Depth Perception

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Blow Vuvuzela! Blow!

I am the proud owner of a vuvuzela. At least I think so. It arrived at the height of my World Cup fever, just after I left town for a business trip. My son and daughter in law promptly kidnapped it for a week at high school church camp where they served as staff. They were kind enough to send me a public thank you message on Facebook—letting me know that my vuvuzela had arrived, but that it would be a wellused vuvuzela before I ever touched it.



My grouchy, materialistic self wanted to be offended and complain. The vuvuzela no longer felt like my possession. I would not know the experience of being the first to make the droning noise so prevelant at this year's World Cup broadcasts, or of unwrapping it to show my family. It's just a left-over vuvuzela now, and I would need to sterilize it before I ever used the thing.

But my Spirit-filled self wanted to rejoice. Instead of collecting dust in my personal trove of silly toys, even a vuvuzela can be redeemed for work in the kingdom of God. Rather than just serving as a brief and shallow pleasure for me, it became an instrument of conversation and fellowship in a place where young people considered whether they would follow Jesus.

Faced with which response I will choose, I choose to be filled with the Spirit and to let its fruit grow in my life—not just with my approach to inexpensive toys, but with the more profound aspects of time, talent and all my treasures.

So may that vuvuzela be well blown and fruitful for the kingdom! And my home. And my cars. And my library. And my

-mark I vincent



Money Leadership: from "Oh-my" to "A-men", is a series of three live webinars with Mark L. Vincent running through August. Sponsored by Bethany Theological Seminary and the Church of the Brethren, the webinars are open to the first 120 people who log on. Click here to learn more.

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