

# My Mission, Values, Vision, Gifts and Beliefs

*Kent Williams*

## Personal Ministry Statement

*To increasingly know Jesus and to continually make Him known. Love God, Love People.*

## Purpose Statement: why the Church exist:

I believe that the church exists to glorify God through:

- A) Adoration – helping people love God most and put God first in every aspect of life
- B) Body Life (Fellowship) – helping people connect to the church family
- C) Compassion – helping people use their gifts to serve others
- D) Discipleship – helping people grow in the character of Jesus Christ
- E) Evangelism – sharing the Good News about Jesus with those in our sphere of influence

## Ministry Objective: what is the ultimate plan

I believe that ministry in the Church is the process of accepting people where they are into genuine relationships and helping them discover God's plan for their lives through a meaningful and growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

## Mission Statement: what the Church is doing

The mission of the Church is to be a family of maturing Christ-followers who engage our friends and neighbors in the adventure of following Jesus Christ.

## Strategy: how the Church accomplishes her mission

*Come in* – get connected to Biblical community (*Fall in Love with Jesus*)

*Grow up* – be equipped for godly living and effective ministry (*Learn How to Handle God's Word*)

*Reach out* – take your faith into your community and world (*Discover and Develop gifted ministry*)

To help others Come in, Grow up, and Reach out, so that they will help others Come in, Grow up, and Reach out, so that they will help others...

## Core Values: the things that guide Church decisions

***The Bible is the Truth for regular people living everyday life.***

We (*the Church*) value the Bible as God's inerrant and infallible statement of truth that leads to salvation and spiritual maturity; therefore, we will teach and preach the scriptures with integrity and clarity, showing people how truth can and should transform their daily lives. 2 Timothy 3:15-17

***The Church is a family.***

We value people knowing, loving and serving each other; therefore, we will be together in environments that encourage transparency and caring. 1 John 3:16-18

***Prayer gets us aligned with God.***

We value God's power at work in and through us; therefore we will incorporate prayer into every aspect of our life and ministry. Acts 4:31; Colossians 4:2

***Unity is mission critical.***

We value unity amongst our church family; therefore, we will follow Christ together, looking out for the best interest of others, and staying focused on our mission. Phil. 2:2-5

### ***The Church is a picture of Jesus Christ.***

We value being an accurate picture of Jesus Christ; therefore we will encourage and model personal integrity and moral purity in our lives. Ephesians 5:1-4

### ***The gospel really is good news.***

We value the good news that people can have a relationship with God through Jesus Christ; therefore, we will focus our energy and resources on sharing this message with people in our community and around the world. Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 4:12; Romans 1:16

### ***Following Jesus Christ is an adventure.***

We value a spirit of adventure in our ministry; therefore, we will be flexible in our methods and open to taking measured risks in order to influence our friends and neighbors with the good news of Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 9:22

## **Vision: What I see for the future of the Church**

God has placed the Church in place and time by His design, for now. As I look to the future, I envision the Church being a place where:

- 1) the Bible is taught in a clear, interesting, and practical way;
- 2) unconditional love for one another is the norm;
- 3) prayer is woven through every aspect of our church life and ministry;
- 4) every involved person is intentionally developed towards maturity, ministry, and mission;
- 5) the methods and styles change with the times but the message remains the same;
- 6) the staff and leadership are united in cause and purpose, bonded and faithful to one another as a model to the community and the world of Christ's love;
- 7) strategic partnerships are formed with like-minded ministries for the purpose of impacting our community and our world for Jesus Christ;
- 8) the Church will multiply by developing church leaders and launching them into church ministry.

## **Local and World Missions Ministry of the Church**

My experience for leading Missions Ministry is rooted in the experience God has given me and grows out of what opportunities, for honoring God, that are still ahead of me. Beginning with what foundations have been successfully established within the present Missions Leadership of the Church, through prayer, a Missions Ministry Leadership Team should be continually strengthened. Establishing or strengthening policies, education, support and Great Commission fulfillment strategies should be developed with the greatest potential for effective, quality, positive, God honoring results.

### **Missions Philosophy of the Church**

I believe that the missions philosophy of the Church should affirm that the purpose of all Christian activity is to glorify God (Rom. 15:6; 1 Cor. 10:31). God is glorified when we acknowledge the greatness of His person and His works, and when we are faithfully responsive to His revealed will.

Acknowledging that the New Testament purposes of the church include worshipping God, evangelism, edification/discipleship, compassionate/missions ministry, and Body life/fellowship, both home and abroad, I believe, that the Church should constantly endeavor to carry out an effective strategy to follow Christ's directive until He returns.

The Great Commission (Matt. 28:19-20) is obeyed when people are introduced to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord (evangelism), and when they are guided to spiritual maturity in obeying Christ (discipleship/edification), and when they worship God from a pure heart (worship). Thus, I believe it is the responsibility of each Christian to do his/her part first of all in their home region. Then, collectively, through the local church,

believers send missionaries throughout the world according to Christ's on-going directive. Christ said, "*I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it*" (Matt. 16:18).

It is recognized that the Book of Acts presents the principle that world missions (home and abroad) is to be accomplished by local churches - local churches that select, send, and support missionaries to evangelize and disciple peoples of other cultures with a view to starting other local churches and to bring them to maturity. In addition, participating with a network of other common believing Christians/Churches can often help to maximize their potential by cooperating together to fulfill the Great Commission.

While it is apparent from the Bible that every believer is a witness for Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8), it should be realized that certain believers, with special gifts and abilities, will be selected by the Holy Spirit through the local church and sent out by the church as missionaries.

Mutual accountability and responsibility should exist between the local church (and/or missions organization) and the missionaries. Guidelines should be agreed upon by those appointed to establish and support them (Missions Committee), with the approval of the Church Body. God works in unique ways and should not be limited by such guidelines, therefore, the guidelines should not be rigid in all cases, but shall serve to guide the Missions Committee in its decisions.

Strategically, the Church should continually pray, prepare, educate, support and be actively involved in the Great Commission. Successful ministry is most effectively evaluated by the obedience to this directive. Missions Education, Missions giving, continual challenge to personally participate, organize and plan domestic and foreign mission opportunities (life, long term and short term) should be at the core of the Mission Committee's actions.

## **Statement of Faith**

### ***I, Kent Williams, Believe...***

1. The Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men and the Divine and final authority for Christian faith and life.
2. In one God, Creator of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. That Jesus Christ is true God and true man, having been conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He died on the cross, a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. Further, He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where, at the right hand of the Majesty on High, He is now our High Priest and Advocate.
4. That the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ and, during this age, to convict men, regenerate the believing sinner, and indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer for godly living and service.
5. That man was created in the image of God but fell into sin and is, therefore, lost, and only through regeneration by the Holy Spirit can salvation and spiritual life be obtained.
6. That the shed blood of Jesus Christ and His Resurrection provide the only ground for justification and salvation for all who believe, and only such as receive Jesus Christ are born of the Holy Spirit and, thus become children of God.
7. That water baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be observed by the Church during the present age. They are, however, not to be regarded as means of salvation.
8. That the true Church is composed of all such persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit and are united together in the Body of Christ of which He is the Head.
9. That only those who are, thus, members of the true Church shall be eligible for membership in the local church.
10. That Jesus Christ is the Lord and Head of the Church and that every local church has the responsibility, under Christ, to decide and govern her own affairs.

11. In the personal and pre-millennial and imminent coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and that this "Blessed Hope" has a vital bearing on the personal life and service of the believer.
12. In the bodily resurrection of the dead; of the believer to everlasting blessedness and joy with the Lord; of the unbeliever to judgment and everlasting conscious punishment.

## **My Ministry Objective**

My ministry objective is to serve Christ as a pastor in a local church that needs a visionary, relational leader who increasingly loves God and genuinely loves people. Serve a Church that desires a pastor who has a passion for clear and creative Bible teaching, leadership development, a passion for local, regional, domestic and international outreach.

## **My Philosophy of Leadership and Ministry**

My philosophy of leadership is founded in Jesus' statement that those who lead do so in order to serve others. I believe that leadership is first a matter of Christ-like character, and then a matter of ability. I also believe that leadership must be by example, and that influencing others towards Christ requires the development of environments and relationships of genuine love and acceptance.

I believe that ministry is about people, not programs, and that ministry is for God's people, not just professionals. As a pastor-teacher, my responsibility is to use my spiritual gifts of pastor/shepherd, evangelism, and faith, to equip people to do the work of ministry. I view myself as a shepherd (loving people), a coach (helping people maximize their passions, gifts, personality, and experiences for Christ) and also as a choreographer (helping people, teams, and ministries function together to multiply their effectiveness).

In particular, I believe that a Pastor of a church should preach and teach the scriptures; pray; exemplify commitment to Christ and obedience to His commands; be burdened for the spiritual health and vitality of the congregation; recruit, develop, and lead leaders (including ministry staff if applicable); help establish direction and cast vision for the ministry; lead the ministry in reaching out to the community and the world; join with other shepherds of the church to provide pastoral care, and be cognizant of and sensitive to the operational side of the ministry (i.e. budget, facilities, etc).

## **My Spiritual Gifts**

Discovering and understanding His gifts in my life has helped me most to understand my SHAPE, and what God has called me to and into. I continue so grow and develop many of God's wonderful gifts in my life. Primarily present and exhibited in my life would be the spiritual gift, *Pastor/Shepherd*. Secondly, but very close to Pastor/Shepherd, is the gift of *Evangelism & Faith*. Pastor/Shepherd, I believe is the Spirit-given capacity and desire to serve God by overseeing, training and caring for the needs of a group of Christians. The Shepherd who leads and feeds, the coach of the "TEAM".

*I have seen and had others confirm seeing these Characteristic traits in my life as a result of this giftedness:* I am typically very patient with people. I am also willing to spend time praying for others needs. I am people-centered, and I love them. I am more a leader than a follower, expressive, composed and sensitive. I often draw people to myself easily. I feel that I have a pleasing and friendly personality which I believe is a direct result of the genuine care I have for people and my desire to be willing to help anyone God places in my path.

*Some burdens and desires I have as a result:* I have a burden to see others learn, grow and mature. I am optimistic and protective of others. I usually don't like presenting the same material twice, but do so when it is effective, important and/or not heeded. I am willing to study what is necessary to guide others in the correct path. I am more relationship oriented than task oriented. I

have a high sense of empathy and tolerance of others shortcomings. I can often help others resolve their problems and differences, helping to bring compromise in a peaceful way. I am often sensitive to hurt feelings or problems which cause a loss of unity, but will occasionally miss this due sometimes to an overly optimistic outlook. I am more concerned about doing for others than others doing for me. I am faithful, devoted and often work too hard. However, I have slowly learned that sharing leadership and responsibilities is far more efficient and much more effective.

*Some needs and weaknesses:* While being ambitious, assertive, enterprising, outgoing... I can sometimes be too much so and get too far out in front of the people I am leading. While I will accomplish what I start, there are sometimes things that just don't have to be finished by me. I enjoy most seeing others capture vision and carry it out, and have incredibly improved at allowing others to go about something differently than I would. I am better at being willing to risk that something will not succeed or be carried out in the way I think it should be. I do get excited when I realize a need or weak area in my life, and see myself improve and become stronger at overcoming that weakness... because it is always something that God does in my life, and I am glad to see Him working in me.

The gift of *Evangelism & Faith*, I also see as a wonderful Spirit-given gift that I have. This desire to serve God by leading people, beyond my natural sphere of influence, to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ is always near the front of my motives.

*Characteristically*, I seldom meet a stranger and I get along well with others. I am more often light hearted, expressive in speech and communication. As mentioned before, I am patient and tolerant of people and their weaknesses, and sympathetic to sinners. I really enjoy seeing people come to know Jesus Christ.

**Multiple Psychological Inventories** suggest that I am an "Alpha," a "D" on the "DISC." The suggestion is that I am unusually favorable to have exceptional initiative, self-confidence, constructive ambition, effective decision-making skills and a talent for leadership and creativity.

## **Some interesting things about me....**

*Devotional Life.* Look forward to it. I use to have more regular times with my family in daily devotions, but not as often as when they were younger and on a unified schedule. However, we are still able to capture 3-4 times a week at our dinner table, and often spiritual devotion is a natural part of that experience. Personally, first thing in the morning at my office, behind closed door, I meet with my Master each day. I read in the Proverbs, often a bit of a devotional book, read a portion of scripture, sometimes in a plan or purpose to learn or understand something God is teaching me at the time. I write in my Spiritual Journey Journal a bit, have a time of prayer, making notes in my prayer journal as guided by the Spirit. Time to time, I will take refuge for a time of refreshing, and extended time of prayer, Bible reading and meditation on God's Word.

*Major Problems I see Christians facing.* Christians don't have problems.... (just kidding). Christians, I believe have been under challenged and truly are up to living more abundantly. Therefore, while I regularly address problems and struggles of the day, I primarily like to "address" the problems before an ambulance is needed by building a fence at the top of the cliff, developing family with direction to help people stay as far away from the edge (problems) as possible. However, reality is, we all have *friends* who are having problems therefore in order to help *friends*, I aim head on into the challenges Christians face daily, discovering what God's Word clearly says about..... finding significance and purpose, setting goals, priorities and understanding vision. What is success? What about family? Marriage? Children? Is work important? What about finances? Define Missions. Being a good Sport. What is most important? Sin, what is, what isn't? Important Habits. What is the big deal about Church? Cults/Religions. God's friend. Home Improvement. Finish Strong. Home Security.... Bring it on....

**Books I have read in the past 5 years.** I read constantly. Answers to your kids questions (Colson), Raising a Modern Day Knight (again and again, by Lewis), Tender Warrior (Webber), Winning Every Day (Holtz), The Five Love Languages (Chapman), The Family Friendly Church (Lawrence), Partners in Prayer (Maxwell), Inside Out (Crabb), The Supernatural (Barney), Winning with People (Maxwell), The Next Generation (Stanley), Leading with the Heart (Krzyzewski), The Ultimate Gift (Stovall), 3:16 The Numbers of Hope (Lucado), 7 Practices of effective Ministry (Stanley), Masterplanning (Biehl), Remember This Titan (Yoast), Quiet Strength (Dungy), Beyond Belief (Hamilton), just finished The Shack (Young), The Last Lecture (Pausch), The Travelers Gift (Andrews), Uncommon (Dungy)... probably 25 others.

**The Bible.** Have read it through many times. A central part of my every day life. I love Mark, Philippians, Genesis, Acts, Proverbs. Have never preached from Lamentations. Life verse is Philippians 4:13. Love to memorize scripture.

**Goals next 5 years other than Ministry Objective.** *A. Husband/Father:* 1. be a best friend to Karen, Luke, Rock, Sierra & Sky. 2. Disciple and encourage them in their life and school. 3. Spend time with them. *B. Spiritual:* 1. Have continually growing relationship with God. 2. Personally win at least 25 students to Christ. *C. Professionally:* Get a Doctorate of Ministry Degree if opportunity is available. 2. Disciple 6-12 people a year. 3. Lead a measurable number of people into Leadership or Missions/Ministry. 4. Enjoy my work. *D. Financially:* 1. Debt Free. Be in position to give generously to Kingdom work. *E. Simply for Excitement:* 1. See my boys play College Football 2. Do what my Girls enjoy. 3. Annual Trip with my family 4. Hawaii with Karen.

**Hobbies/Likes.** I enjoy most team sports (basketball, racquetball, football, tennis, ping-pong), Outdoor stuff (Skiing, backpacking, rafting, hiking, coaching, yard-work <sometimes>), Hanging out with my family. I like watching movies, especially with Karen. I like watching College football games live and on TV with my family, listening to Karen laugh.

**What qualities do I admire in others?** The most definitive quality I admire most in others is a genuine love for God and people. While not necessary, I am always looking to gain another good friend. I appreciate those who are growing in their faith, regardless of where they are on their journey. I long to continue working and serving with folks who look to the Bible as their ultimate guide for life. Fellow team mates, called to a common goal and vision, regardless of their role.

In addition, I have an admiration for the lost in what I hope is the same way God loves all people, and desires that all come to an everlasting relationship with Him. Therefore, I too long to establish relationships with pre-Christian people who are open to learn more about the Abundant life.

**Extra.** I play the guitar and sing, can lead worship. I do Chalk art sometimes. I love winter time. Design web sites a little and understand multi-media elements. Edit video. I love kids. I like to have friends over for dinner and to hang out.

## My Personal Testimony and Ministry Call

I grew up in an incredible Christian home, with very godly parents. I attended Church for as long as I can remember, and I usually enjoyed those times of my growing years. I invited Jesus Christ into my life at the age of nine years old and was baptized in June of 1971 at Taylors First Baptist Church, in South Carolina. I grew within a very vibrant Student Ministry, and was discipled by my Student Ministry Pastor. In the Summer of my Junior year in High School, I was impressed by the Christian maturity of some of the College Students who were helping in our Student Ministry. It was that Summer that I began to really take God more seriously, and began to sincerely seek His will and pleasure through my life.

After attending Junior College, I transferred to Furman University and was part of the Southern Conference Championship Football team. I became involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in High School, and continued to grow in my commitment to ministry in that area. I spoke in area Churches, Schools and civic organizations through College, and shared my love for God more and more as I grew in my faith. I began coaching various sports in my free time as a way to meet and encourage people.

I worked in various Christian Summer Camps in College, and after graduating became a Pastor of Student Ministry. It was actually within that experience that I was called to a life of vocational ministry. I met Karen at a Billy Graham rally that she brought her youth from her church too. We fell in love and were married about a year later Feb 13, 1988. Two years later we started our family, and eventually we enjoyed Seminary together at Southwestern Theological in Fort Worth TX. I have incredible children, who all love God. Luke, 20 (attending College), Rock, 18 (plays football @ Western Carolina University, NC), Sierra, 14 (8<sup>th</sup> Grade) and Sky, 13 (7<sup>th</sup> grade).

I have been serving in Ministry for over 25 years and remain open for God's daily direction on my life. Simply put, I love God deeply, and I sincerely love people.

I have been in various ministry settings across the country over the past 25+ years from congregations of over 3,000 to 400. I have served churches in Texas, Florida, South Carolina, Tennessee and now Michigan. This, I feel, really gives me a fresh perspective of our varied Kingdom demographic. The experience that God has given me makes the next opportunity seem to be a natural, but challenging one. I have been regularly teaching and preaching in many different settings over these years, using as many creative means that are effective to communicate the exciting and abundant life that God desires for those who follow Him. I use media, coordinate the development of drama and other means of presentation to get the exciting news of what Christ offers to all who will hear. I use chalk art, participation, humor and the like. I have a knack for finding the right and best way to present the subject at hand. I have a genuine love for people and a great passion for God that is realistically the source of favor that I have experienced with people. My honest presentation of my own challenges and the genuine way that God works in my own life brings exciting transformation in the lives of those in my ministry settings. I am consistently seeing God call out ministers from the ministries I have led; the *sending* capacity of ministry is more precious than the *seating* capacities that we have also enjoyed. The incredible way that I have seen dynamic leadership teams developed and coordinated is genuinely like being part of an incredible family.

I am at a point in ministry where I am certain that over the next few years God will continue to grow and challenge me in an area of ministry that is fresh and dynamic. I am actively open to move in this direction within the time God will direct.

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## Endorsements

*“As a young man dealing with a ‘Holy Calling’, I had the opportunity of admiring Kent Williams from afar as a ‘hesitant’ teen trying to figure out his new youth pastor... Once convinced of his authenticity, love, and passion, I finally began pursuing his wisdom and instruction in my life. Through humble servants like Kent Williams, God revealed His calling to a life of missions and Christian service to me.”*

*- Mark Taylor, (missionary) [mark@pensacolaworldchangers.org](mailto:mark@pensacolaworldchangers.org)*

*“Kent has been a friend for several years and I had the privilege to serve as an interim pastor at the church where he led student ministries. Kent's passion for God and people is always an encouragement. He has a vision for ministry and leads effectively. His character and family are an example to all. Kent is a wonderful asset in the Kingdom Ministry.....”*

*- Jeff Totten, (Baseball Chapel Leader to the Detroit Tigers) [chapeldet@aol.com](mailto:chapeldet@aol.com)*

*“As a dear friend of Kent and his family since 1995 I have watched the Lord guide him along a challenging spiritual journey and grow him into the godly, mature man he is today. His passion for Christ and passion for people have stood unwavering through the years. My family has personally benefited from his outstanding leadership development skills and his heart for missions. We have seen first-hand his resourceful outreach to our community. Kent Williams points people to Christ and they are forever changed.”*

*- Susan Winn, Franklin, TN, [edhwinn@bellsouth.net](mailto:edhwinn@bellsouth.net)*

*“My wife Mary and I had the pleasure of serving as volunteer youth Sunday School teachers and missions leaders with Kent and Karen Williams when they were at The People's Church in Franklin, Tennessee, from 1996-2000. We personally were blessed by Kent's passion for teenagers and skillful handling of God's Word. Kent was our example to follow for reaching lost students, too. Kent and Karen consistently modeled what Christian marriage and family is to our students. We consider Kent one of the Lord's choice servants in His kingdom.”*

*- Richard Barnes, Franklin, Tennessee, [moosebarns1023@yahoo.com](mailto:moosebarns1023@yahoo.com)*

*“Kent Williams has affected my walk with Jesus Christ as much as anyone I know. He is a dynamic speaker, pastor, and encourager. You will never see anyone disciple people better than Kent. He has been a mentor and a tremendous blessing in my life, and as far as a friend, there is none better.”*

*- Chris Wells, Wellspoken Ministries, [Chris@wellspokenministries.com](mailto:Chris@wellspokenministries.com)*

*“I've known Kent Williams for 25 years and have had the privilege of serving on staff with him here at The People's Church. Qualities I admire in Kent's life are his personal godliness, passion for people, work ethic and commitment to excellence.”*

*-Alan Pace, Adult Connection Pastor, The People's Church, [apace@thepeopleschurch.org](mailto:apace@thepeopleschurch.org)*

*“Kent Williams and I have been friends for more than a decade. Throughout that time I have watched him consistently be a loving father, devoted husband and passionate pastor. Kent authentically tries to serve and invest in everyone he comes in contact with. I hold him in very high regard.”*

*-Darren Whitehead, Teaching Pastor, Willow Creek Community Church, [dwhitehead@willowcreek.org](mailto:dwhitehead@willowcreek.org)*

*“I've known Kent since his middle school days when I served as his youth minister. Very early on, it was apparent that God was going to use Kent to make a difference. Since then I've definitely seen God use Kent to make a profound and eternal difference in countless lives. Kent knows how to build a ministry. Every place he has been, he has multiplied his leadership by making disciples, just as Jesus instructed. Kent is creative, committed, as determined as they come, and rarely outworked by anyone. Over the years I've had the privilege of working with thousands of adult student leaders. Kent easily ranks among the top handful when it comes to effective and lasting ministry.” I'm Bill Cox and I approved this message.*

*-Bill Cox, Concoxiions Creative Ministries, [BillCox@concoxiions.org](mailto:BillCox@concoxiions.org)*

*“Kent joined the pastoral team when I was Senior Pastor of Community Bible Church, in Brighton, MI.. In all of my years of pastoral ministry, I have never worked with any other Student Minister who had the capabilities to reach, teach, connect with, and lead students as well as Kent has. He is a tireless worker and innovative.*

*He deeply loves the Lord and deeply loves students. Kent has an exemplary marriage and family. I give him the highest recommendation."*

*-Sam Hoyt, Associate Trainer, EQUIP International, [samhoyt@comcast.net](mailto:samhoyt@comcast.net)*

*I have known Kent from our college days..... He has been a faithful friend to me and my family. Each time I talk with Kent he encourages me in the Lord. His ministry focus always challenges me to a great commitment to Christ. I admire his desire to serve the Lord and help people grow in their faith.*

*- Glenn Chappellear - Professional Fisherman, Founder of Sportsmen's Outreach, Inc*

*"Kent Williams has been a tremendous double blessing as a friend and mentor. First as the senior leader in the youth ministry, working under Kent with the college and career program, I have seen him grow the leadership into a co-hesive team that shares common goals. In our work there, is a balance to reach youth the traditional church is failing to reach as well as disciple and equip adult leadership and students. I have enjoyed seeing a difference made in the kingdom of Christ working with Kent in an age group of young mobile adults that the larger church often losses after high school graduation.*

*Second he was a coach and mentor to my son in a key stage of his life... forming a Godly discipline in life that continually focused him on following God's leading in life. This guidance and leadership he gave now bears fruit in my son taking a lead role in FCA at the college level to impact other student athletes. It also impacted him to seek out what God's calling is in life and has him now exploring the prompting to follow God's lead to go into the public schools as teacher, coach and mentor for the next generation."*

*- Jim Eshelman, Greenville, SC, [jimeshelman@yahoo.com](mailto:jimeshelman@yahoo.com)*

*"I have known Kent for several years, and the first thought that comes to mind when I think of him is genuine. He genuinely loves God, and lives his life reflecting that love. He is also one of the hardest working people I know, as well as driven to help people know and grow in Jesus. We absolutely love him and his family, and are blessed by God to know them. We have worked shoulder to shoulder and I would give him my highest recommendation."*

*-Bob Pittenger, Howell, MI, [bob\\_pittenger@yahoo.com](mailto:bob_pittenger@yahoo.com)*

*"Kent Williams was my youth pastor for many years and so I call this man friend, pastor and brother. His compassion, humility and dedication to God are challenging and inspiring. I'm excited to see where God leads him in the coming years!"*

*-Rebecca Smallbone (aka Rebecca St. James) <http://rebeccastjames.forefrontrecords.com/>*

*"May I commend to you the ministry of Kent Williams. Years ago, he grew up here at Taylors, was baptized and called to ministry here. As you can see in his biographical information, he has been used by God in a variety of places in helping primarily young people come to faith in Christ and grow in Him. He has been very effective in this process of obeying the Great Commission. I commend him to you as a person who has been used mightily by God and wishes to be used even further in the days ahead. His mom and dad are members of our church and are some of the most faithful, growing people that we have. Therefore, Kent comes from a great family who love and support him very much. I commend him to you."*

*-Dr. Frank S. Page, Pastor, Taylors, SC, First Baptist Church , President, SBC 2006*

*"While in high school, I was part of a group of young men that Kent Williams disciplined. He taught us what it meant to have a relationship with Christ and how to avoid ritualistic religion. Kent invested in us and challenged us in our spiritual walk like no one had ever done before. He had discernment to know when to "push" us in our walk with Christ and when we needed a pat on the back. I am incredibly grateful that Christ used Kent Williams because I experienced supernatural change in my life through his ministry. Christ through Kent helped transform a group of young believers into campus ministers that were unashamed and unapologetic about their walk with The Lord. He helped set the bedrock of our spiritual foundation for the men of God that we are today. "*

*-Bryant Laird, Volunteer Mobilization Consultant, North American Mission Board, Alpharetta, GA*