *Pastors Oasis* is three days of inspirational teaching, outstanding music, relaxation and wonderful fellowship. The location for this year's *Oasis* is the beautiful Chateau On The Lake in Branson, Missouri. The event itself only costs \$75 per person (\$85 after September 3rd or \$95 if you stay off-site). Registration includes all worship sessions, The Jesus Painter, The Burchfield Brothers, John Waller and an appreciation dinner with Artist Jason Crabb. You may register online at www.DiscipleGuide.org or download a registration form and mail to the DCM office. Make reservations at Chateau on the Lake by calling 888-333-5253 to secure the group rate of \$125 by September 3.

Because your pastor would never ask the church to send him and his wife to the *Oasis*, we are asking you, as the Chairman of Deacons to lead your church in sending them. Would you please use your leadership and influence to lead your church to present this trip as a gift to your pastor? A gift such as this will mean more than anything you can do for your pastor.

Thanks in advance for honoring and blessing your pastor and wife in this special way! We look forward to hearing from you.

Kirk Shelton
DiscipleGuide Pastoral Ministries & Church Growth Consultant