

## A Cloud of Witnesses

*by Gary Walter, p.19*

1. If you were to add names to Gary Walter's list of spiritual and missional giants who comprise the "cloud of witnesses," who would you add and how did they influence your life?
2. The first of the traits worth emulating as Christ-followers mentioned by Walter was a devotion to Jesus. He asks readers if they have noticed a trend in Christian circles of diminishing the name of Jesus for a more general reference to God. Have you noticed such a trend? In what ways does using the name of God rather than Jesus depersonalize him?
3. Personal study of the Scriptures is also listed as central to bearing Christ's image. How do you balance learning from the wisdom of others with allowing God's word to speak directly to you?
4. Walter recognizes men and women who demonstrated that "living with God meant living for God as well." What connections does your church have to the Covenant's five mission priorities? What connections do you have to missions both locally and around the world?
5. Walter also lists connection to the central affirmations of the Covenant as a strengthening element of the denomination. How can being "tethered" to Covenant values provide the freedom he describes?