

Christian Coaching – Fuel for Missional Leadership

By Eddie Hammett, PCC, Church & Clergy Coach for CBFNC



Christian Coaching provides a sacred, confidential environment for leaders, churches and fellowships to face realities, stretch into future dreams and retool for the missional opportunities ahead. Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of NC has decided to begin a certification program for Christian coaches for persons affiliated with CBFNC. Coach training is certain to bring needed fuel to missional churches and leaders. Our first generation for coach training is scheduled for November 8-9, 2010 at Trinity Baptist in Raleigh. The second required class for certification is scheduled for February 7-9, 2011 in Raleigh. We will be offering this initially in the Raleigh area, but will be moving this around the state over the next couple of years.

The Value of Partnering

As a fully credentialed coach and coach trainer, part of my partnership contract with CBFNC, will allow me to tap into other partnerships and relationships to bring coach training, at reduced rates, to CBFNC churches. The curricula has been designed through Coach Approach Ministries (CAM). I am one their licensed trainers and mentor coaches and an affiliate of CAM. I am also a member of the International Coach Federation (www.coachfederation.org) which is the International accreditation agency for all coaches. After 1,500 plus hours of coaching clients, over 250 hours of classroom training and over 100 hours of mentor coaching I received my ICF credentialing as a Professional Credentialed Coach (PCC). This allows those in classes I teach to also apply for their ICF credentialing after successful completion of their requirements. All training, mentor coaching that CBFNC will offer will be acceptable by those who choose to advance by applying for their credentialing through ICF. My current partnership with The Columbia Partnership and my previous role as a lead coach for “Sustaining Pastoral Excellence Project” has allowed me to coach pastors of many denominations and denominational leaders representing about 10 different denominations. The Certification offered initially to participants in our training will be through a partnership with Valwood Christian Coaching.

Certification Requirements

The Valwood Christian Coach Certification involves multiple dimensions that assures levels of excellence that is recognized in the coaching world and the Christian coaching world. A brief outline of requirements include:

- **Pre-requisite online introductory course** – This must be completed successfully before an invitation is extended to enter the face-to face classroom training classes that follow. Cost for online training is \$125

- **Building Blocks of Christian Coaching** is a 16 hour classroom experience held in two full days of classes. Introduces basic coaching skills and models along with significant demonstrations, practice sessions and feedback sessions. Scheduled for November 8-9, 2010
- **Establishing Dynamic Coaching Relationship** is a second 16 hour class after the successful completion of the first class. This overviews establishing a covenant with clients, finding clients and creating the sacred space for a fruitful coaching relationship with individuals. Scheduled for Feb. 7-9, 2011.
- **Three one hour telephone teleclasses** – these are offered free to CBFNC participants but are required for certification. Eddie will be leading the teleclasses which will check in on wins/challenges and demonstrate coaching by phone.
- **Six hours of mentor coaching with a certified coach.** These are done by phone for the purpose of modeling good coaching, providing feedback and walking with new coaches through their early coaching relationships.
- **Application for Valwood Certification** for those who choose to get the certification after successful completion of all above requirements. However, the classes and coaching can be completed and the person decides the certification is not needed – therefore they would not need to pay the application fee to Valwood.

Expense for CBFNC persons is about half of what would typically be paid since, CBFNC, is paying Eddie as the primary trainer/coach for these sessions. If you are interested in further details send an email of your interest to EHammett@cbfnc.org before Sept 1, 2010 so adequate plans might be finalized.

Benefits of Coaching for Missional Leaders

Your decision to engage in Christian Coach training will offer a safe place to stretch into steep learning curves, embrace transforming dreams and provide a toolkit that moves from maintenance to missional leadership amidst growing diversity. Coaching is about action, not just talk. Coaching is about stretching not living in comfort zones. Coaching is about moving people and organization from where they are to where they desire to be. Missional leaders and congregations are discovering again how to be leaders and organizations that impact and influence others for the cause of Christ in a rapidly changing world. Coaching offers fuel for leaders and churches that are determined to face the future with hope and become agents of transformation and not just transmitting information.

The coach in me wants to ask,

- “What kind of leader/church are you now?”
- “What kind of leader/church do you desire to be?”
- “What are the disconnects?”
- “What’s getting in the way of you living your dreams?”

Face the fears and move forward – that is what coaching will do for you!