The Things That Are In the World

John 15:19, “If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.”

“Things that are in the world.” I suspect that during my childhood I heard more sermons warning about the “world” than any other topic. Preachers intended to give the “world” a bad name, and on purpose. Their preaching, conversations and powerful warnings were intended to quicken one’s knowledge as to how dangerous and deceiving were the “things of the world.” Consequently, our lifestyles were shaped by holiness teaching, the Pentecostal experience, and being separated from the “world.”

My parents, although they were strict, did not emphasize isolation. They were not ignorant of the world nor isolated. They had knowledge of and an appreciation for what was beautiful, artful and unique. They enjoyed literature and gifted people with keen perceptions and knowledge. They prepared their eight children for successful occupations. They cooperated with their communities and honest politicians, and they championed righteous causes in the community without bias toward race, color or creeds.

Looking back, my folks and most all of the early Pentecostal revivalists taught a clear message as it pertained to the world, and worldliness. First of all, it was beyond mere self-discipline against such things as immorality, immodesty, drunkenness and such. Their deeper understanding and concern was about overcoming the world’s powerful influences and Satan’s mission to pull mankind into evil, self-love, false doctrine and suppressive politics.

The world, as they understood it, was a world of many cultures and was essentially a force loyal to another faith. It was defined as a force that shapes lives, develops thinking and inspires carnal ambitions. The world becomes like a religion. It conveys ideas, desires, directions. It is a force against God. 1 John 2:15, “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”

The spirit of the world, the things of the world, the false hopes of the world will begin to influence the Christian. It influences his education, lifestyle, beliefs and feelings. The world is what it is, and it is a counter environment against the Spirit of God. Once the world attracts the interest and love of the Christian, the Christian begins to seek the favor of the world and not the anointing and direction of the Holy Spirit, and here’s where the world begins to direct one’s life.

All those admonitions against the world that were vital then are vital now. The world is not content to allow the Holy Ghost to direct our lives, our churches, our future. The love of the world will destroy the very foundations of the Church, the congregation and its ministers. The baptism of the Holy Ghost is the most important and valuable influence known to mankind. The Spirit guides, teaches and overpowers the evil of this world through the love of God. If we love God, the world and its evil is of no value to us.

The matter of love always made its way into every conversation. And Jesus makes the point, “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world,” and that’s the great point. What we love is what determines who and what unifies us.

2 Cor. 6:14: “Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?”

May I cite two vital challenges facing the body of Christ in our day: we must reject the power and influences of this world and the temptation to be “yoked together with unbelievers.”
Apollo 11
50TH ANNIVERSARY

Gift For Christmas

Until the end of the year, when you support our ministry with a donation of $500 or more, we’d like to show our appreciation with a gift (while product lasts) of historical significance—a very rare piece of Kapton gold foil removed from the Apollo 11 command module at splashdown by John Wolfram himself! The foil is attached to an autographed 4 X 6 framed picture. Donate online at: johnwolfram.com

For an Apollo 11 50th anniversary crusade worth thousands in free media advertising contact John Wolfram 678-654-1487. More details at johnwolfram.com
year end GIVING

REMEMBER THE CHURCH LOAN FUND
WHERE YOUR GIFT HELPS BUILD THE KINGDOM

1. THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO GIVE

   CHARITABLE CASH DONATIONS

   WE ARE A 501C3 AND CAN ACCEPT TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS

   IRA ROLLOVER CONTRIBUTIONS

For more information go to upci_loanfund.org/giving

THE STEWARDSHIP GROUP
BUILDING TRUST... PROVIDING SOLUTIONS
WWW.UPCILOANFUND.ORG

CHURCH LOAN FUND

FIND US ON  fb  tw  yu  UPCLF

STEPHEN M. DRURY
SMDRURY@UPCI.ORG
636-229-7949
Interviews by John Fonzer Jr.

We mainly teach the Oneness in our Foundations Program, which is our basic Bible class offered every year in two semesters. I often sprinkle the Oneness into my preaching but not directly or in confrontation. I train my ministers to absolutely never use the word Trinity from the pulpit and I do the same. To call the Trinitarian doctrine fallacy in a general service always puts those who know nothing else on the defensive in a setting where they cannot ask questions. That simply disenfranchises them and pushes them away from truth.

The Foundations Program addresses it very directly. When we address it during a general preaching service, we are significantly more subtle. I rarely teach it from the same direction. I may use church history as an approach, or an expository approach, or use parables and illustrations. I’ve found that using church history as a supplemental support is very effective. I’m always on the hunt for new material, but since Oneness teaching is found in a limited number of resources, we use the same information from Word Aflame Press that most Apostolic brethren will use. David Norris has written what is the first scholarly Christology from a Oneness Apostolic perspective, which is excellent. If we can get truth into the hearts and spirits of our churches, there rarely will be a doctrinal falling away. People may leave for other reasons, but the truth will always be there.

When I teach the Godhead, I compare it to a lot of other doctrines. The Trinitarian doctrine is not the only other doctrine out there when it comes to Christianity. There’s a church in this area that believes in two gods: the Father and the Son – and they baptize in Jesus name. They might have the Holy Ghost, but they don’t have the truth. The Bible says, “Thou shalt worship Him in spirit and in truth.” If anyone believes in two, three or more gods, they are in violation of Deuteronomy 6:4. If we deviate and go to two or more gods, based on our finite understanding, we violate God’s rule that “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” We need to teach the Oneness and drill it. I’m Apostolic to the bone!

Anyone who believes God is three persons is worshiping a false God. Jews and Muslims are smart enough to recognize that. We teach a Bible study specifically on Oneness two or three times a year. But many of our teachings and preachings have Oneness concepts sprinkled in. I really like Gerry McLean’s book called Judgment Against the Gods. I have also enjoyed William Chalfant’s book Ancient Champions of Oneness and Brent Graves’ book The God of Two Testaments. Of course, Bro. David Bernard’s book, The Oneness of God, is a great resource for teaching.

Having a strong understanding of the Oneness of God is not just a benefit, it is a necessity. As was stated by the one God Himself, “If you do not believe that I am, you will die in your sins” (John 8:24).

A church with a strong understanding of its doctrines so clearly that people see the flaws in the Trinity for themselves. About 4-5 times a year, I like to teach/preach messages dedicated specifically to the Oneness doctrine. These can be individual messages, but I lean toward a series on the subject.

A church with a strong understanding of its doctrines contributes to it being a confident church. A confident church will be effective at evangelizing and discipling. Churches that are effective at evangelizing and discipling are growing churches.

I see Oneness throughout the Bible – all 66 books. And I teach and mention it every service. There’s only one throne in heaven.
"We have a common perspective that discipleship begins at salvation, that people have to be born again and then we disciple them. I don’t think that’s the case," said Pastor Joe Giunta of Detroit Hope Center in Detroit, Michigan. "I think that discipleship starts from the time you meet somebody. You’re making a disciple out of them, and the plan of salvation and new birth experience obviously has to be part of that, but we can start discipling people even before they get into the water to get baptized. I think one of the main keys to growing a church is that everybody you meet, everybody you work with, everybody that you’re around on a daily basis is a potential disciple. We want to impact them and influence their lives for the gospel."

**Priorities**

“When we talk about the things we need for a growing church, most people say, ‘Bless God, we’ve got to pray and fast,’” Pastor Giunta said. “We need to make sure we’re tapped into the plan of God for our ministry, for our city. We need to make sure we’re walking in the Spirit and letting God open the doors. I think it’s important that we focus not only on discipleship inside the church but discipleship outside the church.”

When asked where a revival pastor should place his priorities, Pastor Giunta replied, “If you would have asked me that question five years ago, it probably would have been a different answer. Today, I’ve learned the most important priority is to spend time with God. I think that the first and foremost disciples are our children and spouses. It’s important that we spend time discipling and making sure that we have a healthy family relationship. A great church is built on great families. As a pastor and a pastor’s wife, our family is the first family of the church. It’s important that we set the example as to what an Apostolic family looks like.”

**Inner-City Church Plant**

“I don’t think God calls pastors to churches,” he explained. “God calls men to cities and regions. When you ask me where I pastor, my church is the city of Detroit. It’s not just the people sitting on my pews on Sunday morning. God has called us to effect change in the city of Detroit long-term. Therefore, I want to reach children. If my desire is to change the direction of the city, if the Lord is going to use us to shape and mold and disciple a city, then we’ve got to raise up a generation. Frederick Douglass said, ‘It’s easier to train strong children than it is to fix broken men.’ We focus heavily on children’s ministry, and I think that’s what has provided the most growth for our church.”

His wife, Sis. Jessica Giunta, agreed. “The main ministry that has brought growth to our church is our children’s ministry,” she said. “We target a specific neighborhood for three to six months, or longer. This depends on how many people are there. We go every Saturday and then it becomes more of a relationship with these kids and their families. We play ball and serve hot dogs, but it is more than that. That is just the draw.”

Pastor Giunta explained, “We’re an inner-city church plant. We face a lot of opposition and tough areas, and we have children that are coming from horrible backgrounds. Even if they do have any success in school or church, nobody is there to celebrate it with them. One thing that my wife and I do is go pick them up on an off day, not a church day. We’ll take them to a museum or give them a certificate from the church. We celebrate their successes not only in the areas that benefit us as far as church attendance or bringing your Bible, but the normal life things too, like school and good behavior. What you celebrate and focus on grows.”

**Hands-On Training**

Pastor Giunta meets monthly with his church leaders. “A lot of our leaders have their hands in all the departments,” he said. “We’re also trying to prepare ourselves for potential daughter works and reaching new areas of the city. We meet with potential pastors and ministers and try to invest in them as well.”

All the leaders at Detroit Hope Center have very clear job descriptions. “At the meeting, we’ll have each department leader talk about what’s going on in their department and what they need,” explained the pastor. “I not only tell them to be accountable, but I also ask them what I can do to empower them, what they need, and what their department needs. And I try to make sure that we provide those things.”

These same meetings serve as planning sessions as well. “For training, I’m a big believer in hands-on training,” said Pastor Giunta. “I teach and have lessons, but we try to lead by example. We bring them alongside of us while we plant a new part of the church or develop new areas of ministry. Then slowly but surely we take our hands away and allow them to start doing it.”

---

Joe and Jessica Giunta
Detroit, Mich.

Interviewed by Christina Li
Pastor Joe Giunta

Excitement Breeds Involvement

Sis. Giunta believes strongly in the concept of “all hands on deck.” She said, “We’re trying to train them to have the mindset that church isn’t just a job; it is part of who you are. So, even our children will help teach a lesson, have a responsibility, or be on the praise team.”

Pastor Giunta added, “The principle is that not everybody is an evangelist, but everybody is called to evangelize. Not everybody works in the gifts of healing, but everybody can pray for the sick to be healed. It’s the same idea with the membership. Not everybody is a department head or leader, but everyone can get their hands involved in the work of God.”

He believes about 80-90 percent of Detroit Hope Center is involved in evangelism. “We teach actively to go home and win your family, win your people, and they’re doing it.”

To encourage involvement, Sis. Giunta said their family tries to set a positive example. “Our kids have been a tremendous example,” she said. “Because everybody uses social media, we’ll post stuff that our kids are doing, outreach in our day-to-day lives. This gives inspiration to other kids.”

Bro. Giunta agreed, “Excitement breeds involvement. When you have something positive going on at church, people want to be involved.”

Street Services

Pastor Giunta and his family have been in the city of Detroit for 3 1/2 years. For the first 2 1/2 years, they did nothing but outreach and street services, preaching in homeless shelters and the projects. “We did prayer walks,” Sis. Giunta said. “We pretty much were the church without the Sunday service.” The pastor added, “We didn’t even have a Sunday service until last year. That was when we started doing our pre-launch where we had church for six months. Then we stopped having Sunday services, and we looked at where we were strong, where we were weak and started filling gaps in our team. We had a more complete team at our official launch. It was a longer approach but very strategic.”

Nearly 80 people attended the launch service for Detroit Hope Center on March 25, 2018. “That number has decreased,” said Pastor Giunta. “Our total weekly attendance is probably around 40. Last year, in a pre-launch phase, we had a ton of people. Our largest service was 133. We were doing a lot of giveaways and outreach services. We’ve had ups and downs, but we’ve pretty much grown about 15-20 percent in the last year.”

He said nearly 200 people received the Holy Ghost and were baptized last year. “This year, it’s been far less,” he said. “We’ve been focused on really grounding the people that have been converted.”

Reach the People

“I believe in church planting,” said Pastor Giunta. “Church planting is the greatest method out there to reach the world. Walgreens isn’t afraid to have five or six Walgreens in a single town. You never see one McDonald’s fighting with the other one over business. I think that we as the Apostolic Church need to understand that every city needs churches that are going to reach the demographics of that area. I might be able to reach people you can’t reach, and you might be able to reach people I can’t reach. We don’t have to have just one church in a city. We need to plant churches everywhere we can.

“Release people. Train them and send them out. Let them go reach their people. Church planting is the premier and most important job the church can do right now. I want to encourage people to follow their passion and burden, but do it in a way that is in submission to the leadership in your life. Let’s plant churches.”
Zion Church Builders has been designing and building churches since 1965. The company is owned by Jim Hinze, who has over 38 years experience in church design and construction. Since 1965, Zion has built over 1,500 churches in 40 different states. We only build churches and specialize in church buildings of all sizes and designs. Our philosophy is to enable churches to save as much as 20% to 40% over using a general contractor. Zion Church Builders’ continued growth is due to strong referrals from our completed churches.

The goal of Zion Church Builders has always been to provide our clients with the best professional services available. We are dedicated to the belief that every church deserves its own original concept to design and function. This policy eliminates stock or off-the-shelf type plans, which seldom provide adequate solutions to the individual needs of every church. No church is too small or too large to fit into our program. We have worked with groups ranging from 18 to 3500. We pledge to commit our combined expertise and personnel in order to help you design and build your new facility.
Compassion Shown After Extreme Flooding in India

By Camra Faulkner, MD

“My words are not sufficient to express my gratitude except to say thank you” - a message sent from halfway around the world by the superintendent of the UPCi work in Kerala, India. This was in response to the disaster relief funds sent via the Sri Lankan church family and Compassion Services International (CSI).

Though it is a “big world out there,” it quickly becomes smaller when we are linked via a growing and expanding missions program and through the work of humanitarian organizations. Through the disaster relief arm of its work, CSI can help distant groups and individuals that might otherwise be overlooked.

CSI connects with UPCi missionaries and church families all across the globe.

In India, the annual monsoon season started in June. By July, the nation knew that this was more rain than typically expected. The flooding was soon the worst there in the last century. In August, the death toll was rising.

Our India church family, via the UPCi missionaries, reached out to Compassion Services International in July. One of the most seriously affected regions was the southern state of Kerala. The Atlantic article of August 22, 2018 reported more than 400 deaths and over one million people displaced.

The UPCi missionary to India received information from the superintendent of the work that at least seven UPCi churches were damaged. Further, more than 100 families from the UPCi churches suffered loss to varying degrees. Homes were destroyed from floodwaters and mudslides. Belongings were lost. Many were in refugee camps.

“Aid agencies and government groups have set up more than 4,000 relief camps, while rescue personnel are making their way to submerged villages in helicopters and boats, bringing supplies and evacuating those they can find. Weeks of heavy rainfall have caused dams to open their floodgates, triggered landslides in the mountains, and swamped the coastal regions of Kerala” (The Atlantic).

Funding from CSI was requested for immediate needs and, thereafter, for repairing and rebuilding. With CSI’s connection to missionaries across the world, they are able to bring such needs as these to the attention of the North American churches. Responding to these situations and supporting those in need is a way that the worldwide church can be united and bonded.

Besides disaster relief, CSI’s work also includes humanitarian aid, medical missions and educational programs. It is our duty and responsibility as Christians to “love our neighbor.” And Jesus made it clear that our “neighbor” covered all those in need anywhere in the world. Be a part of CSI’s work.

CSI needs your funding, support and prayers. To donate, please visit www.compassionservices.org. Donations, contributions and offerings made to CSI’s international relief efforts can also qualify for direct offering credit through the UPCi Global Missions.

15 Ways to Improve Your Preaching/Teaching

By Chuck Lawless, Professor of Evangelism and Missions at Southeastern Seminary

Here are 15 ways to improve your communicating the gospel:

1. Assume you need to improve. If you genuinely believe you have no room for improvement, ask others until you find someone who is honest enough to help you.

2. Consider the last time you intentionally improved your approach. If your last intentional improvement occurred years ago, you may have become stagnant as a communicator.

3. Read the Bible and pray every day. Those who communicate without praying regularly are operating in their own power.

4. Forsake sin in your life. Sin drains our passion for God and robs us of our power for communicating the gospel.

5. Spend more time with your congregation. Your job is to teach the Word, but it’s more than that. Know your people so well that you can help them apply the Word to their lives.

6. Enlist a prayer team. Don’t assume others are praying regularly for you as you preach or teach.

7. Study preaching and teaching. Search for online preaching or teaching classes. Even veteran preachers and teachers can usually learn from reviewing these materials.

8. Listen to other preachers. If you think you preach too long, listen to someone who is more concise. Absorb from others without trying to become somebody else.

9. Invite others to help you prepare. Invite them to critique your exegesis and your proposed outline.

10. Simply and clearly answer the “what,” “so what,” and “now what” questions. If you as the preacher or teacher can’t answer these questions, neither will your hearers.

11. Practice. Read your manuscript or outline again and again. Know the material so well that you can connect easily with your audience when teaching it.

12. Do immediate reflection. As soon as possible after teaching or preaching, jot down some notes. What worked well? What needs to be changed?

13. Listen to and watch your own sermons or lessons. For the sake of communicating the gospel better, become the audience for your own teaching or preaching.

14. Ask an unchurched friend or unbeliever to critique your teaching. Find out if he or she understands your points. Determine how often you use Christian jargon.

15. Take care of yourself physically. Eat properly. Sleep well. Take your days off. Go on your vacation. An exhausted, out-of-shape preacher or teacher is not a good witness for the transforming power of the gospel.
A CONFERENCE FOR PASTORS, VOLUNTEER LEADERS & STAFF EXAMINING SYSTEMS & STRATEGIES FOR APOSTOLIC CHURCHES TO HELP PREPARE US FOR THE HARVEST.

Stan Gleason
Kansas City, MO

Darrell Johns
Atlanta, GA

Rick & Alexa Olson
Host Pastors

FEBRUARY 8TH & 9TH, 2019
CHURCH OF PENTECOST JACKSONVILLE, FL

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE
WWW.CHURCHOFPENTECOST.ORG | (904) 645-0153 | 8709 HOGAN RD JACKSONVILLE, FL 32216
Tell us a little about yourself and your ministry.

I have been in ministry for 36 years. My wife, Paula, and I have been married for almost 42 years. We have a son, Marcus, a daughter, Casey, and two grandsons, Noah, 9, and Joseph, 8. I was born and raised in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and attended the First Pentecostal Church of Baton Rouge until I left to go into ministry at the age of 25. I went to Youngstown, Ohio as a home missionary and started a church in our living room. Then God called us back to the Baton Rouge area. I was elected pastor of a very broken church of about 12 people in Baker, La. It was very challenging in that the public’s view of the church was very negative. Businesses did not want to do business with us. But we persevered, and 15 years later we moved the church to the City of Central on the northeast side of Baton Rouge. God has blessed Grace Church of Central with a beautiful campus, and we now average about 230 wonderful people in attendance every Sunday.

If someone comes to you and says, “I think God is calling me into the ministry,” how do you respond?

I believe that God calls people to the ministry in different ways, and some even have had their calling come through someone else. I believe a call from God can come through prayer, a dream or vision, a verse in the Bible or listening to someone preach. A call of God can come in any number of ways or sources. I believe where most people struggle is being able to hear the call and then believe it. Samuel did not discern the voice of God the first time he heard it. I believe people who are truly called of God will “burn” so badly on the inside and will cry and sob and call out to God until God “persuades” them through prayer and commitment, and they’ll finally believe it and accept their calling.

Once someone is assured of their calling, where do they go from there?

If it resonates with me, I will open up to that person and spend as much time with them as I can, to learn more about their heartbeat for ministry and discover their desires, vision, purpose, etc. I’ll do my best to “prescribe” them a regime of responsibility, such as prayer, fasting and personal Bible study. Personal evangelism is a must. I strive for all of our in-house ministers to teach at least one home Bible study per week. I’ll also place them under strict accountability to me as pastor. If they are married, my wife and I will work with them and especially the spouse to help that person understand the calling that their spouse is feeling. I believe this is critical.

How do they best equip themselves for a vocation in ministry?

To be honest, I encourage the person to weigh out a secular degree as well as a Bible college degree, depending on where they believe their ministry will take them. I recommend Bible college if they believe their calling is to be a pastor, evangelist, missionary, etc. If they want to work in a school or an administrative role in ministry, I think a secular degree would be of most benefit, such as a degree in business, accounting, music, etc. I believe it is good to attend Bible college whether a person is called to ministry or not but especially if they are called. That being said, I believe a person should equip themselves for Bible college by working closely with their pastor, being involved in a significant role of responsibility or leadership in their local church.


The Called Man is written specifically to those who believe they may be called to ministry. The first chapter is written to the pastor, to encourage him to be ready for that moment when someone says, “Hey pastor, I need to talk to you. I believe God has called me to the ministry.” I wrote The Called Man so every pastor can keep one or two copies of the book in his library, and when someone comes to talk to him, he can give them a copy and say, “Go read this book and when you are finished, come back and we’ll talk about your calling!” I want to make it easier on the person who believes they are called to ministry to discern it along with their pastor. The second chapter is written to the person who feels called to ministry. Beginning with chapter 3, I use Bible characters to illustrate the call of God ... how it may happen and how to discern it. In addition, I show the reader, through biblical example, that it doesn’t matter who you are, what your family is like, or what’s in your past. God can use anybody. I also discuss commitment, sacrifice and ethics.

Why did you write the book?

I really believe God inspired me to write it. I have been so passionate about the “call to ministry” through the years, and I know God put it there because I have seen the demise of too many who didn’t accept their calling. At the time it was published, there weren’t a lot of resources available on that specific topic. I desire to save people from the pitfalls, mistakes and dangers about not approaching the call of God seriously enough. I want people to understand that it is not an option, and it is the greatest thing after being saved that can happen to them. It’s not a game, it’s not “cool” to be called to ministry, it’s not to put anyone on an ego trip. It’s humbling, and it requires sincerity, commitment and sacrifice.

How to order, cost, etc.

You can order your copies(s) through the Pentecostal Publishing House directly or you can access it through our church website, www.gracechurchofcentral.com. Select the media tab. The cost is $11.95 plus shipping. You can email me at pastor@gracechurchofcentral.com.

The Murphy family, Baton Rouge, LA

Interviewed by Susan Thomas
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>SPEAKERS</th>
<th>CONTACT / INFO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 1</td>
<td>Indiana Bible College LIVE RECORDING</td>
<td>Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td>Paul Mooney, Rob Rodenbush, Lindel Anderson, IBC Choir, IBC Chorale, IBC Praise, others</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ibc@apostolic.edu">ibc@apostolic.edu</a>, <a href="http://www.602ibc.com">www.602ibc.com</a> or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 21-23</td>
<td>WinterFire 2019</td>
<td>First Cathedral 1151 Blue Hills Ave. Bloomfield, CT 06002</td>
<td>Jon Petoskey, Sam Emory, Sean Libby, Janice Sipstrand, Kenneth Carpenter, Mark Morgan, Scott Sistrunk, Elias Limones and Jerry Jones</td>
<td>For more info: visit <a href="http://www.winterfire.org">www.winterfire.org</a> or visit Instagram/Twitter/ Facebook @winterfireconf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 24</td>
<td>Compassion Sunday 2019</td>
<td>Contact your local church for details.</td>
<td>Robert L. Rodenbush, director</td>
<td>For more info: visit <a href="http://www.compassionservices.org">www.compassionservices.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2-4</td>
<td>Indiana Bible College THEOLOGY CONFERENCE</td>
<td>Indiana Bible College 1502 Sumner Ave. Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td>Paul Mooney, Rob Rodenbush, Jason Gallion, Bobby Killmon, Lindel Anderson, others</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ibc@apostolic.edu">ibc@apostolic.edu</a>, <a href="http://www.602ibc.com">www.602ibc.com</a> or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 29-3</td>
<td>Ascend Student Convention 2019</td>
<td>Carlinville, IL</td>
<td>To be announced</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ascendsc.org">www.ascendsc.org</a>, <a href="mailto:ascendstudentconvention@gmail.com">ascendstudentconvention@gmail.com</a>, (317) 789-8710 ext. 194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2019</td>
<td>Power Conference 2019</td>
<td>Crossroads Arena 2800 S. Harper Rd. Corinth, MS 38834</td>
<td>To be announced</td>
<td>For more info, call Josh Hodum (662) 287-4118 or (662) 872-9999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 31-</td>
<td>North American Youth Congress 2019</td>
<td>The Dome at America’s Center St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>To be announced</td>
<td><a href="http://www.northamericanyouthcongress.com">www.northamericanyouthcongress.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 2-6</td>
<td>Arkansas International Campmeeting - North Little Rock, AR</td>
<td>First Pentecostal Church of North Little Rock 1401 Calvary Rd., North Little Rock, AR Juel &amp; Nathan Holmes</td>
<td>To be announced</td>
<td>For more info visit aricm.net</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 2019</td>
<td>Mid-America Renewal Conference (MARC)</td>
<td>Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td>To be announced</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ibc@apostolic.edu">ibc@apostolic.edu</a>, <a href="http://www.602ibc.com">www.602ibc.com</a> or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 24-27</td>
<td>UPCI General Conference</td>
<td>Indiana Convention Center, 100 S. Capitol Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46225</td>
<td>To be announced</td>
<td>Online registration, hotel reservations and exhibit registration available at <a href="http://www.upcicgc.com">www.upcicgc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 10-11</td>
<td>Investing in Futures</td>
<td>Apostolic Sanctuary 1501 John Deere Pkwy Silvis, IL 61282 Hosts: Gary Randol and Scott Graham</td>
<td>Gary Randol, Scott Graham, David Brown, Nathan Scoggins and Stan Gleason</td>
<td>For more info: visit invest-in-futures.com, (309) 792-0414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 2019</td>
<td>MidAmerica Conference Junior and Senior High, College, Career</td>
<td>First Pentecostal Church of North Little Rock, 1401 Calvary Rd., North Little Rock, AR 72116</td>
<td>To be announced</td>
<td>For more information visit midamericaconf.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 2019</td>
<td>West Coast Conference - Fresno, CA</td>
<td>Fresno Convention Center, 848 M Street, Fresno, CA</td>
<td>To be announced</td>
<td>For more information call: (559) 225-1622, <a href="http://www.truthtabfresno.org">www.truthtabfresno.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thology: His Messianic Mission

Robert L. Rodenbush

A Child Left to Himself

I believe that it is safe to say that we all have an instinctive knowledge alerting us to the fact that the proclivity for electronic addiction that has crept up on families quickly has not been a good thing. For most families, gone are all-night Monopoly games, UNO tournaments, and Risk battles. Despite our instinctual hesitations, as a society we have collectively transferred the majority of our kids’ entertainment to some form of electronics.

The reasons are varied: peer pressure (both on the parental side and on the kids’ side), the easiness of it all, and the fact that it has become normative in society. I know there are holdouts, people who have opted not to give in to these stressors, and I applaud you. There are some in the middle, trying to find a balance between too much screen time and so little that the digital future of our world passes them by. And there are others who have waved the white flag and do little to monitor or limit their kids’ access to electronics and media entertainment.

Our decisions or indecision regarding this issue will affect our kids for the rest of their lives. One’s rational brain is not fully formed until approximately age 25. The exposure kids receive to violence, sexual activity, immorality and persuasive ideologies that are all a part of electronic media will, at least in part, form the belief system that stays with an individual forever. What some can handle another cannot. What sparks a fascination or an addiction in one individual may trigger a lifetime aversion in another. As parents, it is our moral obligation to ensure the decisions we are making regarding electronics and media are spiritually, socially and mentally healthy. This job is ours alone and cannot be left up to children or teens, however persuasive they may be. We must do our homework, learn the language of this new electronic culture and be willing to make tough calls.

Dr. Jean Twenge is a renowned psychologist who deals with many topics affecting the children of “iGen.” She was interviewed for an article entitled “Smartphones raising a mentally fragile generation” (France24.com). “The iGen is the generation born in 1995 and later, and they’re entitled “Smartphones raising a mentally fragile generation” (France24. com). “The iGen is the generation born in 1995 and later, and they’re the first generation to spend their entire adolescence in the age of the smartphone…Those children are growing up more slowly. By the age of 18, they are less likely to have a driver’s license, to work in a paying job, to go out on dates … Depressive symptoms have climbed 60 percent in just five years, with rates of self-harm like cutting (themselves) that have doubled or even tripled in girls. Teen suicide has doubled in a few years.”

These are new issues, new dilemmas, and we have a difficult task ahead of us. But we have good instruction that tells us that we are to teach our children in the ways of righteous and holiness. It will take His help and alerting, but I do believe if we do what we can, God will be willing to make tough calls.

“A child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame. When the wicked are multiplied, transgression increaseth: but the righteous shall see their fall. Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul” (Proverbs 29:15-17).

Church Today

Rhodenbush@earthlink.net

T. W. Massengale

Promoting Home Bible Study Ministry

The Home Bible Study (HBS) ministry is still the most effective tool of evangelism a church can utilize. But the success of the HBS ministry depends on having trained teachers consistently teaching unsaved people, and the key to this is promoting the HBS ministry consistently. Here are a few ways you can keep HBS visible.

Testimonies. When someone is saved as a result of being taught a HBS, ask them to testify. Few things will drive home the power of this ministry more than someone thanking a member for taking the time to teach them the Word of God. You should also ask the teacher to testify, having them stress that HBS is the surest way to win someone to the Lord.

HBS Completion Certificates. When someone completes a 10 or 12-lesson HBS, they should be provided a home Bible study completion certificate during the church service. Remember, every new convert should be taught a 10-lesson HBS as a part of your new convert care ministry. It’s a great way to get the unsaved student to church, so the Spirit can draw them to an altar.

HBS Teacher Training Certificates. Several times a year, teach a course on how to successfully teach a home Bible study. Those that complete the training seminar should be invited to the front, given a certificate, prayed over and commissioned. Make this a big deal, because it is!

HBS FaceTime Call. Ask a pastor friend with a successful HBS ministry to call via FaceTime during service and talk about their HBS successes. Short pep talks by successful HBS leaders can give your HBS ministry a real boost.

Other ideas. HBS skits (how to get a study, how NOT to get a study), demo lesson taught on the platform (make your platform look like a living room), quarterly newsletter (testimonies, success totals, ideas for getting a study, teaching tips, etc.), HBS buttons, HBS contests, etc.

Bottom line: Never miss an opportunity to promote the HBS ministry. Plan a promotion at least monthly.
Christmas for Christ is an annual offering for North American Missionaries. This special offering is received during the Christmas season and is used to enlist, train, and financially support missionaries who are called to establish churches in unevangelized areas in North America.

Videos & Resources

Find your 2018 Christmas Stories & Resources at www.christmasforchrist.faith
**Spiritual Growth**

**Be Renewed in the Spirit of Your Mind!**

Ephesians 4:23 (AMP): “and be **continually** renewed in the spirit of your mind [having a fresh, untarnished mental and spiritual attitude].”

How can we be renewed in the spirit of our mind? The answer is, “through the power of God’s Word!” Romans 12:1, 2 tells us to be transformed by renewing our minds. We are to **continually** be renewed. This will only happen through a daily spiritual discipline of prayer and God’s Word.

We need to develop an intimate dialogue with God, inviting Him into our thought life. Our thoughts create our feelings, and we express our feelings through words and actions. God asks us to love Him with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength. Our heart, soul and mind is our volitional will where we make our decisions (the brain is the processor). When we surrender our will to God, then our words and actions will be godly. Our strength is our body – “glorify God in your body and spirit which belong to God” – 1 Cor. 6:18–20.

God’s Word is the answer to all spiritual, emotional and relational issues. We must look to God’s Word asking the question, “What is God’s truth about my life and situation?” God has answers for anxiety, depression, marital issues, grief issues, emotional healing, overcoming addictions, etc.


I provide counseling/teaching nationwide by phone, Facebook, FaceTime, FB video and Skype from the foundation of teaching God’s Word over 50 years and 26 years of counseling. Pastor Daniel Batchelor of Dupo, Ill., is on my Board of Directors for Life Enrichment Ministries, Inc. (501c3).


---

**Accounting & Tax**

**Year-End Contribution Reports**

This is a good time to review the rules for issuing year-end charitable contribution statements.

Charitable contributions must be reported and claimed in the year in which they are delivered to the charity. If you receive cash or a check after December 31, it should not be included on the donor’s 2018 contribution statement. This is true even if the check is dated in December but delivered in January.

For the purpose of determining the delivery date, a contribution that is mailed (postmarked) by December 31, 2018 is considered delivered by that date and can be included on the donor’s 2018 contribution statement. However, if you receive a check in 2018 that is dated in January 2019, it must be held until 2019 and recorded as a 2019 contribution.

Not following these rules can jeopardize the tax exempt status of the church. Each contribution statement should include the following statement: “No goods or services were provided in exchange for these contributions, except for intangible religious benefits.”

We suggest that you advise your donors to not file their 2018 income tax return until they have received a written acknowledgment of their contributions from the church. Under IRS rules, they may lose the deduction if they file their tax return before receiving the written acknowledgment from the church.

Delano Sherley is a CPA and president of Delano Sherley & Associates, Inc. He can be reached at 513-737-1314. Delano Sherley & Associates, Inc., 8240 Beckett Park Dr., Suite A, West Chester, OH 45069. Email: Delano@dsacpa.com Website: www.dsaacpa.com

---

**The WOW Factor**

**The Process For Ending Strong**

One of the greatest deterrents to ministry is to begin strong and end poorly. One of the greatest examples in scripture for ending strong is Nehemiah. He prayed, prepared and planned for success. Nehemiah’s process will help you end strong in any ministry endeavor.

- Identify the problem – The problem in Nehemiah’s homeland fueled his passion for doing something to change the situation. (Neh. 1:1-3)
- Spend time in prayer – Successful planning for the kingdom of God should always begin with prayer. (Neh. 1:4-11)
- Approach key influencers – Prayer gave Nehemiah confidence to make his request to the king. His confidence caused him to receive approval, resources, protection and support for the work. (Neh. 2:1-10)
- Assess the situation – He made sure he had a personal understanding of what was needed to complete the job before him. He was thorough in his research. (Neh. 2:11-15)
- Meet with key leaders – Key leaders help spread the vision. (Neh. 2:16-18)
- Organize people to work – The people had an investment in the vision. (Neh. 3)
- Plan for opposition – There will always arise those who try and stop the good work of the Lord, but you must be prepared to fight for the purpose that God has called you to. (Neh. 4 & 6)
- Make corrections along the way – You will face weariness and even oppression from those within, and you must be able to correct and bring unity back to the work. (Neh. 5)
- Celebrate together - The people had much gladness over the work. (Neh. 8)
- Renew commitments – The vision should cause people to grow in their relationship with God and each other. (Neh. 9-12)
- Establish accountability – The need for accountability never ends. Accountability keeps the vision in proper alignment. (Neh. 13)
- Prayer empowers the leader, preparation equips for the task, and planning establishes the vision with the people. End strong!

Tom Foster is the Bishop of Dallas First Church in Dallas, Tx. He is the Presbyter of the SE Section of the North Texas District and the Church Growth Director for the UPCI. You can follow him @t fost er64 or email him: t foster@dallasfirstchurch.com.

---

**Leadership**

**Maintaining Integrity Through Life’s Tests**

One of the most fascinating things I have witnessed is a test station for aerospace engine prototypes. These large chambers take new airplane engine designs and expose them to a variety of extreme elements to ensure the integrity of the engine will not fail in times of duress. The intent is to ensure the afflication the engines are exposed to won’t affect it to a degree that would harm the passengers it is built to serve.

A leader must be equipped to withstand spiritual storms so we can adequately lead those we are called to serve.

1) Every leader needs to find time to renew their strength. This seems to make sense, but oftentimes we see those in leadership finding themselves depleted, hurt and overwitten with worry. I’ve heard it said that the way you lose consciousness is to exhale or breathe out more than you inhale or breathe in. In the busyess of ministry, we must all find times to allow God to breathe life, inspiration and strength into our lives. I am blessed by an incredible pastor whose preaching enriches my life, and I also find balance and strength from family and friends.

2) Personal devotion and inspiration is a must. I try to schedule time each day for study and try to maximize downtime by always having a book readily available. While technology has its downsides, it does have tremendous benefit in giving us a wide range of references and material on command.

3) We must all remind ourselves that our strength is rooted in Christ Himself. Paul implores us that Jesus’ strength is made perfect in our weakness (2 Cor. 12:9). We are thoroughly equipped for any battle as a result of His strength in us.

We must be constantly reminded that God is the engineer of our faith and ministries and has equipped us to weather the most adverse storms. “If God be for us, who can be against us?” (Rom. 8:31)

Chris Barber serves as the youth pastor of Calvary Tabernacle in Indianapolis, Indiana. He also works as an instructor at Indiana Bible College and serves as Indiana District Youth President. He and his wife, Allison, have two sons: Silas and Samson.

---

Chris Barber
Canadian Hospital Unveils Assisted Suicide Plans For Kids; Parents Won’t Know Until Child Is Dead

Doctors from a Toronto children’s hospital recently published policies on physician-assisted suicide for children, revealing that in some cases, parents won’t be notified until after the child has died.

“Usually, the family is intimately involved in this (end-of-life) decision-making process. If, however, a capable patient explicitly indicates that they do not want their family members involved in their decision-making, although health care providers may encourage the patient to reconsider and involve their family, ultimately the wishes of capable patients with respect to confidentiality must be respected,” said pediatric doctors at Toronto’s Hospital for Sick Children, a recent paper published in the British Medical Journal.

“The article appears just three months before the Canadian Council of Academies is due to report to Parliament on the medical consensus about extending voluntary euthanasia in circumstances currently forbidden by law,” it was reported. “The Canadian Council of Academies is specifically looking at extending so-called assisted dying to patients under 18.”

According to The Catholic Register, the proposed policies listed in the journal “argue that there is no meaningful ethical distinction between a patient choosing to refuse burdensome treatment and accepting an inevitable death versus patients who choose to die by chemical injection before the disease brings on death.”

The province of Ontario does not require parents to be involved in a “capable” minor’s decision to refuse further treatment, and therefore, “there is no legal reason to require parent involvement in an assisted death,” The Register added.

Presently, assisted suicide and euthanasia are only available in Canada to individuals who are aged 18 and older; it has been legal there since 2016.

U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services Policy Declares Life Begins at Conception

In its strategic plan that went into effect Oct. 1, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ policy now defines life as beginning at conception.

HHS accomplishes its mission through programs and initiatives that cover a wide spectrum of activities, serving and protecting Americans at every stage of life, beginning at conception,” the plan says. “A core component of the HHS mission is our dedication to serve all Americans from conception to natural death.

The strategic plan is part of what seems like moves by the HHS to support pro-life policies.

In June, an official with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services spoke at the National Right to Life convention.

“Our president is fearless when it comes to life and conscience,” said Roger Severino, who directs the Health and Human Services’ Office for Civil Rights. “We’re just getting started.”

According to Newsweek, the Obama administration plan had identical language to its plan, but the 2018-2022 adds in the phrase “beginning at conception.”

It is language that President Donald Trump has also used in the past. Earlier this year, Trump declared April as “Child Abuse Prevention Month,” calling children a “blessing from our Creator” and adding that they are “endowed with the value, purpose and human dignity.”

Pro-life activists and pro-choice supporters have long debated when life begins for an unborn child. Some medical professionals have also said that there is no medical determination for life starting at conception.

“There’s a reason that we don’t provide a definition of when life begins because there isn’t such a definition in medicine,” Dr. Anne Davis, consulting medical director at Physicians for Reproductive Health, told the Huffington Post. “It’s not a medical concept.”

The HHS plan covers the fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2022. Within the 65-page report, “life at conception” is mentioned a total of five times.

NEWS IN BRIEF

■ A professor in Sweden who recently spoke about the biological differences between men and women says he’s now being investigated by his university. Germund Hesslow, a professor of neurophysiology at Lund University, is speaking out about how his employer has launched a “full investigation” into his remarks about the biological realities of gender.

■ The name “Mormon” apparently is a thing of the past within the church. Russell M. Nelson, president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, told members recently to stop using the term “Mormon” and announced it is changing the “Mormon Tabernacle Choir” to the “Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square,” The Salt Lake Tribune reported. Public relations expert Chris Thomas said the dropping of “Mormon” gives the church the opportunity to “emphasize its doctrine, mission and foundation as being Christian.”

■ The high court declared that the owners of Ashers Baking Company in Belfast, Northern Ireland could not be compelled to promote a message that went against their beliefs—in this case, a Bert and Ernie cake celebrating the International Day Against Homophobia.

“The court’s reasoning resembled the defense made for Masterpiece Cakeshop, the Christian-owned bakery in Colorado that famously won at the U.S. Supreme Court last June over its refusal to bake cakes for same-sex weddings.

Australian Christians Choose Homeschooling in Droves Amid Religious Bullying

The Daily Mail reports that deeply religious families in Australia are more frequently choosing to homeschool their children as a result of increased religious bullying. Some parents have reported incidences of their children being taunted and targeted because of their moral opposition to same-sex marriage.

According to The Sunday Telegraph, the number of students being homeschooled has nearly doubled since 2014 with approximately 4,479 students partaking in home school education. The Accelerate Christian Home Schooling coordinator Stuart Chapman said, “In our celebration of diversity, Christians are now the ones who are the target of bullying and in the minority. Parents are feeling their children are being targeted because they believe in the traditional family.”

Chapman then cited an incident where “students who opposed same sex marriage were forced to stand at the back of their classrooms.”

In 2017, Australia legalized same sex marriage.
NORTH AMERICAN YOUTH CONGRESS

JULY 31 - AUGUST 2, 2019
THE DOME AT AMERICA'S CENTER
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

MORE INFORMATION FOUND AT NORTHAMERICANYOUTHCONGRESS.COM
REGISTRATION
• Now open at launch@church.fait
• $25 per person
• Participants must pay travel & hotel expense; however, lunch and dinner are provided.
• Participants must have pastor’s permission to attend.

Launch
CHURCH PLANTING SOLUTIONS
DESIGNED TO EQUIP THE NEXT GENERATION OF CHURCH PLANTERS

FEBRUARY 4-9, 2019
The Sanctuary | 965 ANGLUM ROAD
HAZELWOOD, MO 63042

SCHEDULE
MON | FEB 4
4:30pm  Registration
5:00pm  Orientation & Opening Session

TUE | FEB 5
9:00am  Morning Sessions
1:00pm  Lunch
1:30pm  Afternoon Sessions
7:00pm  Dinner & Presenters

SPEAKERS
DAVID K. BERNARD
SCOTT SISTRUNK

SCOTT ARMSTRONG
BILL HOBSON
MARRELL CORNWELL

WED | FEB 6
9:00am  Morning Sessions
1:00pm  Lunch
1:30pm  Afternoon Sessions
7:00pm  Dinner & Presenters

DARIN SARGENT
JIMMY TONEY
DAVID MCGOVERN

THU | FEB 7
9:00am  Morning Sessions
1:00pm  Lunch
1:30pm  Afternoon Sessions
7:00pm  A simulated “Launch” service

FRI | FEB 8
9:00am  Morning Sessions
1:00pm  Lunch
1:30pm  Afternoon Sessions
7:00pm  Commissioning Service

SAT | FEB 9
Travel Day

TOPICS
THE CALL
FUNDRAISING
CONVERTING MILLENNIALS & OTHER CRAZY PEOPLE
SPIRITUAL WARFARE
BRANDING & MARKETING
DISCIPLESHIP
LAUNCH CORE CONCEPTS
THE SHARK TANK
BUILDING A TEAM
... and more
The church must rise up as a mighty army. God. The church must once again take up its position as the army of God is in the midst of her and has fought with her and for her. Whatever happens in this world, the church must stand with Israel. In the Bible, Israel was God’s army, but today, the church is God’s army. Although we enjoy the other aspects of our relationship with God, we are in the hour when the church must once again take up its position as the army of God.

The church must rise up as a mighty army.
Yes, I’m a sheep, a soldier and a worshiper, but I’m also a warrior. David understood this shepherd, soldier, worshiper, warrior mentality. In Psalm 23:1, he said, “The Lord is my shepherd,” but he also recognized he was a soldier in Psalm 144:1. He said, “Blessed be the Lord my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight.”

In Jeremiah 51:20-21, God is talking about His sheep soldiers. God said, “Thou are my battle axe and weapons of war: for with thee will I break in pieces the nations and with thee will I destroy kingdoms; and with thee will I break in pieces the horse and his rider; and with thee will I break in pieces the chariot and his rider.”

Never have I felt a greater urgency to equip the sheep to be soldiers. Sheep are gentle, kind, loving and obedient. That nature of sheep speaks of the relationship to the shepherd. But, as it relates to hell and the devil’s works, we must be ruthless and bold like David, who went from a shepherd with a staff to a sling. Then he took the giant’s own sword and cut off his head.

In this hour, we can’t afford to be ignorant of who we are. Our ignorance could kill us! In Hosea 4:6, God said, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...” I’m speaking to the soldier in you today. I’m speaking to the warrior in you. Be bold, be courageous and put on the whole armor of God. Stand strong in the power and authority of God’s Word.

Be filled with His Spirit every day. Keep yourself connected. Stay up with the army and don’t lag behind because the enemy is looking for stragglers. Keep the Word of God pouring through your spirit. Acquaint yourself with your weapons. Learn how to use the Word and exercise authority in the name of Jesus. Never forget the importance of the blood. Learn how to war in prayer and praise. Learn how to keep yourself charged up, by praying in the Holy Ghost.

We are at war. The devil knows this nation is at a turning point, and he knows the church is the only power in this world that can keep him from taking over. Make no mistake ... the hostility, abuse, anger, murderous spirits being aimed at the White House are not really against the White House or President Trump. They’re against the church! We don’t agree with everything our president is doing or the manner in which he is dealing with some issues, but I know this hostility, violence and anger are spiritual. They’re demonic!

The change of the balance of power in this country has caused these spirits to rise up, and they can’t be fought with human weapons. This is where the sheep have to quit eating grass and looking for a soft spot to lie down in green pastures. It’s time to “eat our spinach,” the Word of God, and get an overdose of the Holy Ghost radiation gamma rays and transform into Holy Ghost, fire-baptized sons and daughters of God, wrapped in the whole armor of God. It’s time to take the sword of the Spirit and start fighting.

It’s the church that will change the spiritual climate of this nation. II Corinthians 10:3-5 says, “For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.”

God has left this fight up to the church. He came down, stripped the devil of his authority and gave the authority to the church. He sent the Holy Ghost to live inside us and give us power over the devil. If we, the church, do not become good soldiers of the church, the devil will rob us blind, kill our children, ransack our homes and destroy our nation.

It’s not the power in the White House that will change the spiritual climate of this nation, but it’s the power in the church house. It’s the sheep soldiers, the worship warriors, the ones who know how to pray that will knock on heaven’s door until heaven answers. They not only know how to be led but how to take orders from the captain. This battle will only be fought and won on our knees!

Bio: Bro. Michael Trammell, along with his wife, Teri, pastor Bethel Pentecostal Church in Arnold, Mo. Bro. Trammell has been in ministry for 38 years, pastoring churches from Louisiana to Michigan. The Trammells have two grown children: a daughter, Mikhael, and a son, Jason, (wife, Brandi) with two children, Ava and Branson.
AMTC Apostolic Ministry Training Center
Germany, Switzerland, Austria & Liechtenstein

AMTC Purpose
AMTC is the annual training program in the German Speaking Nations strategically designed to:
1. Standardize the apostles’ doctrine
2. Serve as a catalyst for local church discipleship
3. Serve as a catalyst for lay ministry development
4. Deploy strategic evangelism across our field.

2019 Semester
May 14-26 2019
Classes begin Tuesday, May 14 and conclude on Sunday, May 26. As an instructor, you will have the unique opportunity to minister in the German Speaking Nations region on Sunday, May 19 and Sunday, May 26.

Instructor Enrollment
Enrollment is open for 200+ instructors for our projected 40 campuses across the 3 nations of Germany, Switzerland, and Austria.

To enroll or to request more information, contact Rev. Nathan Hulsman at nhulsman23@mac.com. Visit our AMTC website at: amtc.u-p-c.eu.
The Impact of Hurricane Florence
Churches, Saints in North Carolina in Desperate Need of Prayer, Funding

Florence, the first major hurricane of the 2018 Atlantic hurricane season, became the wettest tropical cyclone recorded in North Carolina history, coming ashore in September 2018 and causing extensive damage, mainly due to flooding. “The damage was widespread and severe,” said Bro. Roy Barnhill, secretary of the North Carolina district of the UPCi. “Many businesses are shut down for months due to repairs, and saints as well as some bi-vocational pastors are unemployed as a result. Many saints also had major water damage which will require extensive repair.”

Many cities had major flooding that affected churches as well as the homes of many members. “Our churches as well as saints have been greatly impacted,” said Bro. Floyd Morris, pastor in Wilmington, N.C. “Pastor Jerry Stroh in Washington, North Carolina had nine inches of water in his home, The Pentecostals of Wilmington & Burgaw together have three families displaced that lost their homes due to damage and flooding, and First UPC of Jacksonville is displaced due to flooding and has started the muck-out process. The list of affected churches goes on and on, and only time will tell the extent of all the damage.”

The response has been overwhelming and people are working together to rebuild, with neighbor helping neighbor to get back on their feet again. Reach Out America, Feed the Children and National VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters) have been a great blessing to the area, providing food as well as relief supplies. A special thanks to Reach Out America for sending in around 10 trucks of much-needed relief supplies to help the churches and communities. “The needs right now are first, prayer for our communities that have lost so much,” said Bro. Morris. “Several did not have flood insurance due to not being in a flood zone. Second, funding and donations are needed for rebuilding and recouping loss. Gift cards would be helpful as well for those who have been displaced until they are back in permanent housing.”

Donations or relief items may be sent directly to the NC District – marked as Hurricane Relief NC District, Secretary Roy Barnhill, P.O. Box 3226, Lumberton, NC 28359. You may also send gift cards, donations or other relief items to any of the churches in the North Carolina district.

Do Our Entertainments Offend the Lord?
Biblical Guide Offers Practical Tips To Help Christians Make Wise Choices

Pastors have long cautioned about the inherent dangers of worldly entertainment. Sis. Anne Ney, who attends Pastor Anthony Tamel’s church in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, seeks to better define how an Apostolic Christian should decide how to make Godly choices that will not grieve the Holy Ghost. Sis. Ney wrote a book entitled Do Our Entertainments Offend the Lord?, filled with practical guidelines for those wanting to make wise spiritual decisions.

“My book is a biblical guide that seeks to help the church examine entertainment choices to determine whether they may be enjoyed without reproach,” said Sis. Ney. “We are called to avoid any unclean thing (II Corinthians 6:17-18). This is a principle that forbids us from aligning with wickedness. Much of what is generated by popular culture is filthy and depraved. Today, art, movies, music and recreation venues are packaged with such sophistication and glitz that they are able to draw in even the most conservative individuals.

“This book first discusses basic holiness and separation, citing specific examples of entertainments that should be avoided if we are to please God in all our ways. It does not suggest that all forms of secular entertainment are bad, and there is no call to smash our televisions or stay off the Internet. There are, however, practical guidelines given in how to choose entertainments wisely.

“I have included many stories that share personal choices and insights gained which relate to holy living. Most of the topics addressed have been on my heart for decades, and some appeared in short articles for church publications and as small group topics. It was not until after I gave a talk on worldly entertainments for a singles’ meeting that I clearly felt the call to put this into book form.”

As a single woman, Sis. Ney has made children a 40-year priority by teaching and writing children’s small group topics and a Bible study. In preparation for this book, much studying and research was done of Biblical principles, news articles and media habits. Some of her materials for Do Our Entertainments Offend The Lord? are being used to teach Bible school students overseas.

She has written one other book, a Christian fiction novel entitled In Search of the Armor. Sis. Ney’s hobbies include landscape painting and the great outdoors. She considers friends and family her greatest treasures.

Do Our Entertainments Offend The Lord? can be purchased for $7 online at either Pentecostal Publishing House or Amazon.com. Any questions or comments can be emailed to aney2news@gmail.com.

IBC PERSPECTIVES - VOL. 28, NO. 12
AN APOSTOLIC 12-DAY BIBLICAL TOUR OF POLAND AND ISRAEL * EARLY BIRD SAVINGS WITH AN INITIAL DEPOSIT OF $300.00*

TOUR HOST

DAVID J SAGIL
MJR DIRECTOR

FEATURED GUEST

FLO SHAW
WNOP DIRECTOR

March 3 - March 14, 2019
MJR HOLYLAND TOUR

POLAND & ISRAEL

OPERATION POLAND & ISRAEL
STRATEGIC PRAYER JOURNEY

APOSTOLIC
ACADEMIC
ANOINTED

$3600.00

*Price Includes: All US and Int’l Taxes, Fuel Charges and Gratuities
*Airfare price is from Chicago, USA

www.mjr.world
Word To The Wise:

“Research has determined that the shelf life of fruitcake is longer than the shelf.”

My older son loves school, but his younger brother Tommy absolutely hates it. One weekend Tommy cried and fretted and tried every excuse not to go back on Monday. On the way home from church Sunday morning, the crying and whining built to a crescendo.

At the end of my rope, I finally stopped the car and explained, “Honey, it’s a law. If you don’t go to school, they’ll put Mommy in jail.”

Tommy looked at me, thought a moment, then asked, “How long would you have to stay?”

A wife says to her husband one weekend morning, “We’ve got such a clever dog. He brings in the daily newspapers every morning.”

Her husband replied “Well, lots of dogs can do that.”

The wife responded, “But we’ve never subscribed to any papers!”

A minister in a little church announced: “Before we pass the collection plate, I would like to request that the person who stole the chickens from Bro. Martin’s hen house please refrain from giving any money to the Lord. The Lord doesn’t want money from a thief!” The collection plate was passed around, and for the first time in months, everybody gave.

Dewey heard that his father, grandfather and great-grandfather had all walked on water on their 21st birthdays.

So, on his 21st birthday, Dewey and his big brother, Damon, headed out to the lake. “If they did it, I can too!” he insisted.

When Dewey and Damon arrived at the lake, they rented a canoe and began paddling. When they got to the middle of the lake, Dewey stepped off the side of the boat ... and nearly drowned.

Furious and somewhat embarrassed, he and Damon headed for home.

When Dewey arrived back at the family home, he asked his grandmother for an explanation. “Grandma, why can’t I walk on water like my father, and his father, and his father before him?”

His sweet old grandmother took Dewey by the hand, looked into his eyes, and explained, “That’s because your father, grandfather and great-grandfather were born in January, You were born in June, dear.”

“Have you seen Bigfoot?”

Just a quick glimpse, but we’re finding his footprints everywhere.

A wife says to her husband one weekend morning, “We want to thank you, Lord, for all that you have given us. In return, I hope you like this burnt offering my mom prepared for all of us ...”

Funny Cop Quotes

- “The handcuffs are tight because they’re new. They’ll stretch out after you wear them awhile.”
- “And if you run, you’ll only go to jail tired.”
- “So, you don’t know how fast you were going. Well, I guess that means I can write anything I want on the ticket, huh?”
- “Yes sir, you can talk to the shift supervisor, but I don’t think it will help. Oh, did I mention that I am the shift supervisor?”
- “Warning! You want a warning? Okay, I’m warning you not to do that again or I’ll give you ANOTHER ticket.”
- “The answer to this last question will determine whether you are drunk or not. Was Mickey Mouse a cat or dog?”
- “Yeah, we have a quota. Two more tickets and my wife gets a toaster.”
- “No sir, we don’t have quotas anymore. We used to have quotas, but now we’re allowed to write as many tickets as we want.”
CONGRESS MADE PERMANENT

the law that allows people OVER 70½ OR OLDER who own an IRA
to make cash gifts directly from their IRA to charity. For many people, this is the best tax-wise way to give. An IRA rollover gift will not be included in your taxable income and will qualify for your required minimum distribution.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT KENT RUSSELL 636-229-7981 OR KRUSSELL@UPCI.ORG

“A Woman’s Place of Power and Responsibility in the Home;” offers practical techniques for men and women fighting the Good fight of Faith in these great and final days.

A self-help manual for those who know we are fearfully and wonderfully made; features home remedies and natural health practices to keep your Temple strong and clean.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: http://www.marthaleelyman.com
OR CALL: 206.730.7582
$13.95 each
ONLy 17 NATIONS TO GO!

We, the generations who must come together to finish the task of evangelizing the world, came together to worship, connect in purpose, share our stories and dreams, breathe in the air heavy with mission purpose, and accept the challenges of our callings to the regions beyond. If you are stirred by missions, you should make plans now to attend in 2020!

Over 375 of us, people of all ages from 27 States and Provinces, met to discover new missions opportunities and affirm connections made on AYC, Next Steps, AIM or other missions-related endeavors. And for the first-time ever, Linked Ministries and Bible College missions clubs also joined the effort, casting a larger vision and sharing various ways to participate and BE VITAL in spreading the Gospel.

There are so many ways to be involved in missions now. We have no more excuses for holding back. Let’s not miss out on the joy set before us as we give our best years and best efforts with the best of people.

We are so close to seeing Matthew 24:14 fulfilled! “And the Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world...and then the end will come.”

IN THEIR OWN WORDS

This is more than a conference; it’s a TRIBE! The love and warmth I feel at this meeting is staggering!

The biggest draw? Meeting the Regional Directors and missionaries!

I LOVED being able to meet and re-encounter like-minded “mission people.”

...I also appreciated the worship culture established the first night. This made a huge difference for me.

Favorite part? The united vision everyone had and shared.

If you want to see what God is doing in the Church, come to Global ConNEXtions!

2019 SEMINARS

TX- Feb 22-23 | NC- Mar 29-30 | MI- Aug 23-24

More info: globalconnexion.org
Send To:

IBC LIVE 2018 | AT THE CROSS

Now available on iTunes and at voicevision.com