

MAC News

Leading Men to Seek and Live a Life of Significance



Sean Patrick MacPherson born
February 1, 2006. 7lbs. 2oz

Men Abiding in Christ Ministries in Action-

- Pat's # 1 priority is setting support raising appointments to sustain the monthly operating expenses.
- Between November, 2005 and February, 2006, Pat has had the opportunity to share his testimony and the vision and mission of Men Abiding in Christ Ministries with the following organizations:
 - Christian Business Men's Committee (CBMC)
 - A men's group at Walton Communities
 - The Men's Ministry at Hillside United Methodist Church in Woodstock
 - A Young Adult Sunday School Class at Mount Bethel United Methodist Church
- In Mid-March, Pat will be starting a small group at EPMthree marketing agency.
- Pat continues to meet with men one-on-one to further their relationship with Jesus Christ.

A Community of Faith

2006 is off and running and I'm not sure if I have even slowed down to recognize that a new year has started. Thankfully, my Wednesday morning group has taken the time to stop and regroup and spend more time getting to know each other. Over the past couple of weeks, each of the men in the group have shared their 2006 Personal Goals. It has been encouraging to hear one man after another share their desire to strengthen their relationship with the Lord during 2006 and break down those things that seem to stand in our way from doing so.

I reiterate, January has flown by. I have had two speaking engagements which have allowed me to share with men in Marietta and Woodstock the vision for this ministry. In both cases, the men in the audience responded with encouragement....which gives me great affirmation. I now see my desire to live in a community known for its faithfulness to Jesus Christ is from God. My hope is that God will use this ministry to work through the men in this community to make this happen. Just five months into this ministry and I am finding that God has big plans in using me to reach others for him. Each week in January, God brought someone new to me seeking a relationship with Him. One man spoke candidly about seeing something in me that he wanted. After further discussion, he saw that my relationship with Christ was the reason for the peace and grace that I experience in my life. The desire has been placed on his heart and now growth can occur. Our goal is to start meeting on a regular basis so that we can start building his relationship with Christ and come to understand the abundant life that is promised when we abide in Christ. Over time, this man will become an influence on those around him....at home, work, neighborhood, and church....and this peace and grace will be attractive to someone else.

In March, I will be starting a new small group that will meet on Monday mornings. This group will be focused on growing their relationship with the Lord and building accountable relationships with each other so that they start seeing themselves as ministers where they are in their life. Over time, we'll be studying the human side of those people we come to know in the Bible (Moses, Jonah, Noah, David, Peter, Paul, Daniel) so that we can be empowered with the knowledge that God wants to use us in the same ways he used these men. Each of these men had an important purpose, and all of them were just like us, human with a desire to do God's will. To build a community known for its faithfulness to Jesus Christ will take all of us. It has become a way of life for me and I pray that it will become one for you as well.

Thank you for your continued support as I heed this calling. We are close to reaching our goals with our financial support team. If you have not committed to be a part of this team, I ask that you consider doing so. It would be honor to have you as part of this team. Please continue to pray for God's guidance and provisions. His grace cannot be underestimated....it is real and it is given abundantly. Help me to spread this message so others can come to know this grace that we all desperately need. Praise His name!!!!

Effective March 21, 2005: Men Abiding in Christ Ministries is a tax exempt, 501(c)3, organization. Contributions are officially tax deductible.

"but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians 12:9a

A NOTE FROM BRIDGET...

Saint Paul is referring to the "thorn in the flesh" that he asked the Lord to remove. His request was denied so that he would learn to become dependent on the grace given to him through Christ's death and resurrection. Don't we all have a "thorn" that continues to remind us how dependent we should be on God's grace? The "thorn" for Pat and I was causing extreme pain as recently as Sean's birthday. Pat, Jamie and Mary Em were all sick with the flu and were banished from our home for three days. They missed Sean's homecoming. We were weak with sickness—and it drove us crazy! How helpless we both felt for the circumstances out of our control. It was ugly, our grasp for anything we could lash out against. But in the end, when everything blew up, we both learned in a mighty way the power of God's grace. He showed it, as he typically does, through the unconditional love of other people. People who cared for us, people who forgave us for our weaknesses, before we even asked. We are sinners, imperfect and weak. Thank God for amazing grace!

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MAC MINISTRIES IS CALLED TO SERVE GOD BY:

- *Discipling men one-on-one to change the world for Christ one heart at a time.*
- *Launching and developing men's small groups to grow men into disciples for Christ.*
- *Help churches build sustainable men's ministries, enabling leaders to reach all of their men for Christ.*

JOIN US IN PRAYER:

- *That God will provide opportunities for me to be used by churches for this cause.*
- *That God will lead me to those people and organizations that desire to support MAC Ministries.*
- *Pray that my one-on-one discipling and other relationship opportunities continue to grow.*
- *Please help us by praying that God provides me an opportunity to gain further training.*

Mailing Label

GOD AT WORK THROUGH MAC MINISTRIES

The end of December 2000 was a pretty grand time. I was about to start a new job, my wife, Michelle, was doing well in her job and was about to be promoted in the US Navy. We had just moved into a new home. Then, disaster struck.

Michelle was on her way home from work when she had car problems. Her car stopped and a driver who had drunk too much for breakfast struck her from behind... She was in the hospital, in a coma, and I didn't know what to do. But, God was watching out for us, and a church we didn't even know came looking for us.

Michelle's condition improved, but mine didn't. I couldn't even think about forgiving this man who had hit her.... I wanted to hurt him. My journey with God was at a complete standstill because I couldn't get over

my feelings of anger and resentment towards the driver. I didn't know how I could be a good Christian and have a relationship with God, and still feel this way. I was lost and had nowhere to go. But, God was watching out for me and he sent Pat, a faithful servant and a member of our new Church home, to my rescue.

After much talking with Pat, about Michelle's accident and my feelings about it, I realized something very important: It was not my place to judge the person who hit Michelle's car. The power to judge rests with God and His son, Jesus. Once I was able to grasp that and hold it, I was able to forgive the driver. With that huge burden gone from my shoulders, my journey with God could continue and I had Pat's influence and guidance to thank for it.

—Perry Lamb

FINANCIAL GOALS TO SUPPORT MAC MINISTRIES

- We are continuing to build a financial support team with people who can commit to giving anywhere from \$50—\$150 per month to Men Abiding in Christ Ministries. If you have an interest in being part of this ministry through financial giving, please let me know. No amount is insignificant as all of it will be used to sustain this calling.
- We are currently at 64% of meeting our minimum monthly budget and 57% of the goal for our financial support team.
- Praise be to God for all of you who have opened your hearts with prayer and support for this ministry.