



**CONTINUING THE GREAT COMMISSION
IN THE MARKETPLACE**

TRANSITIONS AND THE TIMELESS GOD

ROB GENIN, YBL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2022 was a major year of transition for YBL. After 38 years, Phil Reddick, YBL's first director, retired from YBL. What a ministry he has had! Phil's contribution is impossible to calculate, and the impact of his ministry at YBL will only be fully weighed in eternity. At the same time, YBL Jackson said farewell to Director Jay Fletcher, who had greatly blessed and expanded the ministry there. Likewise, August Griffith, who for several years blessed WBL as the director through the challenging days of COVID, transitioned to focus on her young family. We also had several support staff transitions during this time.



Amid all these significant farewells, YBL Ministries has had faithful support from its boards. From the beginning, YBL has been a ministry of businessmen and women, and those men and women have carried extra weight in this past year. Through their diligence, YBL Ministries has been able to continue the mission of evangelism and discipleship to the marketplace. YBL Birmingham has continued under their leadership and with Rob Genin serving as director. The WBL ministry was served by a faithful interim leader, Amy Pattillo, and now has welcomed a new full-time director, Sharon Head. The YBL Jackson board and leadership led the ministry through several outreach events and oversaw a transition to a new director, Drew Narmour, and to a local host church, Madison Heights PCA.

With such a season of change, it seems natural to consider the story of Joshua. At the conclusion of Moses' ministry, the people had grown heavily dependent on him as the mediator of God's Words. However, God wants us all to know that the secret ingredient in all enduring ministry is not the human leader, but God

himself. God tells Joshua, "As I was with Moses, so I shall be with you" (Joshua 1:5). It must have been difficult for the people to consider life without Moses to guide them. However, Israel was in a crucial time – facing the conquest and settling of Canaan. Joshua had to go forward!



In similar fashion, the need today for businessmen and women to believe and live according to God's Word and to make disciples in the marketplace is greater now than it has ever been in YBL's 41-year history. Because of the great need, and because we serve a Great God, we do not need to be daunted by change. As Joshua led the people of Israel into the Promised Land of Canaan, God assured him that He was at work – "Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses" (Joshua 3:7). The focal point is not Moses or Joshua – the focal point is God. He will accomplish His purposes. He will be with us.

In a season of transition, we are excited about the future, about proclaiming the enduring and abiding hope of Jesus to a new generation of businesspeople. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). So look inside, welcome new faces and see the new things our timeless God is doing at YBL Ministries!

YBL 2ND HALF

HELPING MEN TRANSITION AND TO FINISH WELL

This year the vision of YBL 2nd Half was tested as the organization experienced its own transition. Phil Reddick had the original vision to start a 2nd Half Ministry, and as he transitioned, the lay leaders within YBL have stepped forward to carry on this important work. Phil continues to be engaged and involved, and YBL 2nd Half is partnering with him and others in this season of change.

This year the 2nd Half has grown to a dozen men's small groups! Additionally, these men have engaged in mentoring younger men, served through Grace Klein/Feed BHM, Urban Hope and The World Games.

In November, 2nd Half partnered with CFEL to put on a Caregiving Seminar. This is a crucial topic: many people have questions about how to make wise decisions in caring for aging loved ones who need help, and these issues are not frequently discussed in a systematic way. YBL 2nd Half Continues to equip men to make important transitions in their careers and to finish well for Jesus!





WOMEN BUSINESS LEADERS

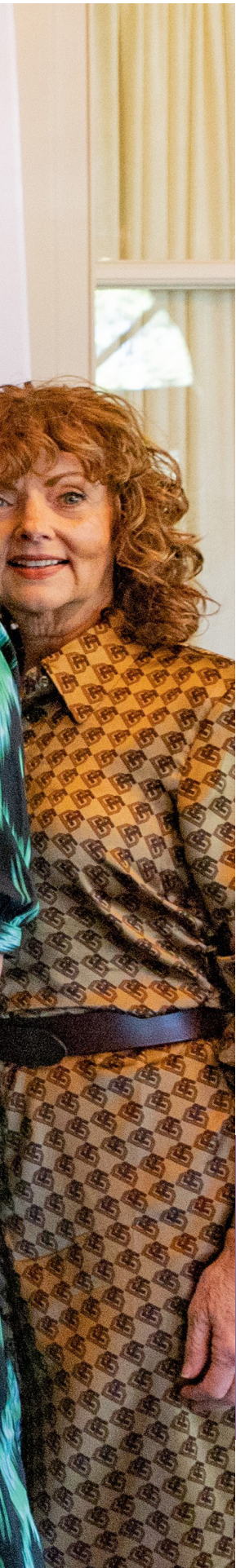


WOMEN BUSINESS LEADERS



WOMEN BUSINESS LEADERS





WBL ANNUAL REPORT: FILLING IN THE POTHOLES

JOY MOORE, WBL BOARD CHAIRPERSON

"My husband and I are moving back to Georgia."

These words from the mouth of our Director of Women Business Leaders were a shock as she and I met in April to discuss the upcoming WBL events. Our meeting quickly turned into a planning session for her exit, and my expectations of a smooth, easy year serving as board chairperson were upended as the year turned into a challenging, transitional one. God used August Griffith in her role as Director of WBL; every aspect of the ministry from community outreach events to small groups evidenced her work and His hand. When August said she was leaving, I felt as if the ministry were a runner who had developed a rhythm and stride only to abruptly stumble into a pothole. Not only was her absence leaving a huge gap, but our gifted administrative assistant also took a new job at this time.

God knew it all, and He was with us. What happened after has been another testimony of His faithfulness. The women He had selected to serve on our board stepped up in extraordinary ways to be a true working board and invest their time and hearts in the ministry. A former WBL Director, Amy Pattillo, agreed to work ten hours a week to help give continuity and plan the fall outreach event. Another former interim WBL Director, Anne Reddick, served as lead writer of a needed new on-boarding study for women interested in getting involved in our small groups. Additional small groups were formed and unexpected new teachers were identified.

For the fall event that we weren't sure would happen, God provided a venue, a speaker, decorations and everything we needed. This resulted in 220 women coming together to hear about God and to be encouraged in their walk with Him in the marketplace. God was not finished. He brought a new director for WBL. Sharon Head, whose combined experience in business and ministry make her particularly well suited for helping women connect their belief in Jesus to every aspect of their lives, stepped into the role as director in October. Sharon's passion is to see women know the incomparable love of Jesus Christ, to walk in his truth, and to make God known in all their endeavors. He also brought a new administrative assistant to help! When I look at this transitional year, all my heart sees are His incredible blessings of provision, love and care for His WBL ministry. All glory be to HIM!

"So many of us long to have a place for deeper connection and meaningful spiritual discussion at work, but with the endless demands for our time and attention, adding one more thing to our plate seems like a daunting task. That's where WBL steps in and meets us where we are - providing resources and leadership that minister to our hearts in the nooks and crannies of our hectic days. Our small group leader Marion was a complete stranger to us four years ago and now she's a dear friend whose gifts of consistency, love and wisdom have changed our lives." - **Lauren Billings CPA, RSM, Assurance Senior Manager, WBL Small Group Member**



MEET WBL BIRMINGHAM'S NEW DIRECTOR: SHARON HEAD

As the new Women Business Leaders Director, it is a great privilege to be able to walk with women through the issues of life and point them to the One who knows them and loves them perfectly.

I came to know the Lord at work, at 24 years old. I vividly recall seeing a small group of women at a table in our cafeteria studying a book together, not knowing the book was a Bible! God was tugging at my heart and surrounding me with Christians. Through these influences, and Gene (who is now my husband), I met Jesus and was connected to a bible believing and teaching church. It completely changed the trajectory of my life.

I was privileged to partner with a woman named Donna Greene at Community Ministry for Girls for 32 years. Community Ministry for Girls focused on discipling young women in high school. I have also had the opportunity to work as an advisor to graduate level theology students at Beeson Divinity School.

Since following Jesus, God has enabled me to serve people at a variety of ages and stages. I'm delighted to be able to now focus on women of in a variety of situations in their professional and personal calling.

God has richly blessed me with my loving, faithful and encouraging husband, Gene. We have been married 33 years and have been gifted with two delightful children who walk with the Lord. Abby (29) is married to her fantastic husband Carson, and they have a delightful son, Bo. Our son Evans is engaged to be married to his fiancée, Caroline, in February of 2023. We are thrilled with our expanding family and give great praise to God for His kindness to us and His faithfulness to us all along the way.

I look forward to serving working women through WBL. Pray that together we will continue to build community centered on the hope of Jesus in the days to come!

YBL BIRMINGHAM REPORT

ROB GENIN, YBL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Birmingham is a wonderful city to live and work in! There is both great opportunity and need for the YBL ministry of discipleship and evangelism to men in the marketplace. Despite a season of major transitions, God has continued to bless the day to day efforts of spiritual growth in and through faithful businessmen. We have so much to celebrate and be thankful for. Here is a snapshot of some of the blessings and activities of 2022:

6 new small groups started this year

9 professions of faith in Christ

40+ new men in weekly discipleship groups

Approx. 210 in weekly discipleship

Over 1,200 attended YBL and 2nd Half Events in Birmingham

Disciple-making Investigative Trip to India

Ongoing 6-week disciple-making training for leaders

Emphasis on Developing Habits of Prayer

YBL Men Volunteered with the 2022 World Games for Service and Outreach

Retirement Celebration Honoring Phil & Anne Reddick for 38 Years of Faithful Service to YBL

Collaborated with other local non-profits such as The Lion's Den, Generous Life and NCF

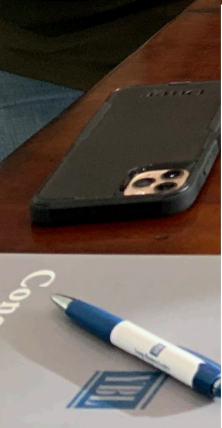


An obedient disciple of Christ is more than someone with Bible knowledge or even impeccable behavior – they are a Kingdom worker. They engage with God in His mission of reaching the lost to teach them to become workers as well. Only recently did I come to fully grasp this. Jesus calls His followers to make disciples for the purpose of multiplication. The highest and best use of my life is to glorify God by making disciples... one at a time. I only wish I had come to realize this years ago. Thank you YBL for helping me on this disciple-making journey! –Michael O'Neal

YBL TESTIMONIES

The YBL ministry has clearly encouraged me as a disciple maker and small group leader. Meeting with other small group leaders has encouraged me to realize everyone struggles, often with the same things. YBL has given me many opportunities to invite men who might not come to church to events that are Christ focused, where they have a window to enter in to relationships for discipleship. **-Bill Pierce**

My early exposure to YBL came through the mentoring program of the ministry. At the time, I had just become self-employed and knew nothing about running a business. The mentor helped me learn the basics, but much more than that, we ended up doing life together during that season, and ultimately the mentoring became a mutually transforming relationship full of encouragement. **-Daniel Friday**





YBL JACKSON MINISTRY UPDATE

DOUG MCDANIEL, YBL JACKSON BOARD CHAIRMAN

2022 has been a year of significant transition for YBL Jackson. We not only have a new Executive Director but also a new local church sponsor.

Our new Director is Drew Narmour. We are grateful for God's providence in leading the Jackson board to Drew, and we are excited about how God will use his significant gifts to bless others. We look forward to his ministry and partnership with YBL Jackson.

We are excited about the future, but we would be remiss not to also thank our former director, Jay Fletcher, who served YBL Jackson selflessly for five years. Under Jay's capable leadership, the ministry grew significantly. Additionally, YBL Jackson is pleased to now have a local church sponsor, Madison Heights Presbyterian Church (MHC). Several of the officers of Madison Heights have served on the YBL Jackson board. MHC has enthusiastically embraced this new relationship.

We are very excited to see how the Lord will expand His Kingdom further under Drew's leadership along with the partnership of MHC!



MEET THE NEW YBL JACKSON DIRECTOR: DREW NARMOUR

It is a joy to join YBL and to serve in the Jackson Community. I would like to share a little of how God brought me here. Of all places, it was a group of guys in my fraternity at Ole Miss that shared the gospel with me in a way I had never heard before. I say, "never heard before," but the truth is, I grew up knowing about Jesus and his atoning work on the cross. But Christ chose to reveal himself to me through a bible study made up of guys that clearly knew Jesus and loved others well. For me, it was the first time I had experienced authentic community – I finally understood how important these friendships were.

Friendship has been key to my gospel journey. For that reason, I became excited about the opportunity to serve in YBL when I heard about its mission. YBL exists to point people to Christ through discipleship, with authentic community at its core. I was convinced of the importance of this work when I talked with men in the ministry who shared about how formative their YBL group had been in their walk with Christ.

My wife, Melody and our daughter, Lily (9 months) moved to the Jackson area in August and have been enjoying our time greatly. Melody is in her first year of med school at UMMC. Before YBL, I spent seven years serving in the local church and two years serving in campus ministry. I'm also finishing a degree at RTS Orlando (MDiv).

I look forward to serving the YBL Jackson ministry and helping to equip men and share the gospel in community!



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE YBL MINISTRIES TEAM

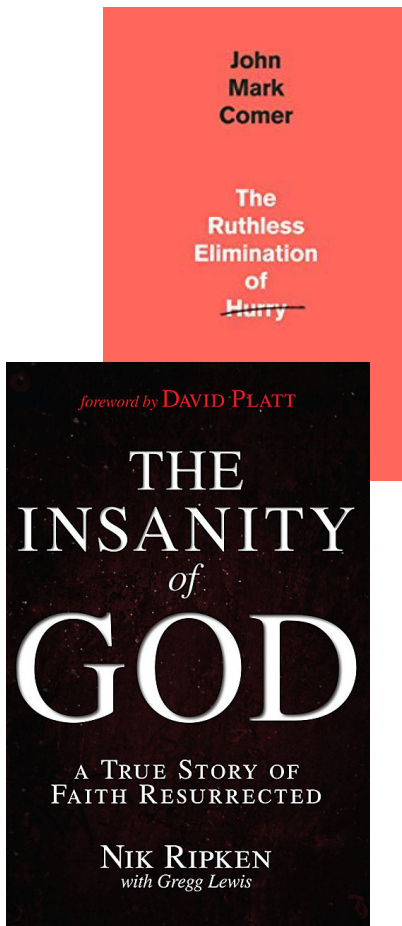
Rob's Book Reviews

The Relentless Elimination of Hurry – John Mark Comer

I am grateful for the YBL businessman who recommended this book. It shows how a state of hurry is fatal to a spiritual life. *Hurry* looks at four ways to adapt our modern lifestyles to come closer to the lifestyle of Jesus. Solitude, Silence, Sabbath and Slowing. Even the print on the book is big, and it lends itself to a more leisurely read. For all who are weary and burdened, I recommend this book and the light yoke of Jesus.

The Insanity of God – Nik Rypken

This book is part autobiography and part research. Nik and his family labored to give humanitarian relief in Mogadishu, Somalia, during some of the most brutal conflicts. After being deeply wearied by what he saw and experienced, Nik asked the question – can a Christian's faith survive in such dark and brutal places? This led him to a personal search and study of Christian saints in Russia, Eastern Europe, China, Asia and the Middle East. His eye-opening discovery was that Christians can not only survive in persecution, but flourish. This book made me want to sing a "heart song" to Jesus. Read this book to find out more.



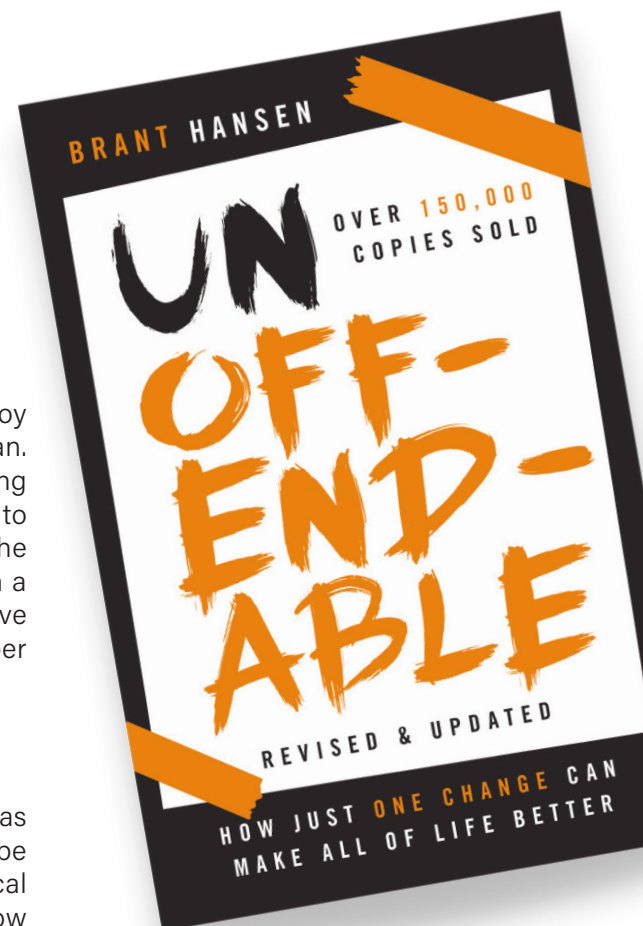
Sharon's Book Reviews

Commentary on Romans – Frank Thielman

Not a casual or a quick read, but if you're willing to take the time and enjoy the process, this is a worthwhile investment for any thoughtful Christian. New Testament scholar, Dr. Frank Thielman, does an excellent job writing a commentary that appeals not just to those skilled in Greek but also to the untrained reader who wants to see the careful exposition of one of the richest texts in scripture. In this fast-paced world, I found great value in a slow, steady unfolding of one of Paul's most comprehensive letters. It gave me not just a deeper understanding of theological concepts, but a deeper understanding of and love for my savior.

Unoffendable -- Brant Hansen

A quick read with good reminders about how to interact with others as God's image bearers. Who doesn't feel as though they have the 'right' to be offended now and then? Brant Hansen helps us to remember the biblical truths about our sin and the sins of others and offers practical ideas on how to live an unoffendable life. As Brant says in the book, we must choose to be unoffendable before our conversations, meetings and even before the day starts. This is deciding to have a humble spirit.





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NEW FACES AT YBL BIRMINGHAM!

YBL Birmingham welcomes Emily Rosser as our new administrative assistant, and Tim Holland our YBL Financial Administrator. Tim has owned several businesses and built custom homes, and brings great experience to the role. Emily is a recent graduate of UNA. She has traveled extensively with her family, and desires to be a foreign missionary in the future. Welcome Emily and Tim!

