

the journal

[a summit ministries publication]



SEPTEMBER 2008

Volume 8 Issue #9

Equipping **students** to maintain and champion the **Christian faith**
as leaders **who think and act**
from a **biblical worldview** in all areas of life

OUR VISION

CONFERENCES



RESOURCES



CURRICULUM



INSTITUTES



SPECIAL ISSUE: State of the Summit Report

- » Our Programs
- » Our Resources
- » Our Staff
- » Our Needs

See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

— Colossians 2:8

www.summit.org

CONFERENCES:

exposing the collision of worldviews

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"For the first time in my life, my heart and my head are in the same place."

— Rebekah Wirgam, University of North Florida (2008 Summit CO)



"Every presentation was insightful, thoughtful, and challenging. This conference exceeded all of my expectations."

— Peg Gray, Christian School Teacher (2008 Adult Conference TN)

For Students: *Colorado, Tennessee, Ohio, Virginia, International*

For over 46 years, the heart and soul of Summit Ministries has not changed: the training of students ages 16–24 in Christian worldview thinking, preparing them for the battle of ideas that they will face in college and in culture.

Critics say that students just want to be entertained. We know that the stakes are too high to buy into that way of thinking. Our two-week conferences feature over 70 hours of instruction in worldview analysis, Christian apologetics, and leadership from our faculty of world-class instructors. We have seen first-hand that students not only can handle substantial teaching of this type, they long for it. Over 1600 students attended our various student conferences in 2008, but our work is far from complete. Enrollment has been steadily declining these last couple of years, so we need your help to identify any and all students who can benefit from these time-tested conferences and emerge as a generation who can roll back the forces of darkness, evil, ignorance, and apathy.

For Adults: *Colorado, Tennessee*

It's not only students who need to "understand the times!" Every Christian is responsible to be prepared "to give an answer for the hope that is within them."

Our adult conferences are designed to equip parents, teachers, pastors, and lay leaders to understand the biblical Christian, Islamic, Postmodern, Secular Humanist, Marxist, and New Age worldviews, as well as the cultural issues where these worldviews battle for supremacy.

The spring adult conference is co-hosted by The Navigators at the beautiful Glen Eyrie Castle in Colorado Springs, CO. The summer conference features a special educators focus and is held at Bryan College in historic Dayton, TN. Please consider attending one of these conferences in the future.

On the Road



Chuck Edwards



Eric Smith



Dr. David A. Noebel



John Stonestreet

A Summit speaker will likely be at a venue near you sometime this year.

In the last 12 months, Summit speakers visited over 20 states and 7 foreign countries, teaching over 20,000 people in person and thousands more through radio interviews and webcasts. We spoke at youth events, pastors conferences, mission schools, teachers training events, church seminars, homeschool conventions, and on college campuses. If you are looking for depth and insight into the collision of today's worldviews, Summit can provide the right speaker for virtually any event and audience.

Ministry Partners:

Summit officially endorses these ministries who share our vision to provide church, high school, and college groups with excellent worldview and apologetics training.



www.crossexamined.org



www.bryan.edu/wvteam.html

CURRICULUM and RESOURCES: 3

providing worldview resources for all ages and settings

For Schools and Homeschools: *Training Students in Worldview from 1st to 12th grade*

Building on the ROCK



Establish your students with a strong foundation in the biblical worldview as early as first grade! *Building on the Rock* is an integrated biblical worldview and Bible survey course for grades 1–6. Students learn the biblical story, while being grounded in the biblical view of God, self, others, and creation. And, they love what they are learning.

LIGHTBEARERS



What's the secret behind getting middle schoolers excited about truth? Help them apply it to all areas of life and they will see how it makes the most sense. Thoroughly revised this year, *Lightbearers* incorporates video lessons to teach the fullness of the biblical worldview and how it applies to students' lives.

UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES



Now used in over 700 Christian schools and over 300 hundred homeschools, no other curriculum so effectively prepares students to defend the Christian worldview against all its competitors in every area of culture. Outstanding readings, videos, and assignments will prepare juniors and seniors to be warriors for truth in the collision of ideas.

Resources



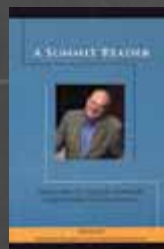
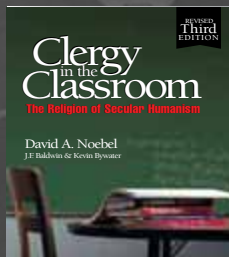
Worldviews in Focus

These twelve-week studies are just right for Sunday school classes, community groups, and college ministries. Part one (*Thinking Like a Christian*) focuses on the biblical worldview in key areas; part two (*Countering Culture*) explores the major non-Christian worldviews.

Thinking Like a Christian



Countering Culture



Website:

Have you seen the new and improved www.summit.org? It is attractive, easy to navigate, and full of important resources. Find free articles, stream video lectures, and shop our bookstore. Or subscribe to RSS feeds that will keep you up to date on "Worldviews in the News" (updated several times daily) and our Summit blogs: Dr. Noebel's "From the President's Desk," John Stonestreet's "The View from Here," and student blogs from Summit Oxford, Semester, and our Student Conferences.



Audio/Video:

Can't make it to a conference this year? Looking for truth on a particular area? Want more from your favorite Summit speaker? Our audio and video resources feature the best lectures from the history of the Summit and are added to each year. Available in DVD, CD, and Mp3.

Books:

Looking for really good reading? Take a look at the online Summit book selection: www.summit.org/store/. The Summit Bookhouse offers the best books on worldview, apologetics, and cultural studies. Pictured are three must-haves (from L to R): Dr. Noebel's definitive work on worldviews, *Understanding the Times*; his expose of secular humanism, *Clergy in the Classroom*, and *The Summit Reader: Essays and Lectures in Honor of David Noebel*.



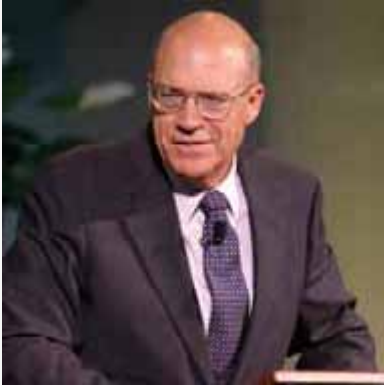
Radio:

Summit speaker, best selling author, and professional tennis player David Wheaton is the host of "The Christian Worldview," a nationally syndicated radio program sponsored by Summit Ministries that focuses on contemporary issues from a biblical perspective. Find a station or listen online at www.summit.org.

from the **PRESIDENT'S DESK**

a word from Dr. Noebel

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From the President and Editor:

This issue of the *Summit Journal* is quite different from our normal news-packed issues. However, with nearly 50,000 families presently receiving this publication we thought this would be an excellent time to bring everyone up to date on what we are doing. We also wanted you to be aware of the opportunities there are for you to participate along with us, since all of this is possible because of your prayers, student referrals, and financial support.

As you read this issue you will notice that *Summit Ministries* has something of a worldview nature from 1st grade through graduate school and beyond! We are equipping a new generation who know the difference between the Christian worldview and all of its competitors and who understand how each is vying for their hearts and minds. Our vision is that they will be like the men of Issachar, who understood “the times and knew what Israel should do” (1 Chronicles 12:32).

Please take a minute to look through this issue and learn about our worldview *Conferences* for students and adults, our *Curriculum* currently being used in thousands of Christian schools and home schools, our quickly expanding *Resources* available in print and on the web, and our *Institutes*—Summit Semester and Summit Oxford—which are mobilizing gifted young people toward a life in Christian scholarship. Please also take a look at page 7, which describes how you can get involved.

Usually, I reserve these center pages to catch you up on happenings around the Summit or to quote a letter from a parent or a former student. In this issue, however, I want to introduce you to the special staff we have here at Summit Ministries, the faces behind our various projects. I can't tell you how much I appreciate their dedication and effort to this vision that is now 46 years old.

Finally, I say goodbye this month to a few special people who have been a key part of Summit's vision and mission. Todd and Renee Cothran met at the Summit in 1993, were married and joined the full time staff the next year, and have been with us ever since. They have contributed to just about every aspect of the Summit and they will be greatly missed. We also say goodbye to Amanda Lewis who has served faithfully in the curriculum department and as an editor to various writing projects. Amanda will also be missed.

The Team



John Stonestreet
Executive Director,
Author, Speaker



Kevin Bywater
Director & Scholar in
Residence, Summit Ox-
ford, Author, Speaker



Eric Smith
Director, Summit Semes-
ter, Staff Director, Sum-
mer Conferences (CO)



Rich & Sherry Honken
Property Management/
Oversight



Darrell Furgason
Director, Summit
International



Jason Graham
Curriculum & Resources
Administrator



John & Nancy Hay
Curriculum Writer,
Speaker



Chuck & Pat Edwards
Author, Speaker, Dean
of Students, CO Student
Program



Mary Hines
Business Manager



Jen Honken
Assistant to the President

the **FACES**

meet the people of Summit Ministries

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Trudy Friesema
*Accounts Payable and
Receivable*



Olivia Updike
*Donor Receipting,
Administrative Assistant*



Tori Bardin
*Donor Receipting,
Administrative Assistant*



Ashley Drayer
*Assistant to the
Business Manager*



Ben Williams
*Director, Summit East
Student Conferences*



Allison Tirjan
*Asst. Director, Summit
East Student Confer-
ences*



Ben Honken
*Property Maintenance
and Oversight*



Anil Gaiwad
*Summit Village
Maintenance*

Among Our Outstanding Faculty...

Dr. Michael Bauman, *Hillsdale College*
Dr. Francis Beckwith, *Baylor University*
Dr. Cal Beisner, *Cornwall Alliance for the Stewardship of Creation*
Mrs. Debbie Brezina, *Author, The Spirit of Churchill*
Dr. Bill Brown, *President, Cedarville University*
Dr. Ergun Caner, *President, Liberty Theological Seminary*
Dr. Norman Geisler, *Southern Evangelical Seminary*
Derwin Gray, *Pastor, Founder, One Heart at a Time*
Dr. Gary Habermas, *Liberty University*
Mike Haley, *Focus on the Family*
Hugh Hewitt, *The Hugh Hewitt Show*
Dr. Wayne House, *Faith Theological Seminary*
Scott Klusendorf, *President, Pro-life Training Institute*
Greg Koukl, *Founder and President, Stand to Reason*
Robert Linden, *President, Peak Management Consulting*
Rev. T.M. Moore, *Dean of Centurions Program, Prison Fellowship*
Dr. J.P. Moreland, *Talbot School of Theology*
Dr. Jeff Myers, *Bryan College, Founder of Passing the Baton Int'l*
Dr. Gary Phillips, *Pastor, Signal Mountain Bible Church*
Dr. Del Tackett, *Executive Vice President, Focus on the Family*
Dr. Frank Turek, *President, Cross-Examined*
Dr. Charles White, *Spring Arbor University*
Dr. Kurt Wise, *Southern Baptist Theological Seminary*

The Summit Board of Directors From Left to Right:

Ted Reese
David Noebel
Alice Noebel
Phil Kayser
Julie Hays

Jeff Myers
Mike Mandt
Tony Jeffrey
Mark Brezina



INSTITUTES

mentoring the next generation of Christian scholars

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"Everyone is offering answers. Summit Semester set before us questions few others seem to be asking."

— Jody Byrkett
2006 Alumna

SUMMIT
SEMESTER

Summit Semester

After 45 years of worldview training in camp and conference formats, Summit Ministries launched Summit Semester. This twelve-week residential course which runs each fall equips a select group of Christian students with a thorough grasp of theology, church history, philosophy, literature, and political theory. Through their study of "the great ideas," Semester students are animated toward academic excellence and a coherent Christian worldview and are motivated toward a life of influential leadership, contributing to their culture for the glory of God and the good of society.

Summit Semester's academic program is led by Dr. Michael Bauman, a long-time Summit faculty member and professor of Theology and Culture at Hillsdale College. Semester students reside at Snow Wolf Lodge in the inspiring mountain wilderness of the San Juan National Forest near Pagosa Springs, Colorado, and are mentored by a Summit staff under the leadership of Eric Smith.

This environment of academic excellence and Christian community nurtures character formation, hones intellectual skills, clarifies calling, and provides critical preparation for university life and beyond. Through Summit Semester we are training a new generation of thoughtful, passionate, cultural leaders.



"It was a great honor to have been tutored by Oxford professors. I will long cherish the cultural experience of living in Oxford."

— Brian Genda
2007 Alumnus

Summit Oxford

For nationally syndicated radio talk show host Hugh Hewitt, the Summit Oxford program is one of Summit's most important missions. In fact, Ryan Gleason, a Summit student who just returned from an Oxford term, said it was "a life-changing experience." Having recently graduated from George Mason University with an economics degree, Ryan will lead in applying the implications of a biblical Christian worldview to this area.

While Summit offers training resources from first grade through college, Summit Oxford is the capstone program that will equip a new generation of Christian scholars who, like Ryan, will reclaim key areas of scholarship and culture with the biblical worldview. What better way to promote the cause of Christ than having spiritual, intelligent young men and women carrying the banner of Christian, conservative principles into academia?

Currently, nine students are studying at Oxford with Summit Ministries under the watchful mentoring of Kevin Bywater. Among this outstanding group of students is Emilie Noteboom, a tri-lingual scholar who, holding her law degree, plans to finish with a Ph.D. degree at Harvard so as to change seriously the intellectual elite of Europe. The potential of Summit Oxford to counter the atheistic and pantheistic thinking like the Apostle Paul did in Acts 17 should excite everyone reading this column.

Please consider this an invitation to come alongside and help us locate the foundations, companies, and individuals who will invest in a culture shaping agenda like Summit Oxford.



OUR EXTENDED FAMILY

embrace the Summit vision

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Summit Wish List

With your help, Summit Ministries can expand its influence and impact for Christ in homes, churches, schools, and culture now and for years to come. Please look over the areas outlined below. Is there an area where you can assist?

1. Conferences & Institutes

Need: To find the right students who are serious about academics and leadership for our Student Conferences, Summit Semester, and Summit Oxford. Please send names and addresses to Summit Ministries, P.O. Box 207, Manitou Springs, CO, 80829

2. Curriculum

Need: (1) To Spread the word about our excellent curriculum for Christian schools and homeschools. (2) To complete the 6th and final grade of *Building on the Rock*

Cost: \$125,000 to finish production of 6th grade curriculum

3. The Summit Journal

Need: To finance continued printing, handling, and mailing of Summit's monthly publication: The Journal

Cost: \$20 per recipient per year

4. Summit Semester

Need: To provide sponsored fellowships for students who have the potential to enter the arena of Christian scholarship

Cost: Thirty (30) \$2,500 fellowships, to be named after the sponsor or according to the sponsor's direction

5. Summit Oxford

Need: To provide sponsored fellowships for 10 students per academic term, or 20 students per academic year

Cost: Twenty (20) \$5,000 fellowships per year, to be named after the sponsor or according to the sponsor's direction

6. Housing at Summit's CO Campus

Need: To construct two Swiss chalets to house additional students at Summit's Colorado campus

Cost: (1) \$54,000 each; (2) Donated lumber or other building materials; (3) Workmen to donate time and expertise for construction

Become a Part of the Team

1. Pray

Pray for our staff, faculty, students and conference attendees, and for our clarity of purpose and commitment to the truth.

2. Subscribe

On the Web: RSS feeds will notify you of each new post to "Worldviews in the News" or any of our blogs.

By Email: Summit's monthly e-newsletter "Truth and Consequences" features an informative and cutting-edge article written by a member of our staff.

In Print: The Summit Journal is produced monthly and edited by David Noebel. Do you know someone who should be a subscriber?

3. Invite

Bring a Summit speaker to your next event or send a student or adult to attend one of our conferences

4. Give

Choose an item on our wish list to contribute to or become a monthly or annual ministry partner

Become a Monthly Partner

Would you consider joining a team that is having an impact on the culture? As a Summit Ministries monthly partner, you will have a hand in the worldview training of thousands of students, parents, teachers, and pastors each year. Monthly gifts of \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 or more add up to make a big difference. To join, just fill out and return the response card attached to this journal. For your convenience, we can arrange an automatic monthly withdrawal of your donation from your checking or savings account.

Join our Millennial Team: \$1,000 per Year

This growing group of Summit supporters carries much of the financial weight of the ministry. Millennial team members give at least \$1000 a year. 2009 members will receive complimentary copies of Dr. Noebel's landmark work on worldviews, *Understanding the Times*, the Summit Lecture Series on Mp3, and each new book produced by Summit.



Summit Ministries
P.O. Box 207
Manitou Springs, CO
80829

the WORD on the STREET

"I credit the Summit Ministries Adult Conference training as being the catalyst for changing my personal spiritual and worldview development plan, and also how I trained my children and the other students at our school."

— Larry Taylor, Headmaster, Prestonwood
Christian Academy (Plano, TX)

"Wow! I have such a hunger now for more information, more ideas, and more resources."

— Marie Vickers, 2008 TN Adult Conference (NC)

"Honestly, one of the most incredible two weeks of my life. It completely cemented certain things in my mind and encouraged me to become more involved in my nation and culture. I didn't want to go home!"

— Dana Chartrand, 2008 Summit OH student

"I consider Summit Ministries to be one of the very best resources available, and I don't say that lightly."

— Dr. James Dobson
Founder, Focus on the Family

Summit Honors Its Fallen

We would like to honor two brave Summit graduates who recently gave their lives defending our freedom against terrorism:

Peter Wagler
Marc Allen Lee