

# The Faith Script

**CPFI** Serving Christ and the World Through Pharmacy

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Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.  
**Hebrews 10:23-25 (NKJV)**

[Prayer Wall](#)

## IS THERE A NEED FOR CHRISTIAN PHARMACISTS FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL (CPFI)?

As I left for work this morning, I knew I had several writing projects due this week. I uttered a brief prayer, "Lord, help me determine the topic and guide me in these writing assignments." Walking to a meeting later that morning I thought a good topic for my CPFI article might be this one. Was this thought a nudging from God's Spirit or just a serendipitous idea that entered my mind? Just before that thought I had read numerous email responses from various pro-life organizations concerning President Obama's "accommodation" to religious organizations concerning Federal government mandated payments for free contraceptive coverage. Could these thoughts be the result of my subconscious response, and be helping me deal with the work I had?

I mention the incident and questions to possibly explain what happened. It illustrates an issue that we often face: How involved is God in our daily lives? I believe He is very involved in my daily life. However, my business or sinning sometimes causes me to miss His involvement. Thinking about God's involvement in my daily life raised a question about His involvement in a Christian organization like CPFI.

CPFI has faced financial pressures for some time. Membership applications on the professional membership level are low, and maybe that is one reason for our financial pressures. Additionally, there are a large number of individuals who were members, but decided not to renew their membership. As an organization we struggle to understand the reasons for non-renewals. Could this indicate we are not doing what members expect, or there is not a need for this type of organization in pharmacy? We have been criticized that the leadership team does not change, and have been perceived as a clique by some. The reality is that the same people shuffle titles, because others are not able or willing to serve. Does this indicate another reason why CPFI is not needed anymore?

Another perspective is that CPFI is where God wants us to be. Instead of leadership paying attention to His insights we are measuring our perception of success by the wrong measurements. Two principles have guided my thinking. Bigger isn't always better, and God always has a remnant ready to emerge when the time is right. Could those principles apply to CPFI today? Each member must personally answer this question, but whether we agree or disagree with these principles let me suggest some reasons why we need a conservative Christian organization in pharmacy like CPFI.

1. Ethical issues are facing our profession. Having a voice to offer the Christian perspective may be needed now more than ever.
2. Being a Christian pharmacist who wants to challenge the system can be a lonely role. Encouragement from other Christian brothers and sisters can truly be helpful. Having a group praying for you and your situation can lift your spirits.
3. Educational programs that help integrate a Christian worldview into pharmacy practice situations can be a growth experience for the individual Christian pharmacist.
4. Pharmacist contributions to medical missions are now recognized by many as essential. Although there are many ways to get Christian pharmacists involved with medical mission, a single organization to coordinate the effort seems to be an important way to advance this

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effort.

There are probably many other reasons that could be listed, but what do you think? Should CPFI leadership persevere to keep CPFI going? Why do you think or do not think a Christian organization is needed in pharmacy? Let me know by an email at [fred@ncpharmacists.org](mailto:fred@ncpharmacists.org).

Fred M. Eckel, CPFI Executive Director  
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**CPFI 2012 Annual Conference, Glen Eyrie Conference Center**  
Colorado Spring, CO – June 7-10

**Remember to register!** Registration closes April 4, 2012 to guarantee room availability. After April, you can still register for the CE sessions, but we are not able to guarantee rooms.

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**CHRISTIAN PHARMACISTS FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL**

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