

60 seconds with Sylvia Crecelius



Sylvia Crecelius

After learning about the vision for Christian Management Partners, this enthusiastic leader got involved. Now, she's issued a challenge to everyone within the sound of her words. . . .

By Mark Cutshall

Sylvia Crecelius is president of The Stewardship Alliance, a national for-profit marketplace financial planning group dedicated to helping individuals and families understand God's unique calling on their lives and pursue that calling with passion. For the past 35 years she has consulted with individuals and families concentrating her practice in the areas of business planning including start-up situations, buy/sell consulting, and family business succession issues, integrating faith, facts, feelings, family and finances in the planning process. Then along came Christian Management Partners. . . .

CMR: What was the tipping point for you to you join CMP?

CRECELIUS: Several of us in The Stewardship Alliance [TSA] met Mark Bankord and, through Mark, we came to understand the CMP concept: 500 individuals coming together to support the training and equipping of those in leadership positions in Christian ministry organizations. It was clear that belonging to CMP was a great fit for the mission of TSA: "To train and equip Servant Leaders to assist individuals to seek, find and fulfill their unique eternal purpose as Wise Stewards, strategically investing their time, talents and treasures to help fulfill the Great Commission."

CMR: What keeps you involved?

CRECELIUS: The two CMP Summit events that I've attended have, without question, been at the highest level.

CMR: In your mind, what are the big upsides for people to join CMP?

CRECELIUS: As a person who counsels with individuals and families with great capacity and passion to give (both monetarily and personally) to the cause of Christ, it's clear that Christian Management Association provides a wonderful "meeting place" for Christians in the marketplace and the leadership of Christian Organizations. What a novel and

powerful idea this is! And, my own experience has been that CMP is batting 1000 percent by creating an encouraging and safe space for that meeting to occur.

CMR: What have you gained and appreciated the most from your CMP involvement at the CMA conferences?

CRECELIUS: It is wonderful to be a partner with Christian Management Association through CMP. All of us seek to further the Kingdom of God, and CMP provides an opportunity to join hands with those in ministry organizations in a new way – that has great potential for all involved.

CMR: You know, of course, you're not alone. . . .

CRECELIUS: At the CMP Summit event at CMA's annual conference in Denver last spring, one of the attendees sponsored by The Stewardship Alliance was a gentleman who is a great friend of our organization. His doctorate and experience in organizational development provided a unique opportunity for evaluating CMP's vision: the support of the CMA mission. Shortly after the CMP event, he sent an email stating: "Un-categorically, I got more out of this program than any other I have ever attended. Every presentation spoke to different parts of me and I enjoyed the respite from my hectic pace."

CMR: In our remaining few moments what do you want to say?

CRECELIUS: Those TSA participants who attended CMP last spring are each motivated to recruit ten more to come to the CMA conference next March 12-15 in Palm Springs. And we challenge anyone to match TSA's goal: 100 CMP members!

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