

# Cliff's Notes

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GBF is now 113 weeks old. October was another good month. We had about 100 folks each Sunday, we had our 37<sup>th</sup> Advisory Council meeting—a very productive and positive one at that; we are beginning John 6 in the service and continue the “One Anothers” on Friday nights. We have had first-time visitors every week of our existence save one. We have had almost 1,000 people come through our doors. More families are pursuing formal membership. Friendships are growing, discipleship is underway, the truth is being proclaimed. We must continue to wait on God to bring the increase in His perfect time.

## Meet Pat Jensen

One of the stated Distinctives of GBF is “Partnership with other Biblical Churches.” This is based on the reality that the Church of Jesus Christ exists around the world in many localities called local churches. Every true local church is a part of Christ’s collective Body. As such, every true local church needs to see itself in light of the big picture—in light of Christ’s universal Church. GBF is only one satellite

among countless satellites God has around the world. Every true church is to have the same goal: glorify God by proclaiming the supremacy of Jesus Christ through the gospel and fulfilling the Great Commission. Local churches can be more effective in fulfilling those goals when they work together. Valley Church in Cupertino is a church that has had a complementary and supportive relationship with GBF since we began. This is due in part to the role of Pat Jensen—the Director of Christian Education at Valley Church. Pat worked in industry for a couple decades and in the past 5 years has felt the call to full-time vocational ministry at Valley. He’s attended Valley for over 20 years. Now he’s on staff, oversees



men’s ministry, youth and children’s ministry, and is hands on with the junior high group, among many other responsibilities. He also continues to take classes at Western Seminary working toward his M. Div. His wife Gail also works at Valley in children’s ministry. She helps run their excellent AWANA program, coordinates special events and helps run the youth summer camps. Together, Pat and Gail make a dynamic duo. GBF has partnered with Valley in the AWANA ministry for the past three years. Currently, several GBFers are official AWANA leaders at Valley Church including Pastor Cliff, Officer Steve McCoy, Mary Varney, Chin Beckmann and Dr. Paul Beckmann. Paul is a Director of the TNT and helps plan and run the annual AWANA Grand Prix—a major logistical undertaking. We have also worked with Valley on several seasonal events and most recently the summer Bible camp for juniors (grades 4-7) called Camp Alta. Back in July, Pastor Cliff spent a week as a 5<sup>th</sup> grade boys counselor, sleeping on a very small, old, hard cheesy cabin mattress in a bunk cloistered with 15 other loud, rowdy, smelly boys. I did not sleep much but we had a blast. We had chapel twice a day, Bible devotions every morning, memorized Scripture daily, swam, had 2 cool daily activities like archery, crafts, motorized scooter races, laser tag, camp-wide scavenger hunts in the dark, remote-control car races. We had a fabulous music leader for chapel—the kids learned about 40 classic Christian camp songs. There were about 10 groups of kids who competed against each other all week. My group was called the

### 'Radio Active Spider

Monkeys' with Tim McManis, Tim Beckmann, Mitch Douglas, Jacob Shao, Josh Holst and 2 other cool 10 year olds. Amazingly we routinely won 'cleanest cabin' honors. Pat has graciously invited GBFers to make use of their excellent

outdoor sporting facilities—tennis, hoops, volleyball and grassy field. We need to take him up on that. We also need to have Pat come visit GBF some morning—which will be hard to do since Sunday morning is his busiest work day.

