As nightfall does not come all at once, neither does oppression. In both instances, there is a twilight when everything remains seemingly unchanged. And it is in such twilight that we all must be most aware of change in the air — however slight — lest we become unwitting victims of the darkness.

Justice William O. Douglas

“A word. A word. Lord, give me a word.”

A fairly dense wood about a half mile deep sat on the west side of our country home. It was filled with blackberries and hardwood trees, many of which were covered by massive vines, that my buddies and I called “Tarzan trees.” Toward the end of the day, I often walked with my mother into that wood, where she liked to pray, close to the trees wrapped in vines. I recall times when she would cry out, “Lord, give me a word. Give me a word.” It is a memory I have never forgotten.

It’s not unusual in these troublesome times for someone to call and express the inquiry, “Do you have a word from the Lord?” Recently, I’ve heard from several preachers, saints and civil servants all asking this question: “Do you have a word from the Lord?” The question was sincere each time. They seem to feel a loss of direction, a loss of consensus or agreement from within our culture. They were concerned about the direction this nation is going — the light that is flickering and the deepening darkness. “Do you have a word?” It is a legitimate petition. We note Zedekiah, who met Jeremiah secretly and asked him, “Is there a word from the Lord?” Jeremiah answered, “There is.”

A culture or a church may be destroyed when its beliefs are uncertain, when division destroys its passion for its constitutional foundations, when its allegiances are weakened, when standards of conduct are blurred, when dishonesty is overlooked, or when duplicity is tolerated during vows and promises. When we fail to believe fully and stand on a common foundation — we are sure to divide. What holds an Apostolic church together is that we believe, together, the Pentecostal Acts 2:38 commandment and the path of holiness before God. Thereby we are committed to breathe together and labor together.

The call for a “word from the Lord” is valid. My friends were serious. They desired a “word from the Lord.” Why? There are big issues at stake throughout the world. To hear a word from the Lord calls for a deeper force, much deeper than our earthly ambition, or our personal objectives. That deep transforming force of anointing of the Holy Spirit that fell on the day of Pentecost brings vision, truth, and keeps us all together. We are facing twilight, and we must all be aware of the change in the air. Is there a word? There is (Jeremiah 37).

exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 1:3).

A culture or a church may be destroyed when its beliefs are uncertain, when division destroys its passion for its constitutional foundations, when its allegiances are weakened, when standards of conduct are blurred, when dishonesty is overlooked, or when duplicity is tolerated during vows and promises. When we fail to believe fully and stand on a common foundation — we are sure to divide. What holds an Apostolic church together is that we believe, together, the Pentecostal Acts 2:38 commandment and the path of holiness before God. Thereby we are committed to breathe together and labor together.

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Mission Statement

• To promote revival and growth among Apostolic churches and pastors by encouraging unity and cooperation among those of like faith and by providing a forum for the sharing of new ideas, ministries and programs.
• To report on those trends and events which directly affect the work of the church.
• To promote and enhance the ongoing ministry of Indiana Bible College.

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If you would like to receive the IBC Perspectives each month, simply provide us with your mailing address and we will send it to you free of charge. Each year we will contact you by mail to insure your address is still current. At that time you will be given the opportunity to give an offering to help support this publication. Recommended offering: $20.00.

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NEW HIGHER RATES

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Opinions

Jackie Polk, Waveland, MS - Finding out that our baby was living a life completely outside of the will of God was like having the very air we breathe sucked right from us. This beautiful baby, dedicated and prayed for, was now on a path to eternal suffering.

One of the most common mistakes parents of prodigals make is not reaching out to them. How will they know agape love unless we as parents are the symbolism of His love to our lost babies? There must be contact. Never give up, and stay connected to your baby any way you can every day. Pray over yourself and anoint yourself every time you know you will physically come into contact with your child.

Pray continually! Praise even more when things look worse. God is still writing this story. He alone will bring your child all the way back to truth and out of grips of the enemy. We are standing on God’s infallible Word that our daughter will be fully redeemed.

Fred Childs, Pearland, TX - In my own case, my children were raised in the faith. Each had received the Acts 2:38 experience. Today not all of them live for God. The sorrow and pain come in many forms. There is a vast amount of sorrow and internal questioning that arises from the choices I made raising my children as a father and pastor. We made several major moves in ministry when my children were young. Those moves were painful and had lasting effects on my children. They gave me up to extremely long working hours as a busy pastor and working engineer. We live life moving forward, but we understand it looking back. In essence, as I look back today, the sorrow and pain isn’t only for their spiritual condition, but it is compounded by questions within myself as to what I could and should have done differently.

I believe it is essential that a parent pray for their lost child until they absolutely know God has spoken that He is going to physically come into contact with your child. Thank God daily for that prodigal child.

One mistake that parents make is giving up and another is clamming up. I would advise parents of prodigals to relentlessly pray, unconditionally love, and tirelessly reach. The scripture comes to mind about speaking the truth in love. I believe that directing goodness with them, for it is God’s goodness that leads us all to repentance. Lastly, we need to compel our children to follow God’s Spirit can go beyond miles, hurts or walls.

Thelma Prather, Muskegon, MI - The pain and sorrow of having a prodigal child is very real. There were times I felt I couldn’t go on, weeping so much until I couldn’t weep anymore. But I’ve also come to a conclusion: God hears us when we pray. If your children still live at home, anoint their room and put scriptures under their mattress.

Thank God daily for that prodigal child. Love them unconditionally and make them feel important and a part of family functions. Jesus knows what it will take to bring them back to Him. Praise Him and thank Him for saving them in Jesus name.

Linda Brown, Madison, WI - The weeks and months that followed our son’s decision seemed so surreal. Life went on, but I felt like ours stopped on April 16, 2015. I have been a prayer warrior and intercessor for many years, but now I questioned, “Why do I pray?” I was feeling guilty, I felt angry, I was confused, I was hurt, and I felt as I had never felt before.

Often we want to preach to our grown children instead of winning them to Jesus. They are a soul, and we must wisely, compassionately and sincerely love them and allow Jesus the room to work in their lives. Keep praying ... our prayers never die. Keep the door open by spending time with them, texting them, and taking an interest in their lives and what is important to them. Share words of affirmation and God’s goodness with them, for it is God’s goodness that leads us all to repentance. Lastly, we need to compel our children to follow Jesus, not force them.

P. Giertz, Athens, OH - The sorrow and grief were extremely poignant. I felt as though my heart had been ripped out of my chest and trampled on. The situation dumped an enormous amount of stress on our home that we had to work through; it adversely affected the whole family.

One mistake that parents make is giving up and another is clamming up. I would advise parents of prodigals to relentlessly pray, unconditionally love, and tirelessly reach. The scripture comes to mind about speaking the truth in love. I believe that directing anger toward the prodigal can be incredibly detrimental. Filter your responses through 1 Corinthians 13.

I would first say that there are no perfect parents, so stop beating yourself up. Also, pray for other parents of prodigals; there is power in agreement! Though your heart may be breaking, God can hold the pieces of your heart at the same time He heals their souls.

Joe Shaw, Brady, TX - We’ve felt frustration that we could help others but didn’t seem to be able to do the same for some of our own children. From our experience, parents blame themselves for their children leaving the truth. We don’t always consider the personal choice and free will of everyone. We think we can love them enough, and if we’ve trained them in truth, it’s automatic that they will live for God.

We pray for our children that do not live for the Lord. We also believe that our first priority is to put God’s kingdom first. If we seek His kingdom, His Word says all the other things will be added. We keep loving our family and enjoying our time together, keeping the door of communication open. Keep living for God. God’s Spirit can go beyond miles, hurts or walls.

Interviews by Gregg Stone

Note: The opinions on this page are entirely those of the individual and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Indiana Bible College.
Dynamic! That's the word best used to describe the city and the church. Christ Temple, an exciting church with lively worship along with anointed singing and preaching, is located in Phoenix, Arizona. Phoenix is known as the Valley of the Sun and ranks as one of the fastest growing cities in the nation. Because of the beautiful weather, you can enjoy most activities year-round. Adding to the already high temperatures in Phoenix are the revival fires burning at Christ Temple – a church on fire.

Christ Temple is a powerful church built on a solid foundation of prayer and fasting, outreach and discipleship. It is a warm and friendly church that serves the Phoenix/Glendale communities. "It is our desire to share the gospel of Jesus with our community, to see lives changed and for people to have a meaningful, personal relationship with Jesus Christ," said Pastor Gary Hogan.

After years of steady growth, many members of the church now know how it feels to pull the lost from a more eternal kind of fire, and the excitement is evident in their weekly services.

Ministries and Methods
The most important key to having a growing church, according to Pastor Hogan, is to emphasize prayer and fasting, outreach and relationship building. "The ultimate goal is to reach the lost," he said. "We have always promoted teaching home Bible studies and other outreach ministries, including bus ministry to our city. We also have follow-up on every visitor, with an emphasis on connecting with them."

The church hosts four main events annually: Friends Day, the Easter program, a Back-to-School service, and a Christmas program. For each event, all departments are encouraged to focus on an area in which to participate for outreach purposes.

Organization and Management
The church holds an annual leadership retreat that all leaders attend for the purpose of training and motivation. It is not a planning session. The retreat takes place at an out-of-town hotel, and an outside speaker is generally brought in. "Building motivated leaders has long been a strong point of the ministry of this church," Pastor Hogan said.

Training is recommended for all departments. From time to time, directors may visit an out-of-state revival church for observation purposes. Also, several directors attend conferences and workshops. There is an in-house children's ministry training, and the staff attends district children's ministry annual training. Pastor Hogan usually meets weekly with the outreach director and monthly or semi-monthly with the other department directors.

Christ Temple has two planning sessions each year prior to the beginning of a new year. Department leaders attend to put the dates for their events on the calendar. "It is important to be a finisher and not have leaders start projects that they cannot follow through with," the pastor said.

Christ Temple has always had a high percentage of member involvement in ministry. "I feel that the more people can be involved in some type of ministry, the stronger the church will become," he explained. "I don't want people to feel they merely have a 'job' in the church but that it is their ministry. It is important to touch people and to communicate often with the members of the congregation."

Special Miracles
Christ Temple has witnessed several miracles that are a testimony to the healing power of Jesus Christ. A lady in the church had quit taking her medication that controlled her sugar diabetes and, as a result, ended up in the hospital in serious condition with gangrene. "We called a church-wide fast and prayer chain, and the gangrene disappeared, leaving the doctor astonished because this never happens," Pastor Hogan said. "She only lost some dead skin around one of her toes. God completely healed her leg.

Another miracle witnessed by the church was when the grandmother of a drug baby was told that the baby could not be around bright lights or loud sounds. After the baby was prayed for, all the effects of the drugs that had been in his system were gone. The boy now has no side effects from the drugs. "When God heals, it leaves an impact on so many people," Pastor Hogan said.

Another woman in the church asked fellow saints to pray for a co-worker whose muscles were deteriorating. Eventually, she was
bedridden, admitted to a hospital and the family was told she would not live. The church prayed, and this woman was healed and came to church to testify of her healing.

**Personal History**

Born June 18, 1946, in Paris, Texas, Pastor Hogan spent most of his childhood in the Dallas area. When he was only six years old, his father was killed in an automobile accident. “My mother remarried a couple of years later, and my family relocated to Stockton, California when I was a junior in high school,” he said. “After graduation from high school, I attended community college and then enrolled in Christian Life College (formerly Western Apostolic Bible College). I received my call into the ministry during my junior year of Bible college and graduated in 1969.”

On October 18, 1969, a few months following his graduation, he married Elaine Engquist, whom he had met at the Bible college. They have three children, five grandchildren, and a Shih Tzu, named Benji, that they have raised since the dog was three days old.

Bro. Hogan entered the ministry immediately following graduation, serving as assistant pastor in Redwood City, California. “A year out of Bible college, I became the pastor in Palmdale, California,” he said. “The small congregation of about 15 grew to approximately 60 in three years.” (1970-1973)

After evangelizing in Oregon home missions churches the summer of 1973, the family relocated to Chandler, Arizona. They also assisted churches in Chandler and Mesa until he and his wife established Christ Temple in 1976.

Pastor Hogan has served the Arizona district in various capacities for over 27 years. He is currently the superintendent, serving on the general board of the United Pentecostal Church International. Before he became superintendent 12 years ago, he served as district editor, district Sunday school director and district secretary. He also served on the Budget Committee of the UPCI.

**Church History & Current Facility**

In the spring of 1976, Bro. Hogan was ordained at the Arizona District Conference and was granted permission to start a church in East Phoenix. “A few weeks later, an ad appeared in the local paper about a small church building that was available,” he explained. “For a young couple with two small children, financing was not possible. At this point, the Lord performed a miracle when the owner agreed to accept a $2,000 down payment and he would carry the balance.”

On May 30, 1976, the first church service of Faith Tabernacle, as the assembly was known at the time, was held. There were eight people in attendance. Besides the small chapel building, there were three additional buildings on the property. In 1980, the church moved to a larger building three miles from the original location. The church was allowed to assume payments on the property with the stipulation that the church would change its name to Christ Temple. The church now had a 200-seat sanctuary, Sunday school classrooms and its own baptistery.

During the next few months, with much prayer, fasting and a surge of faith, the small congregation began to experience revival. Between the months of June and December 1981, 52 people received the Holy Ghost. “Many altar services had more people seeking the Holy Ghost than there were Holy Ghost-filled people to pray with them,” Pastor Hogan said.

This revival continued for the next three years, bringing the average church attendance to more than 150. By 1988, the building was full, and it was time to look for more space. A 4.8-acre ranch was located as prospective church property, but another miracle was needed. “Banks did not want to make loans to churches at that time, and financing was unavailable,” said Pastor Hogan. “The Lord, as He has always done, moved on the owner to carry the loan, accepting the church savings as a down payment.” Within 3½ years, the property was paid in full, and in 1999, the members of Christ Temple began building the first phase of the current complex. After 14 months of hard work and sacrifice, the building was ready for the first service in April 2001.

In January 2009, work began on the new sanctuary to seat 500. The opening service was in September of that same year. With a focus on reaching the community, Christ Temple has continued with growth as a revival church.

**What the Future Holds**

At this time, Christ Temple does not have plans for a larger sanctuary, preferring to start additional daughter works and home fellowship groups. “We presently have two daughter works and a home fellowship group,” said Pastor Hogan. “We are also looking at the possibility of building a multi-purpose building as we have outgrown our fellowship hall for dinners, and we are in need of additional Sunday school space. God is blessing, and we are excited at what our future holds.”

Top left to right clockwise: Pastor Hogan baptizes a young girl; A worship service inside the sanctuary; Pastor Hogan preaches the Word; The youth prepare for outreach ministry; An exterior view of Christ Temple; A gentleman is baptized.
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Is preaching a skill, a gift, or both?

Preaching is both a human skill and a gift. The human side of it is the result of a talent or gift that God gives an individual. How well he/she applies those gifts are skill. Preaching is a unique relationship between a human being and God. It is the result of human effort and the anointing of God’s Spirit.

The talent of the preacher is the least important aspect of the process of preaching. God gives the talent, but the preacher must maximize the talent to communicate truth to an audience. One can learn to preach because, obviously, the ability to speak before an audience is a learned process. Most of all, a preacher must be a man or woman of God because what makes an effective sermon is the anointing of God. We must have a walk with God and know how to allow the anointing to flow through us as we preach. It is the anointing that makes the sermon a spiritual event and not just a speech or lecture.

How much time should be devoted to sermon preparation?

Time in preparation is determined by the experience level of the preacher and how familiar he is with the text and its background. A sermon that is "material dense" will take longer to prepare and to ensure the thought is logical and flows in a way the listener can grasp. You can preach a complex scriptural or theological idea, but you must make it down to where people can readily understand it while remaining true to the theology. This takes time.

Time spent in sermon preparation also depends on how the sermon develops. There are some sermons that literally take years to develop, starting as just an idea but developing in the heart and mind of the preacher until it becomes a fully developed sermon. Sometimes the sermon quickly comes together in a matter of hours.

As a starting point, for a novice preacher, approximately 20 hours of study and preparation is probably a good idea. However, for more experienced preachers, between eight and 20 hours in sermon preparation should not be unusual. But there is no hard rule that fits every situation.

Should preachers read their sermons?

There are some incredibly effective preachers who read large sections of their sermon. However, when they reach a certain place in the anointing, they no longer read but become more extemporaneous. To create the needed emotional response in your hearers by reading every word of the sermon, the preacher must be a better-than-average reader and must read with anointing. In my experience, when the anointing is flowing, I find it difficult to remain tied to the pulpit enough to read my sermon.

What about preaching without notes?

Some preachers argue that, for them, notes are a hindrance to the operation of the Spirit. However, I have found that notes do not keep me from following the Spirit; they liberate me to follow the Spirit.

I find by using notes, I am more able to inject scripture word for word instead of simply alluding to it. I cannot trust my memory to do this. Also, notes can provide an anchor or base to return to if needed. For the vast majority of us, notes are vital for us to be comfortable because we know we can read the scripture we want to read and remember the facts we need to remember.

Novice preachers should write out their sermons and then make notes to take to the pulpit.

How do pastors keep fresh material?

This requires commitment. The example of Acts is that the apostles had to make a conscious decision to focus their time and energy on prayer and the Word of God. The pastor of a smaller church, who usually has less staff, or a church planter or a bi-vocational pastor must allocate their time based on the prioritizing of the demands of their day. Time spent meditating and studying is not wasted time; instead, it must be one of our top priorities if we are to be effective preachers. We must make the deliberate decision to guard our time and make sure we are giving ourselves to prayer and the preparation to minister the Word in the pulpit.

We must read! We must develop a habit of reading to further expand our understanding of the Word of God and life itself. Challenge yourself beyond your comfort zone. Read broadly! Read quality material! Read and re-read the Word. Read everything devotionally but also with an eye toward crafting sermons. Make the commitment to invest the necessary time.

Where can your book be purchased?

We Preach can be purchased from Pentecostal Publishing House by calling 1-866-7667. A Kindle version as well as paperback is also available from Amazon.
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<td>UPCI General Conference</td>
<td>Kentucky International Convention Center, 221 S. 4th St., Louisville, Kentucky 40202</td>
<td>Terry Shock, Jack Cunningham, Wayne Huntley, Jerry Jones, Chantry Dean and David Bernard</td>
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<td>Oct 18-20</td>
<td>MidAmerica Conference</td>
<td>First Pentecostal Church of North Little Rock, 1401 Calvary Rd., North Little Rock, AR 72116</td>
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<td>For more information visit <a href="http://midamericaconf.com">midamericaconf.com</a></td>
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<td>Oct 31-Nov 2</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>
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<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>
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<td>April 2019</td>
<td>Indiana Bible College THEOLOGY CONFERENCE</td>
<td>Indiana Bible College 1502 Sumner Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46227</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> or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069</td>
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<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>
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<td>June 2019</td>
<td>Power Conference 2019</td>
<td>Crossroads Arena 2800 S. Harper Rd. Corinth, MS 38834</td>
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<td>For more info, call Josh Hodum (662) 287-4118 or (662) 872-9999</td>
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<td>North American Youth Congress 2019</td>
<td>The Dome at America's Center St. Louis, MO</td>
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<td>Parkway Pentecostal Church, 601 Reunion Parkway, Madison, MS 39110 Host Pastors: Jerry and Jason Dillon</td>
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<td>(601) 853-2607 <a href="http://www.parkwaychurch.net">www.parkwaychurch.net</a> ParkwayChurchNet/NAMRegistration</td>
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<td>Aug 2019</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</td>
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<td>For more info visit <a href="http://aricm.net">aricm.net</a></td>
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<td>Sept. 2019</td>
<td>Mid-America Renewal Conference (MARC)</td>
<td>Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:ibc@apostolic.edu">ibc@apostolic.edu</a> or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069</td>
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The Church at the Slave Castle

In August of this year we went to the 50th Jubilee Celebration of the UPCI Church of Ghana, West Africa. In 1968, my parents became the first resident missionaries to Ghana, where they spent 10 years pioneering UPCI churches, Bible schools, primary schools and preaching points all over the country of Ghana and also in Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Togo and Benin.

It was an honor and a dream come true to return to the country with our entire immediate family – my parents, my wife and children – to witness the outstanding growth of the church and to see the opportunities and plans for continued growth. I spent my childhood formative years in West Africa, and it still feels like home.

During our trip, we took a day to drive to Elmina Castle located east of Ghana’s capital city of Accra. It is in the Cape Coast region, a beautiful stretch of land on the ocean that is home to many fishing villages. The progress of the nation has reached much slower into this region and the people still suffer under the strain of great poverty. Tourism to the rain forest and the old castles is vital to the area.

The tour of Elmina Castle is sobering. To see the actual location where the atrocities of the slave trade were performed is completely disturbing. I wept as we walked through the dungeons that lead to the narrow opening called the point of “no return” – a small window-like opening where men and women were chained together, five per shackles. How any human could perpetrate such evil upon another is simply unfathomable.

But the most egregious sight at Elmina is the church building that sits prominently in the courtyard of the castle, a focal point. On one tour the guide told us that during services the missionaries, soldiers and other attendees had to sing their hymns loudly as to block out the cries that came from the slaves starving and living in squalid conditions just below them.

There is a plaque at the exit of the tour that reads, “In everlasting memory of the anguish of our ancestors. May those who died rest in peace. May those who return find their roots. May humanity never again perpetrate such injustice against humanity. We the living vow to uphold this.” Considering the audacity of the church’s participation in this wicked oppression, I breathed the prayer, “And may the church gifts. But as long as a person is a loyal and faithful Christian and has a willingness to work and follow instruction, they can be used. A pastor should work closely with them: consider men, women, even mature teens. If a church averages 60 or more in attendance, a pastor should consider having the following ministry leaders: Sunday School, Home Bible Study, Guest Follow-up, Outreach, Bus or Car Ministry, Youth, Music, New Convert Care, Promotions, Ladies Ministry, Men’s Ministry, Prayer Ministry.

Each must have a detailed job description. In the beginning, keep this focused on the basics. Later, you can always add more creative details.

The key to using marginally gifted individuals is to work closely with them. A pastor should be committed to working closely with them. A pastor should be committed to an annual fall planning retreat to prepare for the coming year. This is a brainstorming session with all leaders to discuss the goals and plans of each department and provides each department with clear direction for the coming year.

A pastor must also be committed to meeting with his leaders, as a group, on an off-church night, to implement this plan. Each month, the group looks ahead three months and does detailed planning on all events and ministry improvements. Each leader hands in a simple written report that provides accountability for their major duties and responsibilities. A pastor should also consider having a weekly tag-in. Held before or after a church service, it lasts about five minutes and follows up on any assignments given at the monthly meetings. In addition to providing access and encouragement, it also fosters team unity.

Moses felt inadequate. But God asked him, “What is that in thine hand?” (Ex. 4:2). Moses used what he had and with the help of God, accomplished his calling. Pastor, who is it in your church? Within your current membership are people who, if given the chance, can help you fulfill God’s plan for your community.
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We pray consistently for the Lord to heal the deafness, but God has not chosen our baby to be healed as of yet. If you believe this issue is important enough to God, please pray for our child. Do not be afraid if your prayers do not immediately result in a change. While there have been occasions when a prayer answer has come quickly, this is not always the case. In such cases, the answer may not come as a result of immediate intervention but rather through a chain of events that eventually results in your prayer being answered. If, after a period of time, you are still waiting for your prayer to be answered, keep praying and continue to believe that your prayer will be answered. Prayer should be a dynamic process, not a static one. Keep praying and believe that your prayer will be answered. In the meantime, do what you can to support your child and their family. Give them the love, care, and support they need to make the most of their lives. Trust in God and believe that He will answer your prayer in His perfect timing. Amen.
For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you. That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.
For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.
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CA Bill Threatens Religious Freedom of Those Who Oppose Homosexuality

A bill quickly moving through the California state legislature may threaten the religious freedom of those who object to homosexuality. The bill amends California’s “Consumer Legal Remedies Act” to include “sexual orientation change efforts.”

Jim Daly, the president of Focus on the Family, warned that Assembly Bill 2943 could adversely affect Christians. He said those who believe homosexuality is a sin could face legal repercussions from monetary transactions having to do with this belief.

“Put it simply,” writes Daly, “Christian schools, churches and others who hold to a traditional understanding of marriage and sexuality would be open to lawsuits for teaching biblical truth about homosexuality or transgenderism.”

Duck Boat Accident: “We All Have Been Touched By It,” Apostolic Faith Community Says

As Sunday morning worship began to wind down at Zion Tabernacle Apostolic Church in Indianapolis, Bishop Thomas E. Griffith interrupted the service to deliver news that allowed hope to pierce the palpable sadness looming over the congregation.

He announced that Tia Coleman, just days removed from a duck boat tragedy in Branson, Missouri that took nine members of her family — including her three children and her husband — was out of the hospital and heading home to Indianapolis.

The surprise announcement was met with cheers of “Hallelujah!”, tears of joy, stomping feet and a joyous chord played from the church’s organ.

It also served as a reminder to members of the Northeast-side church that there is still a lot of work to do, as they and others within the Indianapolis faith community take on the responsibility of supporting Tia Coleman through fellowship.

“We all have been touched by it and we’re all struggling because we all love Tia,” said Beverly Reese, a member of Zion Tabernacle since 1985. She has known Tia Coleman since she was a little girl. “I had her through children’s ministry. I was there when she graduated from high school. She is just a very, very sweet child, and we just want to tell her that we love her and we’re praying like never before because we know this takes God and Him only.”

A total of 17 people died July 19 on Table Rock Lake near Branson after a Ride the Ducks boat capsized.

The Coleman family members who died were: Horace “Butch” Coleman, 70; Belinda “Toni,” 69; Butch’s wife; Irvin “Ray” 76, his brother; Glenn, 40, his son and Tia’s husband; Reece, 9, and Evan, 7; Glenn and Tia’s sons; Arya, 1, Glenn and Tia’s daughter; Angela, 45, Glenn’s sister; and Maxwell, 2, Angela’s son.

Tia Coleman and her nephew, Donovan Coleman, were the only members of the Coleman family to survive.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Ophel excavations at the foot of Jerusalem’s Temple Mount have yielded numerous exciting discoveries, including two Biblical signatures. Archaeologist Eliat Mazar reveals what may be a seal impression of the prophet Isaiah. Also, in 2015, it was announced that the royal stamped clay seal of King Hezekiah was found for the first time in an archaeologi- cal excavation.

- An Atlanta school eliminated the Pledge of Allegiance from its morning agenda, but then reversed course when parents spoke up. Atlanta Neighborhood Charter School announced the original plan earlier this week in a letter from elementary campus principal Lara Zelinski. The school had eliminated the Pledge “in an effort to begin our day as a fully inclusive and connected community,” Zelinski wrote. But after the newspaper reported on the elimination of the Pledge, and a backlash followed, the school changed the policy back to the original model.
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SEMINARS
Ephesians 2:1-10 speaks of our humanity being dead in trespasses and God’s rich mercy that has quickened us together with Christ. We have been raised up together and made to sit in heavenly places. It is not of us but rather a gift of God. We are His workmanship. In other words, whatever God has us to do, He already had it planned before you even thought about it. You cannot take credit for what you are. One cannot build or do anything by oneself. We would not be here if it were not in God’s plan or will. In fact, many of us did not have a vision of what we are currently doing, per se. We see a similar situation in Psalms 66 where the Israelites “went through the flood on foot.” Moses did not have a plan of how they would cross the Red Sea, regardless of his education, his gifts or even his connection with Pharaoh. They just walked through the flood on foot. The apostles found themselves in a similar position when Jesus commanded them to “go into all the world and preach the gospel.” They did not know exactly where they were going. Could it be that we, 2,000 years later, are also not as smart as we often like to think? Are we more dependent on the Spirit and anointing than we realize?

Foundational Principle: Dependence on God
I believe our foundational principle is our dependence on God and our understanding that we do not have all the answers. Perhaps we should not work so hard to attempt to figure everything out. We are not smart enough. We must not get too far off the track of dependency. Truthfully, there is a kind of evil that we cannot handle. As referenced by the British Chesterton in regard to Hitler, one cannot deal with this darkness through everyday philosophy. We need a God to talk to us and help us find the answers.

Never before has a society been faced with the possibility of one individual having access to the entire world of humanity. We like to think that this is a wonderful tool we can use; however, we are not the only ones shopping in this toolbox. The devil is doing some shopping as well.

The Real Question
The number one problem facing educators and those entrusted with the safety of society today is child pornography. One cannot solve this by snapping a finger. God will have to show us the way. Without God, we can do nothing. This has nothing to do with our ability but rather the degree to which we will humble ourselves before the Lord. The real question facing us is not whether we have a brilliant education, but whether we have the kind of heart and mind that will cause us to launch ourselves out into the darkness, deal with the problems, and trust God to make a way where there seems to be no way.

We have some heavy stuff to deal with. We need a God, a Savior and a Redeemer. We must have a vision. With man, not too much is possible ... but with God all things are possible.

We Will Walk
You may ask, “So, how will we walk across this flood?” We must realize that what we think God will use may not be the means by which the impossible will be made possible. He may have to put you in a dimension where you have to move, do, live, talk and think beyond what you could ever imagine.

The education we receive cannot nullify the reality that, “not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD...” We cannot brag about being Pentecostal unless we depend on the Holy Spirit and walk in the Spirit. We need a vision for this to take place.

Just as the apostles followed after the perfect will of God, so must we depend upon Him. If we strive for intellect alone, we will fail our young people. We must show them that there is a power and anointing that can lead them to truth and righteousness and cause the world to shake one more time. There is an anointing and fire that we can call upon that will cause the worst of sinners to find a joy that is unspeakable. All things are possible through Jesus Christ.

Without a Vision
Without a vision, the people will perish. If we depend on our flesh and abilities, then we have failed. We have no way of seeing what is coming down the pike. Whatever this new world is going to be like, it will be a world that no one has ever seen. We are not prepared for it. Communication is beyond what we could have imagined. The ability and access that people have to not only invade another’s privacy but to use it in such a way that it becomes a factor of dominion is staggering. It is becoming dark, and it is everywhere.

When I received the Holy Ghost, I knew I had connected with a supernatural power and relationship outside this world. I am glad to be Pentecostal and filled with the Spirit. Coupled with this knowledge of the power of God, we must have a vision that is alive and well.

The Twisted Tree
Within a small cemetery in Michigan stands a most unusual tree. Its twisting trunk and branches have burned an awareness in me. Its twisted figure has given me a vision that has stayed with me for decades. During a recent visit to the town of Muskegon, I was determined to capture its unique character. This tree has become a reminder to me of a vision that is alive and well. Just as this tree has given me a vision, perhaps God has given you a vision of how His church should be.

Your vision may be to set up schools around the world or give up everything. There are amazing stories of those who have accomplished this and have touched the impossible. It was not an academic principle that touched the hearts of the prophets, apostles, Moses or Abraham. It was a vision.

Abraham Commanded His Children
God knew He could trust Abraham, because He knew Abraham would command his children. Are we commanding our children? Are we adamantly telling them that they must be born again and receive the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues or are we looking for a new type of doctrine or easy way that excuses the vision?
I have already seen too many instances where the drug addict was instantly healed and the smoker just threw down his cigarettes at the altar, and 25 or 30 years later, he still has not smoked. Today our eyes can see the filth, darkness and consequences of this world, but we can also have a hope and vision that says, “If you could just but touch the hem of His garment…” We must be willing to wait in the Upper Room, because we cannot do this on our own. We need power from on high.

We cannot waste too much time on education. The worst thing we could do now is to have our children believe that their education is going to turn the world upside down. God is not waiting for you to discover the answer to revival in a book somewhere that was written 100 or 500 years ago. We are to learn of Him.

Paul’s cry of, “Oh that I might know him,” should continue to ring in our ears. If we could just know Him … there is a God that nobody knows completely, and there is a church that we have never before seen. Just like my discovery of that twisting tree, so people need to find the Deliverer, God and this Holy Ghost. It is something so very special and precious. We must return to the faith and notions we possessed as children that God could perform things in our lives that were, “exceedingly and abundantly above all we could ever ask or think.”

**This Ship, This Church**

The poet William Wordsworth captured the sentiments of my tree discovery through his poem regarding a ship that he preferred above all the rest.

*With Ships the Sea was sprinkled far and nigh,*  
*Like stars in heaven, and joyously it showed;*  
*Some lying fast at anchor in the road,*  
*Some veering up and down, one knew not why*  
*A goodly vessel did I then espy*  
*Come like a giant from a haven broad;*  
*And lustily along the bay she strode,*  
*Her tackling rich, and of apparel high.*

*The ship was naught to me nor, I to her,*  
*Yet I pursued her with a lover’s look;*  
*This ship to all the rest did I prefer:*  
*When will she turn, and wither? She will brook*  
*No tarrying; where she comes the winds must stir:*  
*On went she, and due north her journey took.*

Like this poet’s ship, so I found the twisted tree. But even more incredible is this church that I have touched and know. What we have experienced in Pentecost can only be measured by its own reality. The Bible says to “taste and see…” You cannot manufacture this or imagine it by the human mind. We must hold on to the gospel and Acts 2:38; otherwise, we will lose the church that has an answer to our problems.

We are not in the business of simply “going to church.” We are in the business of preaching the truth. We must put fire in the souls of our young men and women, so that they are able to preach the gospel to every creature. The only way to fight against sin and unrighteousness is to preach about holiness and the necessity of being born again.

**To Be Transfigured**

We must happily feel after Him through prayer, singing, and the preaching of the Word. This will make it become real. We need to surrender and allow the vision that God places in us to transfigure our souls, brains, education, thoughts and lifestyle.

No matter how dark this world gets, if we hold on to the vision, we will be transfigured into something new. We are reminded in the “Battle Hymn of the Republic” that, “In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea. With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me; As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free!” All things are possible with God.
Anointed Children’s Ministry

“The Results Are Apparent as Children Weep in the Presence of God During Altar Service”

By Gabrielle Austin

The heartbeat of ministry should not be just to have a great one-time service but to build capacity within teachers and leaders to continue what God has started. This is true for Bro. David Morehead, who is a full-time evangelist endorsed by the Association of Children’s Evangelists of the UPCI. He also is the executive pastor of Apostolic Faith Tabernacle in Ferndale, Mich. In addition, he is the children’s ministry secretary of the Michigan district. He and his wife, Rev. Bobbi Morehead Ph.D, and daughter Rose are greatly involved in children’s ministry.

Bro. Derek Ellison, the former Atlantic district children’s secretary, observed, “The Moreheads have been doing children’s camps. Sunday school workshops, VBS’s, Holy Ghost crusades, and children’s revivals for over 12 years now. He still does youth and adult ministry but has shifted mostly to children’s ministry the last few years. Bro. Derek Ellison, the former Atlantic district children’s secretary, observed, ‘The Morehead’s ministry to children is anointed, gifted and energetic. Their props and methods are innovative and effective. The results are apparent as children weep in the presence of God during altar service.’

Their connection to children’s ministry began in 2005 when Bro. Morehead received a call from his pastor, Mark Hopper of The Potter’s House Church in Battle Creek, Mich. Bro. Hopper is a children’s minister extraordinaire and has preached 80 children’s camps and witnessed thousands of kids receive the Holy Ghost. Bro. Hopper said, “David, I have good news and bad news for you. Good news – you’re getting ready to preach your first camp. Bad news – it is a children’s camp.”

Bro. Morehead had only conducted about two children’s services up to this point but now had an opportunity to preach an entire camp. Pastor Hopper told Bro. Morehead to go to his house, get his truck of puppets and his messages and preach his messages for the camp. Bro. Morehead said, “I remember going home and watching those messages of my pastorate, feeling like David with Saul’s armor.” He told the Lord, “I truly believe with your help I can do this, but I cannot do it like Pastor Hopper. I’m going to have to do it like David Morehead.” About 12 kids received the gift of the Holy Ghost that first camp.

Last year, Bro. Morehead spent two weeks in the Atlantic district of New Brunswick, Canada. He explained, “I went to a different church each night, leading crusades and providing workshop training. From that trip, I was able to start many puppet groups now taught by local church Sunday school teams. So instead of a one-night performance by me, I felt God allowed me to create a sense of legacy and leave something behind that is still continuing today.”

Their ministry has been blessed with great responses from pastors, with many beginning to schedule them on an annual basis. Pastor James Maroney of Abundant Faith Church in Evansville, Ind., said, “David and Bobbi Morehead are two of the most effective communicators that I have ever encountered. Our staff left more unified, enthusiastic and with a clearer vision of their mission. This unified effort was carried over to our Sunday services. Any group, church or organization would be blessed by having them.”

To contact the Moreheads, go to www.whoowhoopblog.com, email dmore2236@aol.com or call 269-719-7730.

In-Depth Look at Early Interracial Oneness Pentecostalism

“Perhaps the least known chapter in the history of American Pentecostalism is that of early Oneness Pentecostalism,” according to renowned author, Rev. Talmadge French, who chose to focus his PhD work on this very topic. After six years of dedicated research, the University of Birmingham in England encouraged the publishing of his work. His book, entitled Early Interracial Oneness Pentecostalism, became one of the first Oneness books published by Wipf and Stock, a major Christian publisher in Oregon.

Bro. French’s work includes many of the great discoveries made in his research. He shared that an overarching theme was that, “the early Oneness movement reached over 30 million people worldwide. This movement became the foundation of what Oneness Pentecostalism is today. The knowledge of our history is vital because if one abandons his roots, he abandons the hope of the future.”

“T he life of G.T. Haywood played an integral part in the early movement; however, the breadth of the movement was even greater. Regardless, it is undeniable that the tunes of G.T. Haywood’s influence on the early Pentecostal movement still ring to this day. A talented painter, poet and songwriter, Haywood’s work captured the very essence of slavery in sin and freedom in the precious name of Jesus. With the backdrop of his parents’ slavery and the onslaught of racism in the 1900s, it is no wonder that the early Pentecostal movement was strongly influenced by the ‘Black Experience.’

“This ‘Black Experience’ gave the black community its thrust into the Pentecostal faith. I would never argue that Pentecostalism is black, since it is for all people, but Pentecostalism was no doubt influenced by the black culture. Most of our exuberant worship such as dancing and shouting was influenced by this experience.”

Bro. French came upon many other intriguing discoveries in his work. “This early movement set a precedent in strong contrast to the racism of the 1900s. Pentecost demanded that all people be viewed equally: Asian, white, black. It was understood in this movement that everybody had the ability to speak in tongues and was viewed equally in the sight of God. A 30-year, interracial organization that worked in harmony and reached over a quarter of a million people in only fifteen years even caught the attention of the FBI.

FBI files were discovered in Bro. French’s research and reveal that this movement had caught the interest of many. Even today, Pentecostalism is one of the fastest growing Christian movements. It is outgrowing all Trinitarian groups, and interest has been piqued around the globe.

In his book, Bro. French seeks to help the reader learn from this early movement and help define how we in the 21st century can “eradicate racism and formulate a biblical basis for becoming interracially united in both worship and organization. Pentecostalism is the only organization to have roots which began in interracial unity.”

We need not just work in harmony but as a unified symphony.

Order the book through Pentecostal Publishing House or through his church website: aptabupc.com. Also, it can be ordered as an e-book from Wipf & Stock Publishers. To contact Bro. French with any questions, send a request through the church website listed above.
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**Word To The Wise:**

“People seldom think alike until it comes to buying wedding presents.”

---

When the new patient was settled comfortably on the couch, the psychiatrist began his therapy session. “I’m not aware of your problem,” the doctor said. “So perhaps, you should start at the very beginning ...”

“Oh, of course,” replied the patient. “In the beginning, I created the Heavens and the Earth...”

---

The young mother skeptically examined a new educational toy. “Isn’t it rather complicated for a small boy?” she asked the sales clerk.

“It’s designed to adjust the child to live in today’s world, ma’am,” the shop assistant replied. “So basically, any way he tries to put it together is wrong.”

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**TRUE LOVE**

If you love something, set it free. If it comes back, it was and always will be yours. If it never returns, it was never yours to begin with. If it just sits in your living room, messes up your stuff, eats your food, uses your car, takes your money, and never behaves as if you actually set it free in the first place, you either married it or gave birth to it.

---

“Your methods of farming are out-of-date,” said an agricultural student to an old farmer. “I’d be surprised if you got eight pounds of oranges off that tree.”

“So would I,” said the old farmer. “That’s a pear tree.”

Wife: “Honey, I can’t get the car started. I think it’s flooded.”
Husband: “Where is it?”
Wife: “In the swimming pool.”

---

**RELAX, Carl ... would I be in here if it was boiling?”**

First member: “I thought the sermon was divine. It reminded me of the peace of God. It passed all understanding.”
Second member: “It reminded me of the mercies of God. I thought it would endure forever.”

---

**Things Only a Mom Can Teach (Part 2)**

GENETICS: “You’re just like your father.”
WISDOM: “When you get to be my age, you will understand.”
JUSTICE: “One day you’ll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you. Then you’ll see what it’s like.”
RELIGION: “You better pray that will come out of the carpet.”
TIME TRAVEL: “If you don’t straighten up, I’m going to knock you into the middle of next week!”
IRONY: “Keep crying and I’ll give you something to cry about.”
OSMOSIS: “Shut your mouth and eat your supper!”
STAMINA: “You’ll sit there until all that spinach is finished.”
WEATHER: “It looks as if a tornado swept through your room.”
HYPOCRISY: “If I’ve told you once, I’ve told you a million times - don’t exaggerate!”

---

**Lobster baptisms**

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