***August 19, 2018***

***Today’s Lesson on Spirit Quenchers: It’s My Fault!***

**From Mike:**

Our vision statement is posted at the top of this bulletin page. We have had it for over a decade now, but it’s really been our purpose for two thousand years. We probably don’t mention it enough and yet everything we do is, or should be, driven by that statement. We exist to help people develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ! It says everything! Every Bible class, every ministry, every event that we have is to help everyone who can, grow in Christ. Everything about our facilities is to provide a place where the Good News of Jesus can be taught, people can be encouraged and equipped for spiritual growth, and seekers can learn how to become a child of God. The expense of our facility is not about having an edifice or rooms for rent and use for social events, which is a side benefit, and it’s not about having a block of offices for administrative needs. Every room in this building is here to contribute to helping people develop a deeper relationship with Jesus. It is always so sad to me when people think of the office as ONLY admin. Nearly everything that ever happens in the office is related to our vision statement—not busy work or records keeping. Studies, meetings, counselling, serving, dealing with needs, and many other vision related things go on every hour of every day, and to call it “just admin” is to truly diminish what really happens. The office exists to facilitate any and every ministry that is carrying out our vision statement. Please don’t diminish the service and work that happens all over our building by thinking of it as “Building and Administration.” Every person on staff is not here to do busy work but to support and carry out our vision of helping people get closer to Jesus. Money spent on people who do ministry and places to do ministry is not money that is somehow “Not going to the need.” Building and Administration in the world view may involve money that’s not going “to the cause”, but in ministry, it is money that supports and carries out the cause. It supports and provides opportunities for “the cause” - the teaching of the Gospel and the maturing of disciples. Yes it costs to have facilities and full time ministers, but it’s the cost of a vision.