



# Perspectives

**WHERE HAVE  
ALL THE MEN  
GONE?**





From The Publisher

## Crying on Sunday

Paul D. Mooney

**“There is only one reason you stop letting yourself cry on Sunday. The issue is sin. Crying out to God requires honesty, purity of heart. The penalty of sin is guilt.”**

*I asked my daughter, Jaye Rodenbush, if I could share her article with you this month. This article speaks directly to the cultural war we are facing, and specifically addresses some of the events that took place at the 2014 Grammy Awards. Let us think on these things. Jaye teaches at IBC, is an anointed speaker and writes about current cultural and moral issues that affect Christian women and families on her blog entitled “Her Candle Goeth Not Out By Night” at [www.jayerodenbush.com](http://www.jayerodenbush.com).*

The Grammy Awards were tonight. In recent years, this awards show for music artists of all genres has become a shock-fest, with the music taking a back seat to political statements and celebrity publicity stunts.

This year’s show upped the ante by hosting a controversial marriage ceremony wedged briefly within a music performance of one of the nominations for song of the year. The ceremony included both heterosexual and homosexual couples. One has to ask, what couple would want to reduce the most sacred moment of their lives together to less than 60 seconds – a mere pause between cursing music? The special day you’ve dreamt of your whole life, now simply a muddled group ceremony with 30-some other couples, performed by rap star Queen Latifah with Madonna stealing the spotlight at the end? But, that’s another issue.

The song title is “Same Love.” It has been called “a gay rights anthem,” and is certainly no exercise in diplomacy. This is definitely a bomb strategically placed by liberal activists who wish to legalize gay marriage. CBS, the network airing the Grammy Awards, clearly declared their position in the battle against conservatives, Christians, and other religious factions or moralists who wish to preserve traditional marriage. The lyrics are by no means subtle. They bash “right-wing conservatives,” the Bible (an easier target than the Koran, I presume), and religion in general.

The song ends with the repeated lyric line, “Not crying on Sunday.” The lesbian singer (joined by Madonna for the Grammy performance) declares, “I can’t change, even if I tried, even if I wanted, I can’t change.” Then evocatively echoes the last phrase, “Not crying on Sunday.” When asked about the line, author Mary Lambert stated that it came out of years of trying to reconcile being gay and being Christian. Sadly, she has battled mental illness, manic depression and fought suicide. She credits this song for saving her life.

*“...this was why I had never been able to kill myself through the years of my mental illness. I knew this is why I was still alive: This was the song that was so important, my God. I wanted to write a chorus that was poignant and honest; genuine. I really tried to not be gay at points in my life, but I was (and am) at a point where I refuse to apologize about my identity. I am not sorry about my gayness. I am not sorry I’m a Christian, either, though that’s far less persecuted than my gayness, which is ironically, instigated by the Christian community. “Not crying on Sundays” was a huge lyric for me to write. I cried and cried in church for a year, believing that I was going to Hell, trying to reconcile ‘the demons.’ At some point, it became absurd. I will not apologize for love. And my God, the God that I believe to be true, would never condemn love like this.”*

Today is Sunday. I went to church twice today. In both services I stood in the presence of the Lord, surrounded by friends and family, and tears rolled down my cheeks. The phrase – “Not crying on Sunday” – is where Ms. Lambert just misses the point. Yes I went to church on Sunday. Yes I cried out to God. But it was not just an act of condemnation, but an earnest attempt to communicate my heart to my God.

*“Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy” (Psalm 61:1-3).*

If I truly believe there is a God and that He hears the cry of my heart, why would I stop crying on Sunday? If Ms. Lambert also believes there is a God, why would she forfeit this opportunity to commune with Him? There is only one reason you give up in this way. There is only one reason you stop letting yourself cry on Sunday. The issue is sin. Crying out to God requires honesty, purity of heart. The penalty of sin is guilt. When we decide to stop crying on Sunday we have decided to ignore the sin problem. Ms. Lambert has convinced herself that crying is the problem, when in reality it is part of the solution. Crying out, asking for help, pleading our case before the Almighty, repenting and turning from sin is the way we receive the great gift of God’s grace. We don’t get the luxury of changing God’s nature by saying what we think He will or will not condemn. He is sovereign. To believe in Him is to believe in His Word. He will not contradict Himself. We don’t get the luxury to pick and choose which parts of His divine authority we accept and reject. We don’t get to decide among ourselves what defines sin and what doesn’t. If we accept Him, we accept His definitions and His authority over us and our thoughts and desires. When we sin against Him we must cry out. We must truly search ourselves that we stand before Him with clean heart and clean hands.

*“Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit” (Psalm 51:6-12).*

The joy of walking with Christ comes from our repentance. It makes us free of the weight of sin and the consequences of separation from God. We cannot quit crying on Sunday because it is the very thing that gives us peace on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. When we are honest before Him, He is faithful to forgive us, and we reap the benefits of a life lived within the boundaries of His Spirit. Great joy, great anointing and great power to live an overcoming life are available to us through Christ. We cannot simply opt out of crying on Sunday.

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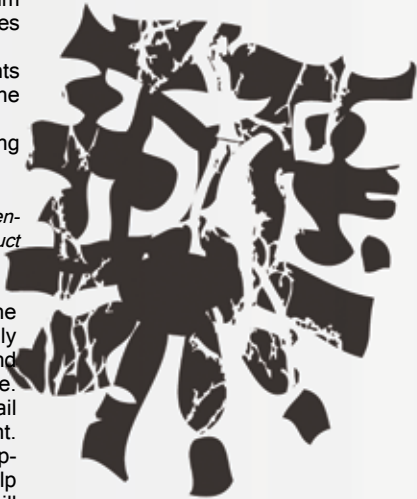
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♦To report on those trends and events which directly affect the work of the church.  
♦To promote and enhance the ongoing ministry of Indiana Bible College.

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**20**  
**Guest Pulpit:**  
**Where Have All the Men Gone?**  
(Bruce Bartel)

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# ARE WE FALLING SHORT IN SPIRITUAL GIFTS?



*Note: The opinions on this page are entirely those of the individual and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Indiana Bible College.*



**Bruce Bartel, West Kelowna, BC, Canada** --

Haggai 2:9 -- "The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the Lord of hosts." IF we are going to witness a harvest the way we hope for, we need to have and see more and more of the Spirit of God moving. The more we get out of the way, the more the Lord can have HIS way... After all, He said HE will build HIS church (Matt. 16:18).

Hosea 4:6 -- "My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge..." We have seen people make ship-wreck of their lives following after the Spirit gifts. Also, incorrect and skewed teachings have restricted us from being open to and allowing the Spirit of God to manifest. That, coupled with our fear of the unknown and the vulnerability of not being in control, also restricts God's Spirit flowing through us.

Those in leadership ministry must first be open to, allow and promote the operation of the Spirit giftings. A good place to start is to come to terms that the scriptures are full from cover to cover with the supernatural. As God is no respecter of persons, our "responsibility" is to be available and get out of the way and let God work through us. Everyone and anyone can do that! Begin praying for and seeking after the Spirit gifts. Study the scriptures and realize it is the will of God to show Himself and express Himself in more ways than we can imagine (2 Chron. 16:9; 1Cor. 2:9).



**Greg Stone, Brewton, AL** -- I believe that the gifts of the spirit should be in operation in the church and are in need in the last days to help the church in its desire to become what God wants it to be. In my opinion, the reason that we do not see the gifts in operation more than we do is because of the abuse of the gifts.

Many people are leery of someone that claims to have a gift due to situations in which a person misrepresented the gifts. Situations like that destroy trust and make it hard for people to accept the operation of the gifts. I believe that a pastor, to encourage the use of the gifts, must teach the gifts. When people have a better understanding of what the gifts are for and how they operate, it helps people overcome distrust and open themselves up to the operation of the gifts of the spirit. If a person desires to become more available to be used in the operation of the gifts, I would recommend much prayer, fasting, study and counseling with honorable mentors who are experienced in this area.



**Monte Showalter, Inter Regional Missionary Evangelist & International Coordinator of Global Campus Ministries**

-- The more something is preached, the more faith there is to believe for it! Bro. Pugh used to tell us, "You get what you preach, so preach what you want to see happen." If we learn to live in the Spirit through our daily prayer life spending

time in His presence, then we will also walk in the Spirit, being led moment by moment to minister to those around us. It is more in everyday conversations and connections than just in a church setting on public display. Jesus, as our example, did these wonders in both settings, in the Temple and synagogues and in the streets and homes.

What holds some back from the Spirit ministering through them is the lack of being sensitive to God's voice on a daily basis. We must not fall into the attitude of Laodicea and into carnality, being lulled to sleep by love for things and the world's entertainment.

In my opinion, each of us has these gifts latent in us through the baptism of the Holy Ghost. It is the need that prompts the gift's operation. It is not something that we pray down, though we are instructed to "covet earnestly the best gifts" (1 Cor. 12:31) and to "desire spiritual gifts" (1 Cor. 14:1). It is something that rises up in us being motivated by compassion for the need present before us (Matt. 14:14). From Mark 16:16, it is obvious that these gifts are even for the newest believers. The prerequisite is to "believe."



**Ric Gonzalez, Brookfield, IL** --

We are seeing a great increase in the gifts of the Spirit. There is a recognition of their proper place in the body under well-established accountability. Their resurgence under these conditions is paramount. Regardless of the fact that we are living in the last days, there has always been a rightful Biblical place for the gifts. I feel that in some circles they were limited or all together "banned" due to misuse and abuse. But Scripture has always

assumed their presence and proper operation. We must teach and preach on the subject with consistency. Accountability and proper administration of the gifts must be woven in. Practical hands-on training must be incorporated as needed when they are manifested or trying to be manifested.

I believe there's a hermeneutical application and precedent in Scripture to conclude everyone has a gift or can operate in more than one gift (1 Cor. 7:7, 12:7). I encourage the highest level of integrity and a prayerful and passionate search to develop the Fruit of the Spirit as a platform for the gifts of the Spirit to be built on. However, Matt. 7:16-23 is a warning. I have seen needs in a particular setting draw "gifts" out of even the most compromised and iniquitous people. God's Word will carry out its mission (Isaiah 55:11). But there is no promise it will prosper the vessel that speaks it. We must never trust the "performance" without identifying its "position."



# IT'S ALL A

By Linda Schreckenberg



Cynthia and Jim DeRamus  
West Hazleton, Pennsylvania

The focus of the Apostolic Faith Church (AFC) in West Hazleton, Pennsylvania is evident in the church's CCC Ministry: Constant Contact Consciousness. AFC is all about souls! They want to make sure that once visitors attend Apostolic Faith, it will not be their last visit.

Pastor Jim DeRamus and his wife, Cynthia, are quick to weep when it comes to their calling to reach the lost and pastor a church with that same deep burden.

Nestled high on Laurel Mountain in Pennsylvania, the place of their

calling, their love for souls is as deep as the view is vast.

## Priorities in the Realm of Evangelism

Where evangelism is concerned, Bro. DeRamus is quick to say this: "There is never just one key. Administration has everything to do with your concept and any outreach you do. It is one thing to decide to do something, but it's another thing to follow through with it. Cynthia and I have always worked in home missions, and this has caused us to finish what we started. So many times people start something, then pitfalls come, and they never get the full benefit of whether it works or not." Bro. DeRamus believes in good administration and home Bible studies but feels they must be combined with prayer to make it all work. He said, "Methods are what every denomination can do, but prayer and fasting make our methods spiritual." He believes a revival pastor should always place his priority on evangelism.



Neighborhood kids enjoy the church's annual Kid's Carnival.

## Growth Methods That Work

Pastor DeRamus spoke

of the growth methods that work for AFC, which are closely aligned with Bro. Tim Massengale's Total Church Growth program. He noted, "In the summertime, we do what we call Give Back to the Community in neighborhood parks. On Saturday morning, many gather to canvass a neighborhood by Car Parade and passing out flyers. That afternoon, we offer free hotdogs, drinks and drawings for free giveaways at the neighborhood park. The city allows us to close the side street beside the church for an annual Kid's Carnival. There are carnival games, free food and an outdoor service. Then, a couple of times a year we have what we call an Indoor Outreach. The Visitor Follow-Up (VFU) Director pulls cards of visitors who sporadically visited or didn't return. The VFU teams meet at the church on a weekday evening to call the visitors telling them how much we appreciated their visit. They invite them to visit again and ask if they have any prayer needs."

Bro. DeRamus continued, "When a visitor comes to church, we have two greeters in the foyer, along with a Meet & Greet Keurig coffee station with assorted pastries, etc. As visitors enjoy a cup of coffee and pastry, they fill out visitor cards there and receive a gift consisting of a church mug, cocoa mix, church brochure and card. A designated person comes up during service to acknowledge the first-time visitors and welcome them to our service. After attending a service, every visitor receives a call, a letter from our church, and a personal 'cookie drop' visit by a VFU team. This visit is to invite them back and encourage their interest in a home Bible study."

## Ministry Departments

Apostolic Faith Church has many ministries tailored specifically for the church, including Prayer, TnL (The next Level) Youth, Ladies of Faith, AFC Men's Group, Christian Education (Sunday school), New Convert Care, and Visitor Follow-Up. Others ministries are Usher/Greeter and Home Bible Study which includes *Exploring God's Word*, *Rightly Dividing the Word* and *Into His Marvelous Light*.

## Organization and Management

Pastor DeRamus holds a departmental meeting the first Sunday of each month with the ministry leaders where they schedule the



Pastor DeRamus leads the congregation in a time of worship and praise.



# ABOUT SOULS

next three months of the calendar. A Leadership Retreat is held each November. Leaders turn in a tentative itinerary in December for the next year. Pastor DeRamus said, "At the beginning of each year and six months into the year, I have an Open Door leadership meeting for all members desiring to be involved in AFC ministries including Sunday School. In this meeting, they learn about the church." He continued, "These meetings are important, because they protect me as pastor, and they protect the church. Move-ins may have been in church for years, but that doesn't mean they are connected to the body. No one can be involved in any ministry department without attending the Open Door meetings. These meetings allow me to project my vision." On the first Sunday of the month, there is a Closed Door leadership meeting for all members involved in AFC ministries. A Discipleship class for new members, based on *In My Father's House* study and tailored for AFC, is taught by the pastor or his wife every Sunday.

Bro. DeRamus said, "I believe in administration and accountability, because they work. My wife and I evangelized for seven years, and part of our ministry was setting up church growth, specifically for each church. All new leaders of AFC must read *Let My People Grow* by Tim Massengale and *The Diakone* by Dale Rumble. Ministry leaders are encouraged to read leadership books throughout the year.

"The physics of my operation is to administrate AFC from the altar out. Visitors can come and sit and not participate, and that's all right. But if they yield to the presence of the Lord, I have people ready to pray with them. We don't let them fall through the cracks." Pastor DeRamus believes it is much easier to get a Bible study with them while they are tender in the presence of the Lord. He noted that 75 percent of the church members are involved in the work of departmental ministries and most are involved in some form of evangelism. CCC Ministry (Constant Contact Consciousness) slips are made available for each member to fill out regarding their contacts that week.

## Personal History

Bro. DeRamus grew up in Louisiana. His parents were not in

church at that time, but he came to God in 1971 in Monroe, Louisiana under Pastor G.E. Chance. He was headed for a scholarship in college basketball when an invitation to church resulted in his receiving the Holy Ghost. His conversion was the persuasion to choose church over basketball. He married Cynthia in 1973 and accepted his call to the ministry in 1980. God had dealt with him about ministry years before, and Pastor Gove Walker influenced his decision to step into ministry.

His wife had saved money for him to attend Jackson College of Ministries, but in the spirit of giving one night, they gave away that money. *The Pentecostal Home Study Course* and many other books were his source of study instead. Bro. Murrell Ewing was another great influence in his life. His first sermon, Don't Forget to Remember Yesterday, was preached under Pastor Walker. Later, he assisted Bro. Buford Sims in Lucedale, Mississippi before being led by God to Baltimore, Maryland to establish a home missions work. There they saw the church grow to 200 in eight years through Bro. Massengale's church growth material. They also pastored in Vicksburg, Mississippi, then later felt a call to Pennsylvania. Two distinct prophecies had been given in 24 hours regarding that call to the Northeast, which has been the DeRamus' greatest challenge. Their first service, with 32 in attendance, was in September 2006. Attendance now runs between 80 to 100, depending upon the weather of that high elevation.

## Human Interest

Blessed with one daughter, Amber, and the "best son-in-law in the world," Knox Handkins, they enjoy spending leisure time with their grandchildren: Ashlyn (13), Blake (11) and Ada (14 mths). While enjoying various authors, Max Lucado is one of his favorites. Bro. DeRamus loves the preaching of the Word and the preachers who preach it, but two of his favorite are Bros. Mike Williams and Marrell Cornwell.



A young lady is baptized in Jesus name.



The congregation responds to the pastor's preaching.



Exterior of Apostolic Faith Church, West Hazleton, PA

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#### SCHEDULE TIMES

##### WEDNESDAY

**Evening Service** 7:30pm

##### THURSDAY

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**Young Ministers and  
Leaders in Training** 1:30pm  
**Evening Service** 7:30pm

##### FRIDAY

**Day Sessions** 9:00am  
**Ladies Tea** 1:00pm  
**Mentoring Lunches** 1:00pm  
**Evening Service** 7:30pm



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## The Top Five Reasons Your Church Could Land in Court

A review of 12,000 court rulings from 2012 reveals the most common reasons that American churches were taken to court. Legal expert Richard Hammar compiled the rulings and analyzed which types are rising and falling. His top five categories:

1) *Sexual abuse of minors* (13.6% of cases). Church Law attorneys regularly cover such cases, which Hammar says have topped his list for seven of the past eight years.

2) *Nonsexual personal injuries* (7.6% of cases). Recent examples: Parents in Kentucky sued a church after their son was killed because a youth pastor let him drive, and a teen's injuries on a skiing trip led to a multi-million-dollar judgment against a Florida church, prompting churches to reevaluate risk policies.

3) *Insurance coverage disputes* (7.3% of cases). Recent examples: An insurance company challenged an Oregon church over its treatment of sex offenders, while an Indiana church went bankrupt trying to finance building upgrades by taking out insurance policies on elderly members.

4) *Property disputes* (6.8% of cases). Such cases have seemed unending, thanks to mainline fragmentation. Experts debate whether recent rulings are setting precedents for breakaway churches.

5) *Zoning* (5.4% of cases). Most involve RLUIPA, the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act, including how the law's property and prisoner protections have diverged since 2000 and how the struggling economy has recently affected churches' battles to build.



### Jacob

By Stephen Judd, TCM President



Stephen Judd  
[www.mansionkids.org](http://www.mansionkids.org)

hard and feels good about himself and his greatly improved grades.

Jacob is somewhat of a melancholy young man who is both artistic and creative. He enjoys drawing, painting and music. He is also kind-hearted and freely offers compliments and makes it a point to find the good in others. Basketball ranks at the top of Jacob's hobbies, but he also enjoys baseball and bike riding.

Although it isn't easy for these children to live without their natural families, we do everything in our power to love the children as our own. Dr. James Dobson says, "You can build boys or mend men." Unfortunately, most of the children we receive come very broken, but God helps us to mend

their broken hearts and to give them a wonderfully bright future.

If you would like to make a difference in Jacob's life, you can sponsor him by becoming a Mansion Kid Sponsor.

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Jacob, a child at TCM



## Speakers:

**Johnny King** (Calgary, AB Canada)  
**Todd Bertram** (Bessemer, Alabama)  
**Ron Tiller** (Carrollton, Kentucky)  
**Ari Prado** (Fremont, California)  
**Paul Bertram** (San Diego, California)  
**Larry Booker** (Rialto, California)  
**Keith Clark** (Humble, Texas)



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# REALIGN

By Susan Thomas

## GOD-CALLED LEADERS CONNECTING WITH THEIR PURPOSE



Eugene Wilson  
Olive Branch, MS

**Bro. Eugene Wilson, tell us a little about yourself and your ministry.**

I have served as youth, associate, family and senior pastor. I obtained a Master of Arts in Human Relations, and a Doctorate of Strategic Leadership from Regent University. I believe God has called me to help

church leaders grow, to help church leaders develop other leaders, and to help church leaders address challenges in leading growing churches in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**What are, in your opinion, the traits of an “equipping leader?”**

Paul’s focus, in Ephesians 4:11-12, is not that of hierarchy, who is in charge, but of purpose. He states the purpose of the five-fold ministry is to equip saints for the work of ministry. Consequently, one of the most important traits of an equipping leader is humility. As bondservants, we have to understand this is His church. We need to fulfill our God-given assignment—equip others—and let God take care of the rest.

**How can a pastor encourage saints to be more faithful and involved?**

One of the ways to increase faithfulness is to increase involvement; and one of the ways to increase involvement is to help people discover their God-given talents, abilities and callings. I truly believe when we as church leaders align with our God-given purpose—equipping others for their work of ministry—we will generate a high level of excitement and energy. Subsequently, faithfulness and involvement will increase.

**How can you help saints to find their God-given gifts and talents?**

One of the ways we as church leaders can help others discover their God-given gifts and talents is by taking the lid off the box. We need to rid ourselves of our pastor-centric model, which tends to hold on to all meaningful areas of ministry, and allow others to fulfill the ministries God has called them to. Lastly, there

are practical tools that can be of benefit, such as spiritual gift discoveries, personality profiles and passion assessments. I am presently co-authoring some material called “DISCover Your Voice,” which uses the DISC personality profile, as well as a spiritual gifting assessment, for this purpose.

**What can a pastor do to keep his leaders and workers feeling fulfilled in their ministries?**

Too many times we are trying to fit round pegs into square holes—we are trying to get people to fulfill “our” work of ministry rather than releasing them to fulfill “their” work of ministry. Shared vision is a vital component in people feeling fulfilled. It is through shared vision that we are able to obtain the buy-in so needed in generating and sustaining momentum.

**What can a pastor do to develop and train leaders on a consistent basis?**

Research shows people generally remember only 10 percent of what they read; 20 percent of what they hear; 30 percent of what they see; 50 percent of what they see and hear; 70 percent of what they say and write; and 90 percent of what they do. One of the most effective ways to develop and train leaders is to allow them to walk alongside you and see how you handle things. We are not called to build a church. Jesus said that He would build it. Our responsibility is to equip people.

**What should be your expectations for followers in the church?**

There are four types of followers: 1) resource, 2) individualist, 3) implementer, and 4) partner. Resource followers are like sheep in that they will only do what you tell them to do. Individualist followers are independent and critical thinkers, and thus often seem to be constantly working against things. Implementer followers do whatever the leader wants done. But the most effective followers are partner followers. They help leaders clarify where, what, how and why? Partner followers have a sense of what needs to be done and willing to commit to seeing it done. We do not need people to tell us what we want to hear; we need people who will speak the truth.

**How can church organization structures enhance or inhibit growth?**

A church’s organization structure can enhance or inhibit growth by encouraging or discouraging involvement. Organizational structures that allow for, and encourage followers to become partners enhance church growth. Organizational structures such as hierarchies do not encourage followers to become partners. In hierarchy-structured organizations followers are expected to do whatever the leader wants done. We should want people to participate in decision-making, to share opinions, to share in creating vision, and to share in ministry. Consequently, we need organizational structures that encourage partner followers.

**What are the stages of the life cycle of a church and how does this influence leadership development and ministry involvement?**

Research of all types of organizations has shown that organizations experience four stages of life cycle: 1) entrepreneurial, 2) collectivity, 3) formalization, and 4) elaboration. The two most common in churches across North America are the entrepreneurial and collectivity stages. The organizational structure in the entrepreneurial stage is simple and informal; whatever the leader says goes. Thus, growth is largely dependent upon the leader. The problem with this stage of life cycle is that it is not sustainable; additionally, it is not conducive for leadership development, ministerial involvement and church growth. In the collectivity stage, followers begin to carry the load. They identify with the mission and vision of the church, and will invest time and resources. The temptation is to want to make sure everything is working properly and in its rightful place. When church leaders succumb to this temptation, they will hold on to power rather than share it. And when this happens, involvement decreases and leadership development is stifled.

**How to order your book *Realign: God-Called Leaders Connecting with Their Purpose*?**

*Realign* can be purchased through the Pentecostal Publishing House. For those who would like to read *Realign* in an eBook version, you can find it on Amazon. You can also purchase a copy through my website: [eugenewilson.org](http://eugenewilson.org).

# apostolic *alendar* 2014

For information about these events, call the event coordinator. If you would like your event on this list, call (800) 8000-AIS. IBC Perspectives does not endorse any seminar or conference listed. This page is provided simply as a service to the greater Apostolic community.

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	SPEAKERS	CONTACT / INFO
<b>MARCH 20-23</b>	<b>Times of Refreshing Conference - Tulare, CA</b>	Living Christ Church 2516 North M St. Tulare, CA 93274 Host: James McPhail	Jeff Arnold, Doug White and Gordon Poe	For more info: visit <a href="http://www.gordonpoe.com/TOR/conference">www.gordonpoe.com/TOR/conference</a> . (717) 755-7202
<b>APRIL 2-4</b>	<b>Indiana Bible College MUSIC FEST 2014</b> Under the direction of Lindel M. Anderson, Dean of Music	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN Host: Paul D. Mooney	Paul Mooney, Rob Rodenbush, Lindel Anderson, IBC Choir, IBC Chorale, IBC Praise, others	<a href="mailto:ibc@apostolic.edu">ibc@apostolic.edu</a> <a href="http://www.go2ibc.com">www.go2ibc.com</a> or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069
<b>APRIL 10-12</b>	<b>Eagle's Summit Apostolic Conference Santa Rosa, CA</b> A conference for saints, staff and leadership alike which focuses on equipping the minister and believer for Apostolic ministry.	Santa Rosa, CA	Stan Gleason, Raymond Woodward, Dr. James Hughes and John Arcovio	For more information: (888) 776-0797 <a href="http://www.eaglessummit.net">www.eaglessummit.net</a>
<b>MAY 1-4</b>	<b>Prophetic Word Conference 2014 Wayne, MI</b>	The International Church of Metro Detroit 31650 Van Born Rd. Wayne, MI 48184	Lee Stoneking, Stan Gleason, Art Wilson and many more	For more information: <a href="http://www.theinternationalchurch.com">www.theinternationalchurch.com</a>
<b>JULY 23-25</b>	<b>Mile High Conference 2014</b> Revival of Prayer, Praise and Evangelism	Calvary Apostolic Church 5900 E. Yale Ave. Denver, CO 80222 Host: Don Haymon II	Douglas White and Steve Pixler. Guest music ministry by Tim Spell & Mark Yandris.	(303) 758-5900 <a href="http://www.cacdenver.org">www.cacdenver.org</a> <a href="mailto:DEH2@comcast.net">DEH2@comcast.net</a>
<b>JULY 2014</b>	<b>IMPACT Family Conference 2014</b> Day sessions to meet the needs of your entire family unit (Married, Single, Parents, Teens & Children) and your church leadership.	Woodlawn Church Hwy 98 - Columbia, MS Host Pastor: James Carney	To be announced	For detailed schedule, visit <a href="http://www.woodlawn-church.cc">www.woodlawn-church.cc</a> (601) 736-5128
<b>AUG 2014</b>	<b>Arkansas Campmeeting - North Little Rock, AR</b> A conference where Apostolic doctrine is not only preached but embraced. The message of Acts 2:38 remains the same!	To be announced	To be announced	For more info visit <a href="http://www.arkansascampmeeting.com">www.arkansascampmeeting.com</a>
<b>AUG 2014</b>	<b>The Apostolic Conference - Madison, MS</b> A conference designed for the North American Missionary and Church Planter.	To be announced	To be announced	For more info: visit <a href="http://www.parkwaychurch.net">www.parkwaychurch.net</a> or call 601-853-2607
<b>AUG 21-22</b>	<b>Investing in Futures</b> A conference for those who invest in children. Educating, encouraging and equipping children's ministry workers.	The Apostolic Sanctuary, 1501 John Deere Parkway, Silvis, IL 61239 Host Pastor: Gary Randol	Marrell Cornwell, Steve Cannon, Brent Coltharp, Jerry Jones and Wayne Huntley	For more info: visit <a href="http://invest-in-futures.com">invest-in-futures.com</a>
<b>SEPT 2014</b>	<b>Eagle's Summit Apostolic Conference New Whiteland, IN</b> A conference for saints, staff and leadership alike which focuses on equipping the minister and believer for Apostolic ministry.	To be announced	To be announced	For more information: (888) 776-0797 <a href="http://www.eaglessummit.net">www.eaglessummit.net</a>
<b>SEPT. 30-OCT. 3 2014</b>	<b>90th Annual UPCI General Conference</b> Official conference of the UPCI. Don't miss it!	St. Louis, MO	To be announced	For more information visit the UPCI website at: <a href="http://www.upci.org">www.upci.org</a>
<b>OCT 2014</b>	<b>Oklahoma District Women's Esprit Conference - Yukon, OK</b> Early Registration: \$35/\$40. Deadline for early registration: September 30, 2013	To be announced	To be announced	For more information: (405) 354-3388 <a href="mailto:wepresident@yahoo.com">wepresident@yahoo.com</a>
<b>OCT 2014</b>	<b>All Nations Sunday</b> A global harvest -- it's right next door. Multicultural ministries.	Any participating church in North America		For more information: <a href="http://AllNationsSunday.com">AllNationsSunday.com</a>
<b>NOV 5-7</b>	<b>West Coast Conference - Fresno, CA</b> 31st Annual Fresno Meeting	To be announced	James Townley, Jimmy Johnson, Rocky Dunlap, Wesley Jackson, Tommy Jackson, Ron Garrett and Jesse Galindo	For more information call: (559) 225-1622 <a href="http://www.truthabfresno.org">www.truthabfresno.org</a>
<b>JAN 2015</b>	<b>Times of Refreshing Conference - Odessa, TX</b> Ministers' fellowship dinner after service each night. Friday night youth activity after service.	To be announced	To be announced	For more info: visit <a href="http://www.gordonpoe.com/TOR/conference">www.gordonpoe.com/TOR/conference</a> . (717) 755-7202
<b>FEB 2015</b>	<b>WinterFire 2015</b> WinterFire's focus is ministering to those in ministry. Our objective is that every member of your team will leave renewed and refreshed.	To be announced	To be announced	For more info: visit <a href="http://www.winterfire.org">www.winterfire.org</a> or visit Twitter: winterfireconf or Facebook: winterfire
<b>FEB 2015</b>	<b>Indiana Bible College CONNECT 2015</b> Your chance to visit the IBC campus and see what Bible college is all about!	Indiana Bible College 1502 Sumner Ave Indianapolis, IN 46227 Host: Paul D. Mooney	Paul Mooney, Rob Rodenbush, Jason Gallion, Bobby Killmon, Lindel Anderson, others.	<a href="mailto:ibc@apostolic.edu">ibc@apostolic.edu</a> <a href="http://www.go2ibc.com">www.go2ibc.com</a> or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069



## Church Today: Defending Marriage



Robert L. Rodenbush

### Church Today

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#### Defending Marriage

2014 is an important year for Hoosiers and the state of Indiana. While many states are legalizing and celebrating same-sex marriage, the citizens of Indiana are calling for a vote on the issue. A proposed state constitutional amendment was passed by the House in January of this year and now faces the state Senate. If approved, the amendment will be put on the November ballot for all Hoosiers to voice their opinion. Keeping such amendments out of the control of voters has been a key strategy of activist judges and liberal politicians who prefer to legislate from the bench and circumvent the individual voter.

In February, Indiana Bible College students were proud to stand with the Young Hoosier Coalition at the Indiana statehouse for a rally supporting a state constitutional amendment to define marriage as a union between one man and one woman. IBC student Chris Knight spoke at the rally stating that it is important that Hoosiers be allowed to vote on the amendment, "The government should not decide for us," Knight said. A photo of Knight (below) speaking in front of a crowd of Young Hoosiers and IBC students was featured in the Indianapolis Star. We are thankful for young Apostolics who are willing to take a stand on the important issues facing our nation today. Please keep our legislators in your prayers as they face this landmark decision. Watch for opportunities to be involved in defense of marriage events in your area.



Photo: Charlie Nye / The Star



Bobby Killmon

### Theology

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***"I just had a question on a purported Bible contradiction in Genesis 32:20. Jacob states he saw God face to face, but according to Exodus 33:20 no man has seen God. How would you best clear up this alleged biblical 'difference'?"***

That is a great question and while initially seeming like a straightforward contradiction, the key is we have to realize the Bible is absolutely true "in everything it claims." That said, we know the Bible is written in a variety of genres ranging from historical narrative to parables to epistles to poetry. This means the Bible uses poetic expression with all its allowable usages including things like hyperboles and idioms. An idiom is a way to say something in an understood way given the cultural setting such as "not worth their salt" or "give your hand in marriage." That is what's happening here with the phrase "face to face."

This is also seen in Deut. 5:4 which says God spoke to Israel "face to face" but we know this cannot be in a literal sense because Deut. 4:12 says, "And the LORD spake unto you out of the midst of the fire: ye *heard the voice of the words*, but *saw no similitude*; only ye heard a voice." So the idiom means something like "person to person" or better in English *directly*, which means "without a mediator."

So in Exodus 33:11, "face to face" means God spoke to Moses as you would a friend without any need of a mediator or go-between. So when John states, "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him," it is not a contradiction. Nor is it saying, as some claim, that no man has seen God the Father, but only God the Son. That would still result in us seeing God. It means the way to really see God is to see Him as declared through the manifestation and work of the man Jesus. The "only-begotten son" declares Him, not another person in the godhead.

So the Bible is true in what it claims. Has anyone seen God? Yes, in the sense that God can be "seen" and many people have "seen" God in a form. But at the same time, no one has ever seen God revealed in all His glory. If God were to fully reveal Himself to us, we would be consumed and destroyed because of sin. Therefore, God appears in mediated forms in which we can "see" Him. That's why Jesus the man, the "only begotten son" reveals Him. Because "no man can come to the Father but by me..." Jesus says. Jesus the man is the mediator that allows us to approach God (1 Tim. 2:5).



T. W. Massengale

### Church Growth

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#### What outreach programs are, in your opinion, most effective?

Someone has aptly observed that you can cut down a tree with a pocket knife or a chain saw. Both will do the job. One will just do it faster than the other. By the same token, there are many methods of outreach and evangelism you can use in the local church. However, not all methods are created equal. Some work better than others. With time growing so short and the Lord coming so soon, it behooves us to use the best methods possible. Here are my two favorite and, in my opinion, the most effective methods of evangelism that every church should consider implementing:

*Attracting guests to church.* This is,

without question, your best method of evangelism. Did you know that your church services are your best outreach? Most new converts are in church today because someone invited them to church, they felt God, were convicted by the Word, and went to an altar. So what can you do to increase first-time visitors? Planning regular special events helps. Consider about once a month having a special service of some kind that makes it easy for your church members to invite their family, friends and neighbors. Promote these events well: flyers, announcements, banners, mail-outs, e-mails, social media and more. What kind of special services? Healing service, Holy Ghost night, Friend Day, holiday services (Easter, Pentecost, July 4, Christmas), Children's Crusade, Financial Freedom Sunday, revivals, Sunday school contests, the list goes on.

*Visitor Follow-up.* This, in my opinion, is the most important organized outreach in any

church. Two stats bear this out: First, the vast majority, 93 percent, receive the Holy Ghost in some kind of church service. Second, only seven percent receive the Holy Ghost the first time they come. Put these two stats together and you come to this conclusion: your guests must return multiple times before they become converts. A good guest follow-up program can greatly increase the number of return visits that guests make. A good guest follow-up plan will include a phone call (within 24 hours), a letter (within 72 hours), a visit to their home with a small gift (within seven days), at least two additional home visits at least three to four months apart, and adding them to your church mailing list (send invitations out to all events mentioned above).

If you would like detailed information on how to organize and maintain a good guest follow-up program, call 1-800-800-0247. Cost is just \$4 plus postage.



# MEET ME IN St. Louis



Donald D. Hanscom, Sr.,  
Multicultural Ministries  
Director, UPCI



# 2014



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## REGISTRATION

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**Registration is FREE**

(Some resources will be available to purchase in some of the sessions)

## HOTELS

**Crowne Plaza Hotel/St. Louis Airport**  
11228 Lone Eagle Drive,  
Bridgeton, Missouri  
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Rate: \$74.00

**Hampton Inn Northwest**  
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Hazelwood, Missouri 63031  
314-839-2200  
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*\*Ask for UPCI FRIENDS AND FAMILY rate.*

## TOPICS

### **Track 1** **Multicultural Ministries**

- Transforming present culture of a local church to a cultural diverse congregation
- Working with your pastor in establishing a Multicultural Church
- Explore, Expand, Experience
- Multicultural iMission
  - ... prepares and commissions the church to deliberately GO into all the world locally.
  - ... will **inspire** and **ignite** our spirit with Holy Ghost fire to evangelize the global harvest locally.
  - ... provides training and rapid mobilization of informed missionaries who will take the Kingdom of God to the nations here in North America.

### **Track 2** **Refugees and International Students' Evangelism**

### **Track 3** **Urban Evangelism by Building The Bridge Ministry**

## ACTIVITIES

### **Keynote Speakers**

David Bernard & Jack Cunningham

Multicultural Mass Choir

Filipino Choir

Children's Classes

Exciting presentation of delegates

Ministers & Wives luncheon

Multicultural Ministries Ambassadors/Ministry Coordinators banquet





Carol Clemans

## Spiritual Growth

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### Pastors! Attention!

With personal references from Pastor Daniel Batchelor, Dir. Of Education Division of UPCI, Supt. David Tipton Jr. of UPCI Mississippi, and Supt. John Putnam of UPCI Wisconsin,

I'm offering the following ministry support to any pastor nationwide: if you would like a confidential counselor available to call for consultation for help for self or your church members, please contact me for details (636) 448-0121 or e-mail: [carol@carolclemans.org](mailto:carol@carolclemans.org).

For a minimum donation to my ministry on a monthly basis, I will be available on-call to you (phone/Skype) to help with counseling direction on a priority list. I'm a Certified Pastoral Counselor providing nationwide phone/Skype counseling to pastors, for pastors and lay people for 21 years. I counseled 10 years for Bishop Kenneth Haney at Christian Life Center. I taught six years at Christian Life College under Dr. Daniel Segraves. I've been teaching God's Word for over 50 years and with the combination of Bible-based counseling education I offer a unique ministry not available by others nationwide.

You may contact the three leaders above through their UPCI offices if you have questions regarding my character, counseling confidentiality or counseling ability. You may go to my website: [www.carolclemans.org](http://www.carolclemans.org) for bio, articles, products – teaching CD's, DVD's & book: *God's Design for Marriage*. As you can read on the "about me" page of my website, this wonderful Acts 2 salvation came to my family in 1925. My late father, Elder Raymond Theobald, was my pastor mentor and Eschatology theologian.

We have saved hurting people sitting on our church pews paralyzed by emotional pain in their lives. Many pastors have called me for their own counseling for emotional/family issues and addictions. I greatly honor the confidentiality factor. I love teaching the Word of God for churches/conferences to help people grow and heal. Please call and let me explain how I can be a confidential ministry support to you. (I'm 68 years old. Married to Rev. Harold Clemans (retired) for 43 years).

Carol Clemans as a Certified Pastoral Counselor provides nationwide phone/Skype counseling (636) 448-0121. She is an anointed teacher of God's Word for churches and conferences. The Clemans' pastor is Jerry Dillon, Madison, MS.



Brian Norman

## Revival Concepts

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### To Be Called Christian

*"And the disciples were called CHRISTIANS first in Antioch" - Acts 11:26.*

What would happen if our churches were full of Christians? That question more than likely brings up a variety of thoughts. The word *Christian* simply means to be "Christ-like." It is often associated with being super kind or gentle or nice in one's response to others and situations. On a broader scale, it usually translates to doing what is right. But is that what this passage meant when it said "Christian"? Or we might ask, what does it mean to be "Christ-like"?

Certainly Christ was kind and gentle, but He also overthrew the moneychangers table in the temple area. Yes, His words and actions were merciful but He also rebuked, reproofed and spoke firmly and fiercely to some. What does it mean to be Christ-like?

Certainly it does not mean to be literally crucified, buried and rise again for the sins of humanity. For there is but one Savior and Messiah, and Jesus has already fulfilled those roles. To be *Christ-like* is to let the one invisible God shine through us to others.

This is why the scripture implores us to walk after holiness and in peace with men so they can see the Lord through us (Heb. 12:14). Yet at the same time the scripture sounds a warning that any kind of bitterness will do just the opposite, defile others (Heb. 12:15). The greatest thing about the incarnation is that it brought God to us (Matt 1:23), making the hope, healing, regeneration and restoration of God available unto all humankind. Christians must be *Christ-like*. They must do this same thing.

In reviewing Acts 11 you find that where they were first called Christians in Antioch they did three things specifically worthy of mention. They sought to "cleave unto the Lord," they assembled together closely like a community, and they "taught much people" (Acts 11:23, 26). When these three things happen, the Church is destined to grow. Oh, for us to be called Christian.

Brian Norman travels full-time preaching Jesus Christ. Phone: 636-544-0627 Website: [GlobalEvangelism.org](http://GlobalEvangelism.org) or HarvestConference.org



Aubrey Jayroe

## Finance

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**Is there any way to protect the church from requests of people who wish to use our facilities when those individuals do not believe what we promote as biblical doctrine? A friend of mine wrote up a statement and gave it to me. Am I safe in using this?**

The courts have provided relief for a church or charitable non-profit organization which does not wish to allow their facilities to be used when there are doctrinal differences between the parties involved. The basic means of protection is in the form of a written document/policy.

The church should have a written policy stating the concerns of the doctrinal belief and expressing that the parties wishing to use the facilities must believe the same as the church. This policy should be in writing and should be reviewed by a qualified professional who can help in writing the policy where it won't be deemed as discrimination for any reason other than doctrinal differences.

We strongly recommend each church implement the proper policy for facility use protection. In addition, each church must ensure that the document they use will stand up if there were any legal concerns; therefore, it is advisable to seek professional counsel when implementing such a policy.

Aubrey L. Jayroe is an Accredited Tax Advisor, Accredited Tax Preparer and Enrolled Agent by the IRS, as well as an Apostolic pastor. Contact him at: (870) 633-6045. Jayroe & Company, P.O. Box 1217, Forrest City, AR 72336. Email: [jayroeone@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jayroeone@sbcglobal.net)



Eric K. Hall

## Investments

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### Creating a Plan for Effective Wealth Transfer

Have you implemented estate planning strategies to help pass along more of your wealth to your heirs? If not, this article will motivate you to do so.

Investors often concentrate on accumulating assets, but how much time and energy is spent on preserving those hard-earned assets for future generations? Not nearly enough. Have you considered any of the following strategies to help pass along more of your estate to your heirs?

#### Nuts and Bolts of Estate Planning.

Many people don't begin thinking about transferring their assets until retirement. In

reality, effective estate planning is an ongoing process -- often best begun at a much younger age. At the very least, you should have a will to ensure that your final wishes are known. If you have dependent children, also consider naming a suitable guardian for them. After determining the value of real estate, cash-value life insurance policies, and assets held in retirement and investment accounts, a more encompassing plan may also be necessary.

**Giving Less to the Tax Man.** What can you do to avoid drastically reducing your estate to meet tax obligations? Life insurance may be a tax-efficient way of transferring accumulated wealth. Some types of policies offer current tax benefits and also reduce or eliminate taxes for beneficiaries. And life insurance may also increase the amount passed on to your heirs. Plus, it may also help owners of highly appreciated property or small businesses retain their assets, rather

than be forced to sell those assets to pay Uncle Sam.

Trusts may also be appropriate, and there are many types from which to choose. A grantor retained annuity trust (GRAT), for example, allows you to transfer assets to an irrevocable trust and then receive a yearly annuity for a specific number of years. Once the GRAT is dissolved, the remaining assets pass to the beneficiaries, usually free of estate and gift taxes. Charitable remainder trusts are also popular. They can be arranged so that you -- and, if you desire, a named beneficiary -- receive tax benefits and, in some cases, income during life. What's more, the trust also benefits a charity of your choice. If appropriate, trusts are a key part of the estate planning process.

Eric K. Hall is an Independent Financial Advisor with LPL Financial and the Senior Pastor of Greater Life Church in Greentown, IN. Contact him at (765) 860-9335, [eric.hall@lpl.com](mailto:eric.hall@lpl.com). Member FINRA/SPIC

**THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS****Satanists Unveil Design for Proposed Oklahoma Capitol Monument**

The Satanic Temple, based in New York, prematurely unveiled its proposal for a monument it intends to erect next to a depiction of the



Ten Commandments on the Oklahoma state Capitol.

Temple spokesman Lucien Greaves said he mistakenly sent the design plans to the Oklahoma

Capitol Preservation Commission via email, triggering their disclosure on news and social networking sites. "I didn't mean to reach out to the media until the commission had the formal submission," he said.

The group wants to erect the monument next to a depiction of the Ten Commandments that has been on the state grounds since 2012. Legislators opened the door to such displays when they pushed through a bill in 2009 giving permission for the Ten Commandments monument, which was paid for with private funds.

The plans show a 7-foot statue of a seated Satan flanked by two children. The design includes two important Satanist symbols: the pentacle, located above Satan's head, and the baphomet. Greaves said the goat-headed baphomet is believed to be a symbol of idolatry that the Knights Templar were accused of worshipping, and it is now part of disparate occult and mystical traditions.

"The symbol is now a constitutionally protected one that stands for the rights of heretics, for tolerance and free inquiry, and for the unjustly outcast," Greaves said.

The commission has no deadline for approving or rejecting the application, and the panel imposed a moratorium on new displays last month after receiving a Hindu group's application for a monument.

"I'm sure the attorneys will decide the legality of the moratorium," Greaves said, "but as long as the Ten Commandments monument remains on the Capitol grounds, we believe we have legal standing, and there is no reason for the commission not to consider our application."

**Motivate Yourself in Ministry**

If you stay motivated in ministry leadership, people will catch your enthusiasm and vision. Here is a list of ways to motivate yourself in ministry, compiled by Rick Warren, author and pastor of Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California.

1. *Put your plans on paper (or on screen).* If you haven't written it down, then it's vague. A lot of us go around with vague fear that we are not getting it all accomplished. Just the very fact of putting it down, a lot of times gives credence to your mind.

2. *Break big tasks into smaller tasks to remove excuses for not starting.* Some tasks are way too big to be chewed on all at once, but you can tackle them like you would eat an elephant—one bite at a time.

3. *Decide how you want to start.* Ask yourself what needs to be done first. If your goal is to make more phone calls and personally invite more people to church, you probably need to start by writing down the names of people you will contact.

4. *Establish checkpoints in your progress.* Tasks are best accomplished when they have a date attached to them. There are plenty of mobile apps for making lists with reminders built in.

5. *Know the difference between "I can't" and "I don't want to."* Be honest with yourself. Sometimes that means you've got to get tough. Successful people have developed the habit of doing things unsuccessful people don't feel like doing.

6. *Remind yourself of the benefits of completing the job.* Often in ministry, things become routine and repetitious.

In a given week, you may be doing 20 significant tasks that you repeat every week, only to start over again. Just remind yourself of how it's going to feel when you're done.

7. *Be optimistic.* This is so important in accomplishing large amounts of activities and projects. Optimism creates energy. The person who says "I can" and the person who says "I can't" are both right.

8. *Establish an action environment.* When you prepare messages, you need an environment where you can focus on the task at hand.

9. *Know your energy patterns and take advantage of peak times.* Some of you are morning people. Some of you are night people. You need to know when your body clock is geared toward maximum performance so you don't waste maximum performance on secondary tasks.

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

■ Open Doors USA recently compiled a list of the 10 most dangerous places in the world to be a Christian. The list includes the nations where Christians are most likely to face threats, discrimination, kidnapping, violence and death from the government or extremist groups: 1. North Korea, 2. Somalia, 3. Syria, 4. Iraq, 5. Afghanistan, 6. Saudi Arabia, 7. Maldives, 8. Pakistan, 9. Iran, and 10. Yemen.

■ The American Center for Law and Justice recently submitted an amicus brief on

behalf of more than 230,000 Americans, urging a federal appeals court to protect a cross memorial at the National 9/11 Memorial and Museum in New York City. The brief urges the court to uphold a decision by a lower court that dismissed a suit filed by an atheist organization attempting to remove the cross. The American Atheists assert they are suffering from both physical and emotional damages from the mere existence of the cross, resulting in headaches, indigestion and even mental pain.

**EDUCATION TRENDS****Teacher to First Grader: "Jesus Is Not Allowed In School"**

On Dec. 13, first grader Isaiah Martinez took Christmas gifts intended for his teacher and classmates to Merced Elementary in the West Covina Unified School District in California.

Each gift consisted of a traditional candy cane with a message attached that recited the legend of the candy cane. The legend references a candy maker who created the candy cane to symbolize the life of Jesus Christ.



Isaiah Martinez

His teacher immediately took possession of the candy canes. After conferring with the school principal, she told Isaiah that "Jesus is not allowed in school," threw the messages in the trash and handed the candy canes back to Isaiah for delivery to his classmates.

Advocates for Faith and Freedom sent a demand letter to the West Covina District, demanding a written apology and further demanding that a new policy be adopted to prohibit school officials from bullying and intimidating Christian students and religiously-affiliated students.

Robert Tyler, lawyer and general counsel, says, "The pendulum has swung so far in the opposite direction that public schools are becoming a place of hostility toward Christian and other religiously-based worldviews."

**SOCIAL TRENDS****Ohio to Consider Invasive Homeschool Bill**

An Ohio lawmaker recently introduced a bill that, if passed, would severely infringe on the rights of families that choose to homeschool their children. Introduced by Sen. Capri Cafaro, SB 248 would require parents and guardians to undergo a series of government-regulated hurdles that let officials make decisions on how families educate their children.

Michael Donnelly, staff attorney for the Homeschool Legal Defense Association, said, "Essentially, parents who want to homeschool their children would have to submit to interviews from social workers," he said. "The children in these families would also be interviewed separate from their parents. The social workers would then make a determination whether or not homeschooling was in the best interest of the child. The family would also be subject to background checks."

If social workers do not approve homeschooling, parents would have to submit to an "intervention" before their request can be considered any further.



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# WHERE HAVE ALL THE MEN GONE?



Transcribed by Christina Li

Why is the Church viewed as feminine? Is there something innately feminine about Christianity? God became incarnate as a man, and Jesus' life follows the classic masculine pattern of development. He even had to place some distance between himself and his mother: he left her as an early adolescent to teach in the temple to do his "Father's work;" he left her to undertake his public ministry at 30, and then he had to leave her behind when he died.

Genesis 1:27: "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male (*masculine*) and female (*feminine*) created he them." There IS a distinction between male and female; more importantly, between masculine and feminine. Then in Genesis 5:2 God creates divine order: "Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name (Adam & Eve together) Adam. . . ."

Ever heard of "the fall of man"? Why is it not called "the fall of woman"? Accountability was made with Adam, the man. Eve was to be submitted to her husband, who should have given correct and proper direction for the family. God was establishing order when He went to the man and held him accountable. I Corinthians 11:8,9: "For man was not [created] from woman, but woman from man; Neither was man created on account of or for the benefit

of woman, but woman on account of and for the benefit of man" (AMP). Therefore God says to Adam, "Because you have listened and given heed to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, saying, You shall not eat of it, the ground is under a curse because of you..." Genesis 3:17 (AMP).

God's divine order is further clarified in I Corinthians 11:3 -- "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God." Paul simplifies things in his letter to Ephesus when he pens, "husbands love," "wives submit," and "children obey." The flow of authority does not begin between the husband and wife, but rather the husband (or man) and his God.

Further revelation came when I heard a statement from a lady missionary at a rally in Washington State: "You can be strong and be a lady. What you can't be is masculine."

## **Masculinity and the Church**

Anthropologists and developmental psychologists have come up with a fairly widely agreed upon topology of masculinity. A boy is born of a woman and has an intense relationship with a woman for the first years of his life. At first the child is not even aware

of his mother as a separate being. He then starts realizing that his mother differs from him in an extremely important respect: she is what he *cannot* and *should not* become—a woman. The boy must break this intense, close relationship with his mother to establish his separate identity – masculine. The boy cannot become masculine by imitating his mother; he must turn from her to other models, usually his father. Thus we have the “teen years” when boys and girls solidify and align themselves with their role models of masculinity or femininity.

### **Making men into Christian fathers**

Men can be taught to be men only by other men, and all too many pastors are not real men. This modern day imbalance between female and male congregants is all the more odd because NT Christianity, coming from Judaism, was distinctly a male-centered religion. So how did the church get where it is now?

In “Statistics for Children without Fathers,” 63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes (*U.S. Dept. Of Health/Census*) – five times the average, 80% of rapists with anger problems come from fatherless homes – 14 times the average (*Justice and Behavior, Vol. 14, p. 403-26*), and 75% of all adolescent patients in chemical abuse centers come from fatherless homes – 10 times the average (*Rainbows for All God's Children*).

There is a spiritual attack on leadership, headship, fathers, and ultimately on men. Characteristics shared by those under attack include fear, fatigue, sluggishness, confusion and anger. These attacks are identified as dealing with witchcraft and the spirit of Jezebel.

### **The spirit of Jezebel**

Jezebel was a princess of the Sidonians (modern Lebanon) and the wife of Ahab, king of Northern Israel. The Hebrew text portrays Jezebel as a power behind the throne.

Jezebel literally means “without cohabitation.” This spirit refuses to live together or co-habit with anyone, *unless* they can dominate the relationship. Characteristics of this spirit include: hatred of authority (often male authority), rebellious, fiercely independent, ambitious for pre-eminence and control, and female, in that it seeks to manipulate without physical force.

The spirit of Jezebel has two aims: to gain glory, power, and satisfy the need for the “praises of men.” This is a consequence of the desire for love and self-worth focused on *self*. Secondly, the Jezebel spirit seeks to emasculate (*to deprive of strength or vigor; weaken*) all men, stripping them of their authority. The “Jezebel spirit” is in a constant agitation, terribly aggressive, controlling, selfish, manipulative, unrepentant, deceitful spirit.

### **There are two main types of the Jezebel spirit**

The “high-profile” type is generally gregarious, outspoken and highly visible. She is often seen as the “woman who wears the pants in the family.” The second is the “low-profile” type, soft-spoken, giving the illusion of being concerned, motherly, protective, even appearing very submissive. The low-profile type may be the most dangerous, as she is the most difficult to discern. She relies heavily on manipulation for her power in extremely subtle performances.

Jezebel’s attacks are the power demons of fear and discouragement, leading to self-doubt and confusion and distracting from warfare and victory. The Jezebel spirit will: run you down causing spiritual fatigue, confuse you causing self-doubt, and/or cause you to question your own calling and destiny. The essence of the Jezebel spirit is that of the feminine becoming masculine.

### **What about Ahab?**

You can’t have a Jezebel without an Ahab. By his nature, Ahab means one who gives his authority to another. This not only appeals to high tolerance within a man’s mind but to becoming “feminine” (submissive). To win against Jezebel (the feminine becoming masculine), one must conquer the spirit or nature of Ahab (the masculine becoming feminine).

The spirit of Ahab is an emasculated figure. Indeed the majority of modern men are under that spirit, enslaved to their women. This

“Ahab and Jezebel” are represented very well in our present society.

Ahab *chose* not to notice when his wife worked behind the scenes. Many men turn their heads when they see their wives stepping out of their God-given role. Jezebel knew that she was not the rightful head, so she invoked her husband’s name to give her word authority. It was a way for her to maintain control and stop those who would question her.

Jezebel was deeply concerned about spiritual matters and took steps to help promote her spiritual leaders. In the process, she provoked her husband to destroy those in spiritual authority she did not like. Have you ever seen women influencing their husbands to think evil of those in authority because she did not like something about them? When a woman comes to this place she is sliding toward the Jezebel spirit.



Evangelist Bruce J. Bartel

### **How do we defeat the spirit of Jezebel?**

To win against this spirit of Jezebel, one must conquer the nature of Ahab. Jesus tells us not to even *tolerate* Jezebel (Rev. 2:20). Therefore “no” is the operative word against Jezebel. When those in spiritual authority say “no” to her, she is ready for war. Remember, Jezebel is a warring spirit who is always dressed for battle. We must learn the prophetic power of the word “no!” We must give no ground. Although Elijah was Jezebel’s enemy, it took Jehu to trample and destroy her. Jehu showed no mercy to Jezebel. As he approached Jezebel, those who saw his chariot noted he “drives furiously” (2 Kings 9:20). When others offered peace and compromise, Jehu responded, “How can there be peace as long as the harlotries and witchcrafts of Jezebel are many?” (2 Kings 9:22).

Divine order and the family began to change when Satan blurred the lines of masculinity and femininity with Adam and Eve. The devil was saying to women, “You do not need man as your authority; you can be your own authority – though created female, you can act masculine.” When she bi-passed the man and stepped out of her place as the feminine, she became deceived and sin entered the world.

Whatever happened to chivalry? Who do you think is behind this unisex movement and the obscurity and distinction of the sexes? If God made you a man, be a man! Be masculine. If God made you a female, be all feminine and believe me, your example will have an impact.

Women are a required asset, invaluable in the church and in leadership. The issue is one’s ability to

function within his or her place and calling. God created BOTH the masculine and feminine. He would *never* reject half the population just because they were born female. ALL are needed in the Kingdom. Hath God made you male? Then embrace your masculinity. Hath God made you female? Then accentuate your femininity to the glory of God. What can you do, as a man, to counter this Ahab spirit? The biggest part of the solution is knowing there’s a problem. Admit that you may have some Ahab in you. It’s counterproductive to sit back and wait for your wife to act outside her calling, thus encouraging the masculine. Nothing will happen till you move out, take action and lead.

So be the man God called you to be. Stop pushing your wife to do your God-given responsibilities. Provide that umbrella of protection for your wife and family. That is why the devil tempts the man to let his wife handle problems that he should be taking care of. The transferring and transgression of responsibilities by the man only causes the masculine to become weaker and weaker to the point of obscurity. Step up to the plate and be a leader in all areas.

Lead by taking the headship in your home. Lead by saying the blessing at the table. Lead by having the family hear you read the Bible out loud. Lead by being the first to raise your hands in public worship. Lead by example in integrity. Be masculine. Embrace your place in Jesus and fulfill your destiny.

*Born on the west coast of Canada, Bro. Bartel has been preaching for 37 years and with the United Pentecostal Church for 30 years. As well as pastoring, he spent time under the Foreign Missions Division, living in Asia and Europe. Currently, he is traveling as an evangelist, under the direction of Pastor Ron Libby.*

*“Be the man God called you to be. Stop pushing your wife to do your God-given responsibilities. Provide that umbrella of protection for your wife and family.”*





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# Skyport Chronicles

## Apostolic Author Delights Readers with Prophetic Fiction Series

By Linda Schreckenberger



Pastor Doug Joseph  
Clarksburg, WV

You might say Pastor Doug Joseph of Christian Apostolic Church (UPCI) in Clarksburg, West Virginia has definitely stepped out of the norm and into the future with his amazing book series, *Skyport Chronicles*. It is a series for this generation, those upon whom the

ends of the earth are come.

Regarding *New Immortal* (Book 1), he received high praise from best-selling author David Norris Ph.D., professor at Urshan Graduate School of Theology, who said it "broadened my horizons...." In a critical review of *Tesseract* (Book 2), Foreword Reviews stated, "[It] will delight young adult readers....caters to both faith and the imagination." Christina Li, bestselling author, journalist and inspirational speaker, said *The Last Bye* (Book 3) "...is even better than *A Horse and His Boy*!" (a comparison to part of the *Chronicles of Narnia* by C.S. Lewis).

The first novel was written to help readers visualize the Bible's hints about the Millennial Kingdom age (coming after the Tribulation). The motivation to expand the storyline into a series (later renamed to *Skyport Chronicles*) was born out of

hearing an unsaved professor mock the concept of eternal life. The professor, an advocate of the "evolution" hypothesis, said something along these lines: "If there is such a thing as eternal life, it would be boring, void of context, without empathy or sympathy." Pastor Joseph saw a need to help this generation debunk the misguided concept of eternal life as supposedly just "floating on clouds and strumming harps." He urges readers to think what it might be like to live through the Millennial Age and beyond. What about the new heavens and the new earth? What about the future creations of the Creator? Could there be more than most believe? *Skyport Chronicles* thrusts the reader into worlds he or she may have never considered.

Echoing the message of the New Birth within the thrilling pages of each book, Pastor Joseph completely captures the readers' attention and takes them far past the Rapture. *New Immortal* picks up after



the Tribulation, peering into a time long after the trumpet has sounded. It finally ushers the reader into the "Great White Throne Judgment" after the last soul has been saved. It's filled with prophecy, science fiction and adventure. *Tesseract* considers a different cosmos and the offspring of an age and world to come. It has science fiction, adventure and romance (from a Christian perspective). Regarding *The Last Bye*, Bro. Joseph said: "If you loved the *Chronicles of Narnia*, you will love this one." A fourth installment is underway. These books are powerful and entertaining, yet their message can be well understood by children, teens and adults. Pastor Joseph discreetly comes alongside godly parents in teaching honesty, respect for authority and other wholesome values to the young reader enthralled with the stories. One beginning reader was so excited after hearing portions that he saved up his money to purchase a copy of his own. This touched Pastor Joseph since he and his wife have two daughters and two sons of their own.

The books are available in paperback through Pentecostal Publishing House or any major bookseller, including Barnes & Noble and Amazon.com. They're also available directly from the author's website at [www.skyportchronicles.com](http://www.skyportchronicles.com) (only \$29.95 for all three existing titles). E-book editions are available for Kindle and Nook platforms.

## Online Magazine Meets the Needs of Apostolic Girls

By Christina Li



Sis. Shenae Huba  
Editor, *Apostolic Girl* magazine

"It is our desire to be an encouraging resource for Apostolic girls and implement the message that separation does not mean isolation. The stand that they take for God is beautiful," says Sis. Shenae Huba,

editor of *Apostolic*

*Girl*. "Although the lifestyle of holiness they embrace means they will dress and act differently than most kids at their school, they are not alone in their stand! Apostolic Girl is there to inspire, unite and support young ladies across the globe with an online magazine for Apostolic girls by Apostolic girls!"

[ApostolicGirl.com](http://ApostolicGirl.com) began due to Sis. Huba's own desire to have a magazine available with material tailored to meet the needs and interests of an Apostolic girl. "I was 16 at the time and enjoyed reading magazines with fashion tips and 'girlie' articles but noticed that the available material did not really pertain to me—nor was it written from a wholesome, Godly

perspective. My parents raised us with the mentality that if something needs to be done, you should do it yourself! So with a lot of help and encouragement from my family and friends, this site was birthed. I'm proud to say that for the past nine years [ApostolicGirl.com](http://ApostolicGirl.com) has been meeting a great need."

Through the years [ApostolicGirl.com](http://ApostolicGirl.com) has had many participants involved in making the online magazine what it is today. Sis. Huba says, "My younger sister, Tiffany Huba, is Co-Editor and my right-hand lady. Sandy Lawson is a pastor's wife from Florida who answers questions we receive for our Ask AG page, and my mother, Tammy Huba, also writes bi-monthly for the site. We've featured many guest contributors as well."

[ApostolicGirl.com](http://ApostolicGirl.com) focuses on teenaged and college-aged girls. "We are expanding each and every year and have recently included a 'Mom's Only' page, written by my mother. Our audience is growing and could potentially lead to a branch-off site addressing the needs of other age demographics amongst Apostolic women. I have also been privileged to speak at

various ladies and girls' events as the founder of AG and have hopes to continue and increase those engagements over the next few years promoting our site and our message."

Currently available on [ApostolicGirl.com](http://ApostolicGirl.com) are fashion tips, hair how-to's, an Ask AG page allowing girls to write in, devotions, the AGLOW page highlighting girls throughout the world doing great things for God, interviews with lady leaders in the UPCI organization including missionaries, songwriters, artists, and so much more!

Sis. Huba adds, "We just made advertisement opportunities available for ministries and groups to promote their business on our site by becoming an AG sponsor. The funds received help maintain the site and buy promotional material and merchandise for girls."

You can request AG promotional material to hand out to the girls of your church or at your event, request information about speaking engagements, and leave comments or feedback at [mail@apostolicgirl.com](mailto:mail@apostolicgirl.com) or by calling 850.508.3040.





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Tonight was IBC LIVE 2014, the annual live recording for the college choir, chorale and PRAISE. More than 200 anointed and talented students demonstrated their dedication to their faith and to their God as they poured heart and soul into creating a lasting memorial of worship to their Creator. It was beautiful, and it was the result of months of preparation and planning filled with long hours of rehearsals and practice.

The audience responded to each song and the students' testimonies of faith and deliverance. The Spirit of the Lord moved into the sanctuary and as the last song came to a close the altar

area and aisles were quickly flooded with hungry hearts. The music stopped, yet the worship continued and a lingering presence of the Lord kept the crowd long after the concert had ended.

What the audience of more than 2,500 did not witness were the hours that these precious students had dedicated to prayer and fasting in order to make sure that this project was more than just another performance. They truly wanted the Lord's will to be done and for His blessing to be upon the project.

These students who were mostly strangers to one another just a few months ago, collaborated their talents and joined their hearts to **EXPERIENCE** together what God can do when He is asked for His help and guidance. Only time will tell the true impact of their efforts as this music makes its way around the globe.

The **EXPERIENCE** of being a student at IBC is a once in a lifetime thing. Soon, each of these talented individuals will be off doing their own work, finding and executing their own individual callings, and with God's help

becoming who they are supposed to become – But tonight, they *were* Indiana Bible College and they were **EXPERIENCING** this great thing together in preparation for the greatest Apostolic revival this world has ever seen.

During the concert, IBC Executive Vice President Rob Rodenbush said, "The revival will come! The problem will not be filling the pews, it will be filling the pulpits and platforms with Apostolic leaders." The harvest that has been promised us in the last days is great, but we know the laborers are few. IBC is dedicated to training the next generation of men and women to proclaim this Oneness Apostolic message.

This is what IBC is about! It's an educational **EXPERIENCE**. It can't be recreated online. You have to be here. Sure, you can watch the DVDs, you can buy the textbooks, download the lectures. But, if we are honest, it's just not the same thing. Come and **EXPERIENCE** the relationships, the anointing, and the power of being with like-minded students who are dedicating their lives to the cause of Christ. Join the **EXPERIENCE**. Say yes!

**By: Jaye M. Rodenbush**

**Word To The Wise:**

If practice makes perfect, and nobody's perfect, why practice?

\* \* \* \* \*

**In the Beginning**

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages.

Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages.

"Mama, look what I found," the boy called out.

"What have you got there, dear?"

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, "I think it's Adam's underwear!"

\* \* \* \* \*

Pastor Jones decided to take judo lessons to get into better shape.

Self-defense instructor: "What steps would you take if someone were coming at you with a large, sharp knife?"

Pastor Jones: "BIG ones."

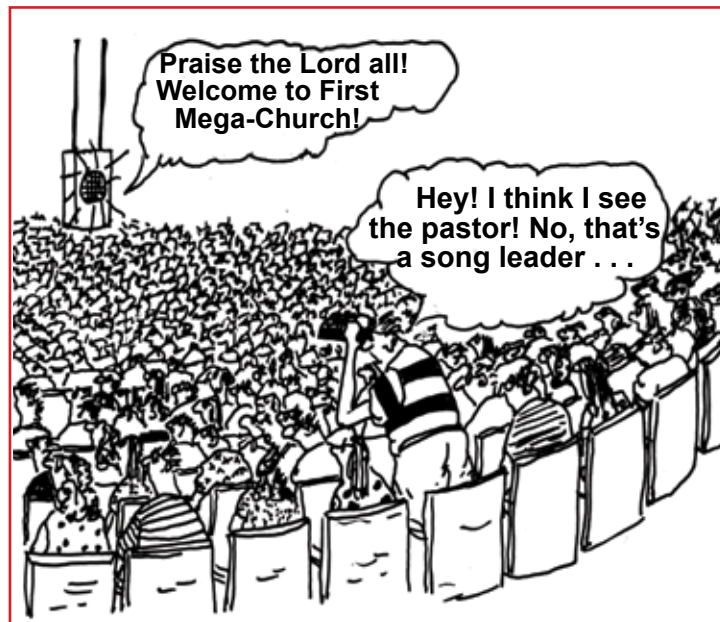
\* \* \* \* \*

A guy goes into a florist shop that has a sign: "Say It With Flowers."

He says, "One rose, please."

"Just one?" asks the florist.

"Yes. I'm a man of few words."



Walt was starting to think he should have chosen a smaller church.

My granddaughter just moved from subdivision living to a small farm.

One of the first things her family did was to purchase four laying hens. Every day the grandchildren collected eggs.

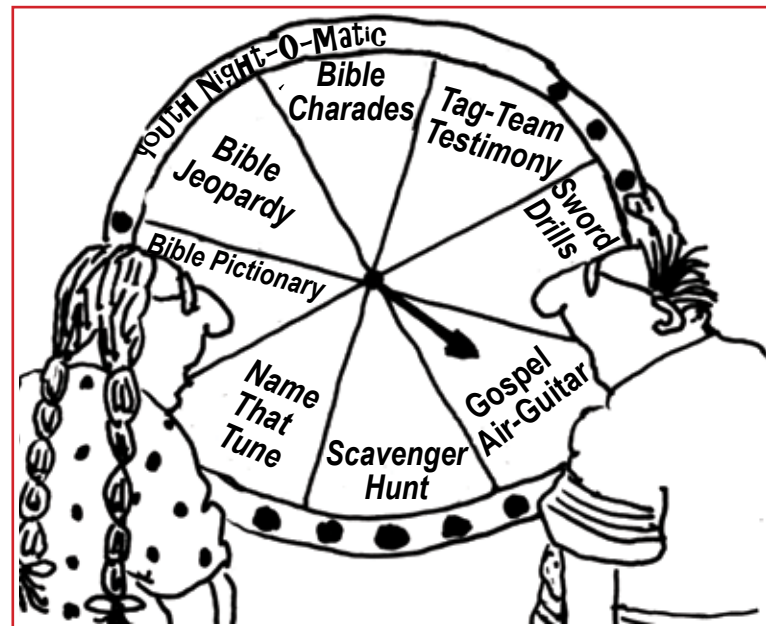
One day a neighbor came over and questioned my granddaughter, "How do you like your eggs – fried, boiled, scrambled, or in omelets?"

My granddaughter replied that she likes them all ways, but she likes them best in cakes.

\* \* \* \* \*

An airhead was driving to California and saw a sign that said: Clean Restrooms Ahead.

By the time she finally reached the coast, she had scrubbed and polished 68 of them.



Eliminate youth night hassle by using Youth Night-o-Matic.

An elderly couple had just learned how to send text messages on their cell phones. The wife was a romantic type and the husband was more of a no-nonsense guy.

One afternoon the wife went out to meet a friend for coffee. As she waited for her friend, she decided to send her husband a romantic text message and she wrote:

"If you are sleeping, send me your dreams.

If you are laughing, send me your smile.

If you are eating, send me a bite.

If you are drinking, send me a sip.

If you are crying, send me your tears.

I love you."

The husband texted back to her:

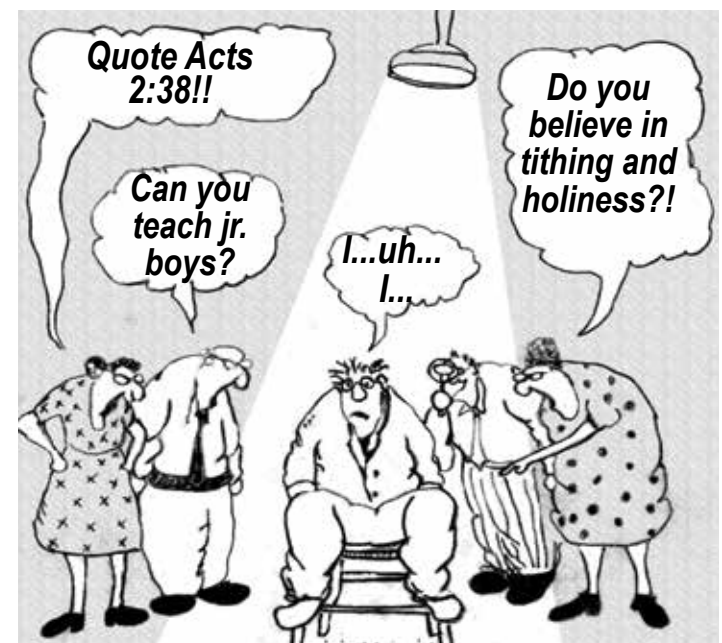
"I'm in the bathroom. Please advise."

\* \* \* \* \*

After my three-year-old put his shoes on by himself, I noticed that the left shoe was on the right foot.

I said, "Son, your shoes are on the wrong feet."

He looked up at me with dismay, and a raised brow. "Don't kid me, Mom. These are the only feet I got!"



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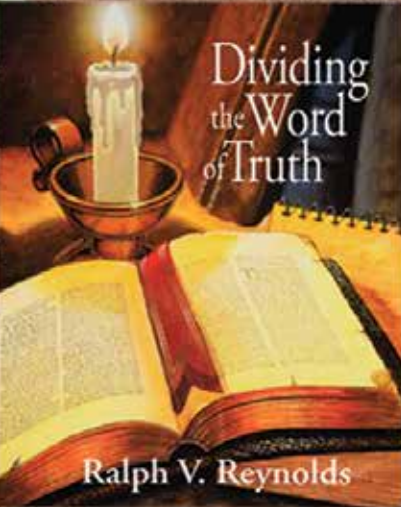
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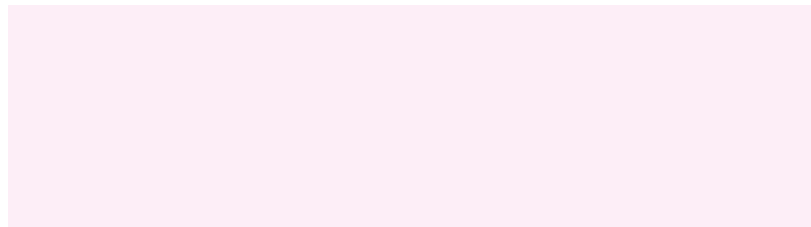
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