

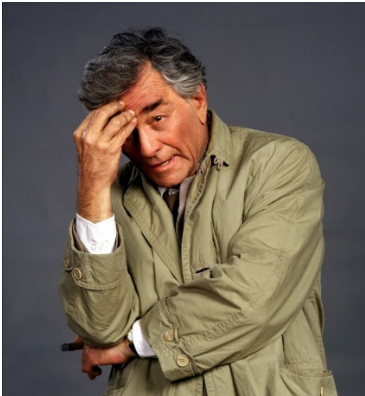


April, 2018

In Detective Colombo Style

Dr. Dave Coryell Christian Endeavor's Global Director

Detective stories intrigue me. Collecting the facts, seeing how they fit together, drawing conclusions, fun stuff! Every detective story contains a process making that show unique.



Dave Coryell's story unfolds most easily when comparing it to Detective Colombo.

Colombo always reveals the villain at the shows beginning. Then the entire episode involves discovering facts leading the viewers to the conclusion they always knew.

In Colombo style, Dr. Dave Coryell serves as Director for Christian Endeavor World and CE – USA. CE exists to Inspire, Equip and Encourage churches to Biblically develop youth as Christ-centered leaders. Now stay tuned as we uncover the details God used to place this unlikely person in this leadership position.

Dave grew up in Pennsylvania's back hills surrounded by woods and farmland. The youngest of three children, he made friends quickly, enjoyed sports, and had loving parents who made sure the Coryell Clan was present whenever the church's doors were open at Zion United Methodist Church Myerstown, PA.



Paul Markloff, Mission Weeks Director • Dr. John Smith • Dr. Dave Coryell, Executive Director
Youth Specialties National Youth Worker Convention, Cincinnati, OH, November 2016

At recess while in first grade Rick Doolin, Dave's best friend, looked him in the eye and asked him if he was saved. Dave was confused because he did not know he was lost. Whether Dave began a relationship with God when six years old is difficult to know, but he clearly remembers seeing the world and God differently following that moment. He took faith steps in seventh grade while part of his church's confirmation class. During this same year, Dave met his two junior high Sunday School teachers, Mrs. Josephine Klopp and Mrs. Mary Nicewender. Mrs. Klopp was the law and Mrs. Nicewender was the grace. The first day they were "promoted" to youth Sunday School Mrs. Klopp, a retired "old school" schoolteacher, met them at the door holding a clipboard. She announced teens were responsible to individually lead devotions on Sunday mornings. Dave wrote his name on one of the blanks because everyone knew saying "No" to Mrs. Klopp was not an option. His day to lead devotions came. He was scared to death! With fear and trembling he walked to the lecturn, led a few songs, a Bible reading and a prayer. He ran for a seat and sat down relieved he had survived the "initiation" to the youth ministry. Mrs. Klopp sat down next to him. She encouraged his efforts, pulled out her clipboard and said, "I still have empty slots for upcoming weeks." So much for this just being initiation! Mrs. Klopp also always ended Sunday School with the Mizpah prayer from Genesis 39. Dave had never heard this prayer before that time. He did not hear it again for twenty-seven years, but every week they would hold hands and say, "May the Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent one from another." Two clues are revealed here in our Colombo story- 1) effective church youth discipleship involves leading and doing within the youth ministry and 2) remember the Mizpah prayer- this is an important clue!

Soon the high school years came. Dave's older sibling, Nannette, took him as part of a guest team that shared their testimonies at a weekend church event. Dave first led a person to Christ as part of this experience. During the summer following Dave's junior and senior years he drove an hour to Harrisburg with his brother Rodger. He decided to intern with a financial analyst as a volunteer, or for very little pay, while his friends made money doing various jobs. He chose to attend Messiah College where he could study business close to his mentor in Harrisburg. This also provided an opportunity to play college soccer for a strong Division III program that emphasizes academics over athletics. Several important facts and clues come from Dave's college years. First, it helped shape his identity in Christ. His business mentor at the financial institution in Harrisburg helped Dave's business insights skyrocket beyond his classmates. This early start positioned Dave to graduate earning the business department's highest honor emphasizing character, leadership and scholastic ability. Important clue!

Unfortunately, during his sophomore year his mentor was imprisoned for illegal trading. This event was devastating at the time but it led to Dave's summer job disappearing after all the local jobs had been taken. He ended up working at a local fast food restaurant because it was the only work available. It felt humiliating to go from corporate intern to burger flipper. However, God used this experience so that the Holy Spirit could reach a boy named Kenny for Christ through Dave's attitude and verbal testimony. Dave was reminded how amazing it was to lead people to the Lord. The following year Dave was able to gain a new internship. This internship was leading the youth ministry at a local church. Clue! Dave had an amazing experience, but returned to college to continue pursuing his business degree during his senior year.

November 1991 Dave met Jennifer Woodcock in Messiah's sports department. This is a very important clue! Dave and Jen began a dating relationship. Dave graduated with honors and as mentioned earlier he received the business department's distinguished award. He attended numerous job fairs and sent close to one hundred resumes. He showed initiative and had a strong resume but HE COULD NOT FIND A JOB!! Dave decided to intern at a local church again while continuing to send resumes. A few months after this ended he received a phone call from a pastor. The pastor asked him to apply to be the church's half time paid youth worker. Dave did not know people could be paid to do this kind of work. He decided to try it. After just a few weeks he decided to stop sending business resumes, accept a position as a full time youth worker, and after encouragement from his incredible future in-laws started seminary part time. Dave thought he was leaving his business training behind in order to pick up Bible, theology and youth ministry. Some big clues in here!

May 1994 Jen and Dave were married and 23 years later she continues to be his greatest support and blessing that God could have provided. Several years were invested with seminary training and seeing God's amazing work through the church youth ministry. He was able to enroll in a California based youth ministry training program. The program grew him as a youth pastor while also earning several seminary credits. One day the program's director, Dr. Jim Burns, on a whim started pointing at people in the room

and asking what they thought God was going to do through their life. No one had ever asked Dave this question before. Without time to think about his answer Dr. Burns pointed at Dave. The answer Dave gave was surprising and embarrassing. He said, "God is going to use me to change the way people in the United States do youth ministry." Dave wanted to crawl under the table. He felt like his answer was arrogant and haughty. The session ended and Dave thought no one would speak to him. The exact opposite occurred. Person after person came to him affirming his passion for the Lord, his zeal to see lives touched for Christ, and encouragement to follow God's path. Clue!

A crisis moment came after Dave invested almost two years at the church. He was applying all he had learned in the California training program. God showed up! The youth ministry grew significantly. Through the Holy Spirit's power a few decisions for Christ were made. The ministry also tripled its previous size. All of this was exciting, however, Dave was burning out! He was married, with one child, while still trying to do seminary part time. With great expectation he went to the church's human resources committee. He explained the entire situation and then asked for additional staff. God used the next moment to shape his life's trajectory. After hearing Dave's heart felt plea, the church's seasoned senior pastor cleared his throat. He then announced to the room, "No one ever asked you to grow the youth ministry this big." These crushing words ended the session. Dave limped home to his wife where he cried his exhausted heart out. Jen held him and said she would go wherever God led them. They called out to God and asked for direction. A few days passed. No audible voice was heard, but two clear choices emerged. Dave felt absolute peace that God would support either choice. The first choice was to leave and find another church. The second choice was to stay and take significant steps to grow as a leader. Everything inside Dave wanted to run away, but he felt the way he could best honor God through his life was to expand his leadership capacity.

Dave has had three great mentors beyond his amazing parents, siblings, and his in-laws. These men, Clarence Kreiser, Rodney Shearer and David Woolverton, all helped him develop incredibly over his life. During this moment, their words and insights were powerfully used by God. Dr. Shearer encouraged him to seek out the Arrow Leadership Program started by Leighton Ford. Dave applied for Arrow. Nicknamed by some as the Navy Seals for Christian leaders, it is renowned for stretching people to incredible lengths to guide them for greater Kingdom impact. Dave was accepted and entered Arrow a broken leader. He had experienced success but felt crushed by the world and its unrealistic expectations. The clues keep coming!

Following the decision to stay at the church, thirty youth accepted Christ as their personal savior. The ministry continued to grow numerically. This time, however, Dave poured time into praying for adult volunteer staff. His adult team grew from about fifteen at the time of his crisis to thirty-two spirit filled people. God used the insights from Arrow to grow Dave's capacity. He also provided a day where George Barna led the twenty-five-member class on a life visioning exercise. The class entered a Seattle, Washington forest for ninety minutes of vision focused prayer. Dave returned with a clear message from the Lord, but further confusion. The clear message was, "Develop a global network of youth leadership development centers." The problem Dave had was this seemed to contradict what he had said in that California youth ministry training program, "God is going to use me to change the way people do youth ministry in the United States." Immediately following the session it was announced people could use the Arrow program toward a doctoral degree. Students could choose their thesis study area. Dave was unsure where all this was leading, but he knew he had to study youth leadership in order to follow the vision he received in the woods. So Dave entered the D. Min. program. Clues again!

Three more Coryell kids arrived. The family eventually moved to a new town and a new church where Dave served as both youth pastor and pastor of leadership development. Over five years in the doctoral program allowed significant insights to emerge. He decided the time had come to launch the first youth leadership center. It was unclear how he could do this and make money to support his family. A small Christian non-profit called Pennsylvania Christian Endeavor had contacted him three times about an opening to be their executive director. These offers came after Dave spoke at a CE weeklong event. He told them "No" each time and was beginning to get annoyed by their persistence. The fourth time they called Dave decided to be more forceful. The person who called asked why Dave was not applying. Dave explained his passion to develop a leadership center. Ironically, leadership development was part of CE's core purpose. Dave and Jen were encouraged to pray about applying. Within two weeks he was chosen as PA CE's new leader. It turns out Dave had a new position that required using his business training,

youth ministry and seminary experience, and tools acquired in the Arrow/D. Min process all in one position. Clues galore!!

Three years later, Dave had been helping CE develop its events that youth groups attended. He was asked to be the keynote speaker at the 2010 CE – World convention in Lima, Peru. Dave was invited to attend a leadership meeting while at the convention. Upon the meeting's conclusion the president asked a female leader from Guyana to close in prayer. She stood up and said, "Let's close this meeting the way we close in Guyana." She had everyone grab a hand. She then said, "May the Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent one from another." Everyone turned to leave except me. My mouth was hanging open because this female had just said Mrs. Klopp's prayer! Wait, maybe someone else invented this prayer. I began asking questions. I began reading. What I learned rocked my world. I uncovered that the founder of Christian Endeavor's wife, Harriet Clark, always closed her CE mission prayer circles with the Mizpah prayer. I went on to find the church where I was raised had been an Evangelical United Brethren Church. This denomination predominantly used CE as its youth ministry discipleship tool until it merged with the Methodists and was forced to abandon it. My Sunday school teachers were raised in CE so they continued to enforce its principles with their junior high youth.

I took our board through a revisioning process. After prayer and study we determined a need existed for CE to be Rebirthed. Dave asked people from around the world for materials to help churches start CE. Nothing current could be found. He began writing materials and fine tuning what CE should look like today in order to be Simple, Biblical and Relevant. For five years a few churches have been added. There are now churches in eight states with many more studying this process. The process involves youth leading the youth ministry as part of their discipleship journey. This happens after they commit to being held accountable to living out the CE pledge. People around the globe started taking notice of the materials developed in the US. They are now being translated into several different languages for use in some of the thirty countries where CE exists. The World CE board recognized Dave's passion and initiative. They elected him as their Global Director in April 2016. Many details had to be worked out. CE – World did not have enough money to pay for a Director as their resources had been depleted by lack of vision casting and fund development. Dave proposed he be employed full time with Christian Endeavor with half his time as the CE – USA director and half his time as the CE – World director. An assistant would be hired to help him with these responsibilities. Both boards agreed to this arrangement after considerable prayer and discussion. Do you see where the clues lead!!

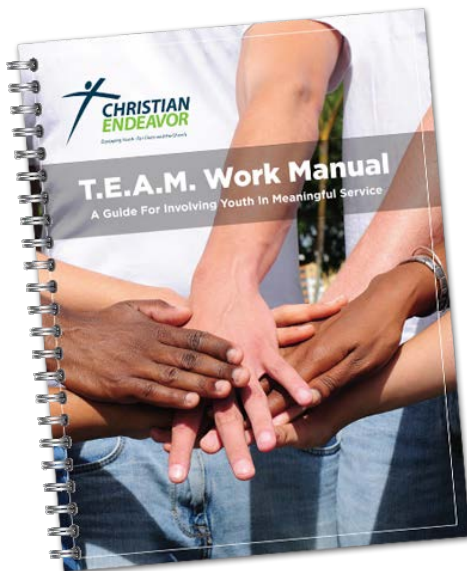


Currently Colombo fans; Dave is invested in spreading CE's effective youth discipleship model across the US in order to change the way this country's churches approach youth ministry.

Adult led youth ministry turns youth into consumers. Many churches ineffectively try to do Biblical youth ministry by developing small youth leadership teams.

This process misses the incredible opportunity available to allow every church youth the chance to respond to God's leading. So the words that came out of Dave's mouth twenty-one years ago are beginning to come true as Christian Endeavor spreads across the country.

Part two also continues to unfold. Dave is also working with leadership from thirty countries to transform their CE sites into global youth leadership development centers. The end result will be a global network of youth leadership development centers by the grace and for the glory of God. God can do absolutely anything through anyone he chooses!



Christian Endeavor exists to INSPIRE, EQUIP & ENCOURAGE churches to Biblically develop Youth as Christ-centered leaders in their youth group, church and beyond.

Christian Endeavor's youth discipleship process is helping build Christ-centered leaders through local church youth ministry in thirty countries.

Contact us to learn how C.E. can Work for you!

www.CEworks.faith



www.CEworks.faith

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

Equipping Youth—For Christ and the Church

Simple Biblical Relevant

info@CEworks.faith



[African Journey: A C.E. trip to Nigeria and Egypt](#)

April 2, 2018

My journey began Tuesday, January 2, 2018 as I boarded a plane for Frankfurt, Germany that after a layover would transport me to Lagos, Nigeria. Nigeria boasts Africa's largest population and plentiful natural resources. Southern Nigeria welcomes Christian teaching while Muslim practices dominates Nigeria's North (90% Muslim). Christianity's explosive growth has especially occurred amongst charismatic congregations. Christian Endeavor truly holds a non-denominational position in Nigeria as pastors from various backgrounds follow C.E. because of its biblical platform. Currently about sixty churches connect with C.E. and a whole new region is opening that could greatly expand this work in Nigeria and a few churches over the border in the Republic of Benin.

When I met Dave Coryell at the Youth Specialties National Youth Workers Convention in 2016, we enjoyed an amazing conversation and connection. God used Dave to remind me that during my formative years as a young person in our youth ministry at Hope Reformed Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan, it was centered on Christian Endeavor. I remember being given leadership responsibilities as a Junior High Student and a Senior High Student. So, like Colombo, I just have one more question for you. Will you consider transforming your youth ministry through Christian Endeavor? - Pastor John Smith

God Orchestrated my Release from the Pregnancy Resource Center. . .

From: Jim Sprague
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2018 5:15 PM
To: PRC All
Subject: IMPORTANT: John Smith Leaving PRC

Dear Saints,

I'm writing to inform the team that John Smith's position, Education Marketing Director, was not renewed in the FY 2018-19 budget. This was communicated to John last week, and in that conversation John readily recognized the rationale behind this change.

John's last day with PRC will be Friday, April 20th.

True to his character, John's response to this news has been to recognize the Lord's movement in his life. In fact, he shared with me that he had recently been wondering when he might be called back into pastoral ministry, and he has already started talking with some local churches about this.

I also want to take this opportunity to express my deep and sincere appreciation to John for his outstanding contributions to this organization and its mission. One major impact John had during his tenure with PRC was in the creation of The Whole Sex Talk®. You may not know this, but it was largely due to John's incredible network, both in West Michigan and around the world, that many of the expert contributions to The Whole Sex Talk® were secured.

It's safe to say that TWST would not exist in its current, powerful form if not for John.

Please take advantage of the opportunity you have between now and April 20th to personally express your appreciation for John, and I'm sure he will also appreciate your prayers for clarity around his next Kingdom assignment.

Blessings.

Jim Sprague, MSW | Chief Executive Officer

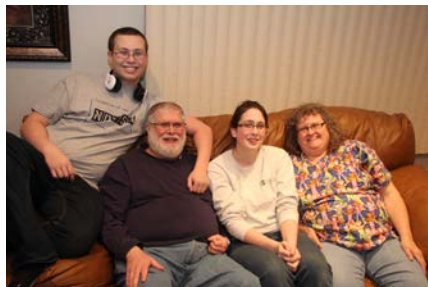
Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, "Oh, that you would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request. 1 Chronicles 4:10 NIV

We are Set Free to Enlarge Our Territory and GO to Pastors and Families . . .

- **Special Events for Pastors and Families: Laugh Again! (Jan/Feb 2019)**
- **Workshops: Healthy Pastors Leading Authentic Churches Transforming Communities**
- **Have Grace, Will Travel: Pastor John is now available to GO as a Confidential Coach and Consultant to pastors and churches in need or in crisis anywhere in the USA.**



2007 Rev. Mark & Debbie Wingler, IN



2012 Dr. Ron & Maryann, Becky, Joshua Gold, ND



2013 Dr. Michael & Jill Malanga, OH



Now would be a fantastic time to send a financial contribution during our season of transition and expansion! God is on the move! We would love to have you partner with us in our Adventure of Faith — Learning to Trust God!

Please make checks payable to: PastorCare West Michigan
PO Box 2938, Grand Rapids, MI 49501.

Secure Online contributions through PayPal on the website.

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