



A MESSAGE FROM JOHN LAUNSTEIN, CSB PRESIDENT

The church in North America is at risk of losing an entire generation of boys.

Not only have evangelicals become increasingly ineffective at reaching the next generation for Christ, many research studies are suggesting we are doing an even worse job at connecting our own kids to the church and growing them up in Christ in a way that “sticks.” In fact, some propose that for every 100 children who already attend church in their kindergarten year, only four will remain connected to a church family within two years of graduating high school. And most pastors tell us of those four, three are likely girls.

It seems in this era of age-specific ministry, churches are failing to build vital connections between adults and youth, between children and elders, between boys and men. In an effort to minister to the various demographics, something crucial has been lost...and the consequences are devastating.

It doesn't have to be that way.

For over 72 years Christian Service Brigade has partnered with churches in discipling boys and young men.

The result? Pastors of CSB churches tell us their stories are unfolding quite differently than those of so many others. Men who are growing in relationship with Christ are becoming spiritual fathers to boys who may not have any other godly role models in their life. Christian men are speaking into the lives of the boys and young men in their units, and relationships are built that become the glue God uses to ensure His truth “sticks.”

The next generation is being forever impacted.

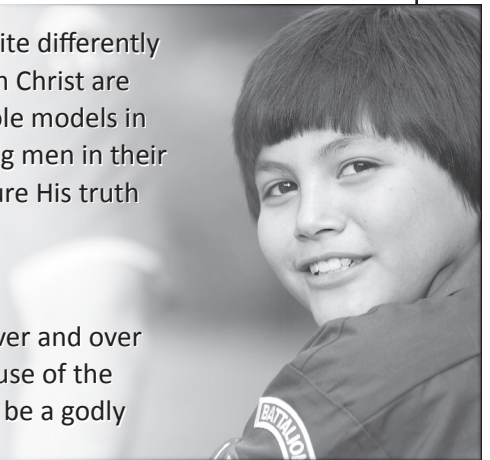
In churches, homes and coffee shops I've heard statements like these over and over again: “CSB made a huge impact in my life;” “I'm in ministry today because of the foundation CSB gave me;” “God used CSB to teach me what it means to be a godly man.”

In fact, I know this truth firsthand. My years in Stockade and Battalion made an immeasurable impact in my life, and prepared me for leadership and ministry both in and outside the church. Almost 30 years later, my first Ranger remains a treasured friend, and I've had the privilege of taking his grandson fishing several times in recent years. Last year the Captain of my Battalion and I were reminiscing about our time together and realized that of the guys that were in Brigade with me, we know of at least seven who are in full-time Christian ministry.

Another church shared with us recently that from a single graduating year, seventeen of their Battalion guys went on to Bible college, and thirteen remain in full-time ministry. Pastors and church leaders are telling us, “There's nothing else out there that trains boys to become godly men and leaders like what you're offering.”

Your partnership is making a difference.

(over...)





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YOUR PARTNERSHIP IS MAKING A DIFFERENCE...

We are so grateful for God's blessing on this ministry and your contributions to the legacy He is forging through our efforts in His name. This spring, we're celebrating the first year in over two decades where we're seeing growth in the number of churches offering CSB programs in North America. God's provision sees us approaching the end of the current fiscal year in a stronger financial position than we were twelve months ago, and our sincere thanks goes to many of you who gave so generously.

Will you continue to stand with us in prayer and financial support as we move boldly forward into the coming ministry year?

To do so, we need additional funds to make our way through the summer (a season of significantly reduced cash flow) and begin the new year with significant forward momentum.

I can't begin to express how humbled, excited and envisioned I am to be called by God to be part of this ministry at this time. God has brought an incredible team together to lead us forward on the revision of our Stockade and Battalion programs, and we sense His hand leading us on this crucial initiative. We are also embarking on the development of new leadership training for those entering ministry with CSB in local churches. God continues to bend our hearts to equip churches in Zambia to disciple the next generation of boys in their communities, and a second trip is being planned as I write this. And these are just a few of the significant efforts we're prayerfully engaged in this year so we can continue impacting men and boys for Christ in even greater ways.

We're looking for men and women like you who believe we cannot afford to lose the next generation of boys. And we're asking those of you who are able to commit to regular financial partnership in this mission God has called us to. Specifically, we're looking for 50 ministry partners to commit to \$50 per month in new or increased support (or a \$600 annual gift), and 20 ministry partners to commit to \$100 in monthly support (or a \$1200 annual gift). May I ask you to prayerfully and thoughtfully determine how you are able to partner with us? We are grateful for whatever God leads you to give.

With your help, we will build godly men of today and tomorrow. We will continue to connect the young men and boys in churches across North America in vital relationships with Christian men. We will reach the next generation.

Thanking God for your partnership in prayer and financial support,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John Launstein'.

John Launstein
President, CSB Ministries

In November 2009, the U.S. Board of Directors appointed John Launstein as president of CSB Ministries U.S. He was already serving as president of CSB Canada. Now through this united North American effort, God is providing greater opportunities for synergy and collaboration.

