VOL.24 NO.05 INDIANA BIBLE COLLEGE

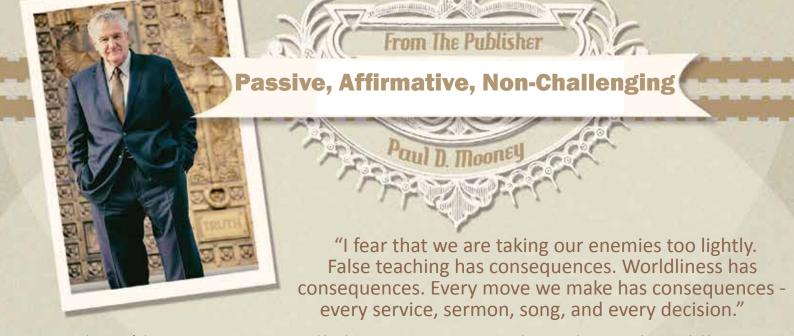


Perspectives



THE VISTON

A FRESH LOOK



It was a casual game of chess. My opponent was my granddaughter, Micki Rodenbush, age 10. She was intense. She intended to win, but she was a mere novice against a former chess instructor for the Indianapolis Parks and Recreation Department: not a very good one, actually, but nevertheless this should have been no contest.

About twenty minutes into the game I noticed that Micki had positioned herself to do serious damage. In fact, if she had understood her position, she could have likely ended the game with a swift victory. But thankfully an unexpected interruption saved my reputation. I do here confess my relief. It is my hope that she did not actually outmaneuver me. Oh, my. Regardless, we planned to play another day. Whew!

In the game of chess there is no such thing as a neutral, insignificant move. Every move, even if the player is unaware, plays a role. It may lead, block, deceive, distract, tempt, position, and so forth. The chess piece's role in most cases is part of a scheme aimed at the defeat of one's opponent. A chess move's assignment is generally not obvious during its initial positioning. However, even if it seems obvious or is judged a mistake, it may only appear such in either case so as to deceive. The genius of a player is in his ability to set up a trap or a defense in advance of its actual execution. Therefore nothing should be considered neutral. Such is this world. Nothing about it is meaningless.

Micki had come to play for real. To win. To defeat. Trust me on this: she had no other intention. The enemies of righteousness and truth today never make neutral moves. The thief comes to steal and to kill (John 10:10). I fear that we are taking our enemies too lightly. False teaching has consequences. Worldliness has consequences. Every move we make has consequences - every service, sermon, song, and every decision. Nothing is neutral.

The May 2012 issue of the *Whistleblower*, a publication of WND. com, invites us to explore how America has become "confused, intimidated, and dominated by the left's secret language." It deals with the famous book by Saul Alinsky entitled *Rules for Radicals*, an instruction book about advancing revolution. Obviously, space does not allow comment on each of the articles in the magazine, but the piece by David Kupelian, author of *The Marketing of Evil* and *How Evil Works*, includes this warning:

"The single most important operating principle behind Alinsky's methods, the one that makes the rest of them work - namely, *intimidation* - is increasingly the modus operandi of today's government.

To put it bluntly, for Alinsky's 'community organizing' rules - which Obama says 'were seared into my brain' - to really work, the general public must be made to feel intimidated, upset, frustrated, and hopeless. Alinsky explained why:

'Any revolutionary change must be preceded by a passive, affirmative, non-challenging attitude toward change among the mass of our people. They must feel so frustrated, so defeated, so lost, so futureless in the prevailing system that they are willing to let go of the past and change the future. This acceptance is the reformation essential to any revolution.'

That's you: you are supposed to feel 'defeated' and 'lost' and the radicals' efforts are directed at making you feel that way. But what if you're a fighter and stand up to the would-be revolutionaries' abuses and usurpations of power? Then you are to be attacked - here's Alinsky's rule No. 5:

'Ridicule is man's most potent weapon. It is almost impossible to counterattack ridicule. Also it infuriates the opposition, who then react to your advantage... The enemy properly goaded and guided in his reaction will be your major strength.'"

These weapons are being used against the church as well. The enemy is real and determined to defeat Truth. Here is the Apostle Peter's admonition: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8).

This spirit of the age intimidates and insults those who will not compromise their biblical values or who do not agree with certain politically correct agendas. (Please read Ezekiel 22:23-29.) They don't necessarily have any illusions about swinging everybody over to their beliefs, but remember: what they seek is "a passive, affirmative, non-challenging attitude toward change." In other words, one may know that "untempered mortar" is being used (Ezekiel 22:28). But if one's response is silence, then the silence becomes consent.

Apostolic preachers must not be intimated. They must never be silenced by ridicule. I see intimidation at play all the time, and so do you. Good men and women are often made to feel inadequate, old-school, under-educated, un-cool and, thereby, they become fearful and unwilling to speak. Often their sacrifices, giving, successful enterprises, and exampled lives are ignored and unacknowledged because they are perceived to be a bit too conservative. Over time the enemy wins by our "passive, affirmative, non-challenging attitude," and then the sad admonition of Ezekiel 22:30 is fully understood: "And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none."

My granddaughter, Micki, calculating and determined, caught me casual and aloof, and the game was being executed fast. I was losing. So it was and so shall it be without a serious awakening among us all.

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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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Fresh Look
(Matthew P. Martin)

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Jeff Chavis

Working with your pastor in establishing a Multicultural Church.

Dieudonne Kahozi

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iMission

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Raul Orozco Marvin Reyes Sergio Vitanza

DEALING WITH DEMONS

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



Ken Gurley, Pearland, TX -- Both angelic and demonic activity was intense at the Lord's first coming and will also be prevalent in the last days. One case I've experienced involved a person who was being especially boisterous and increasingly belligerent in a church service. The more the Spirit moved, the more contrary the person's behavior became. As the church worshipped, a few ministers joined with me to approach and pray for the man. He confessed his need of deliverance and we claimed his

liberty through the blood, Spirit and name of Jesus. He was marvelously delivered and serves the Lord to this present time. Demons don't need to be sought; they will reveal themselves when the Gospel is preached and Apostolic power is demonstrated. Since carnality, spiritual wounds and personality idiosyncrasies are often confused with demonic activity, we should pray for the discerning of spirits to perceive the source of the problem and act accordingly.



Kurtis Burton, Nashville, TN — In the New Testament at least 14 times demons are recorded being cast out of people by Jesus and the Apostles. There are reports of people being delivered today. We hear about this more overseas than stateside. God help us, but we need power in our pulpits and anointing in our altars. I can recall a revival I was in as an evangelist praying with a lady who fell down rolling on the ground speaking gibberish with her eyes rolling around in the back of her head. Immediately the pastor knew exactly what was happening, knelt down

beside her and began rebuking the devil in Jesus name. In mere moments the woman was speaking in tongues calling on the name of the Lord. Her testimony that night was that as a girl her family was heavily involved in black magic and witchcraft. My advice in a tense atmosphere would be to take immediate control of the circumstances and let that demon(s) know that you are totally in charge. Don't be intimidated, plead the blood and cast out that spirit in Jesus name!



Bruce J. Bartel, West Kelowna, BC, Canada — There are a lot of misperceptions when dealing with the demonized. That, along with unfamiliarity and concern for being misunderstood or "labeled," causes most to just shy away from the subject. However, I have had experience in casting out demons. Assisting in deliverance can be varied depending upon the individual's understanding and will. It is imperative to (1) know your place and

authority in Jesus, (2) discern what stronghold you are dealing with - be it mental, physical or spiritual, and (3) work with the individual as to their will in regarding the stronghold - as you cannot cross the will of man - a demon cannot do what we do not consent to. In this regard, repentance and/or forgiveness are the focal points. Deliverance is simple and easy IF preparation is done correctly.



R. S. Carter, Staten Island, NY—I believe one of the reasons for demonic behavior is to disrupt the moving of God's Spirit as people worship. When there is strong leadership in the pulpit and a scriptural knowledge among the congregation, there is less demonic demonstration. When it occurs, prayer and faith in God's deliverance soon overrides the powers of the enemy. I heard the sound of a dog barking while sitting in a worship service. Looking around, I found a young lady obviously under a spiritual attack and giving out this sound. The pastor stood

and directed everyone to begin to call on the name of Jesus for deliverance; as we prayed that same evil spirit went out of her into another young person who was idly sitting a few pews away. Prayer was once again administered to her for deliverance. We must pray with the authority God has given us over every evil spirit and practice. Instruct the possessed individual to call on Jesus for deliverance.



Isaac Soria, Alameda, CA -- You must first ascertain whether or not the person *wants* deliverance. Hard-core Satanists and sorcerers *don't want* deliverance. Many get possessed on purpose and/or work *with* their spirits for supernatural powers. You must stay prayed up and full of faith. The power to command devils, rebuke them, and cast them out is all based upon faith. Your faith has to be strong. You have to believe they *are* possessed and that you have the authority to cast them out. Also, use the gift of discernment. The discerning of spirits is probably the most common gift most people have in the church. Yet

most don't realize they have it. You have to exercise your senses to discern what spirit they have, whether it's simply someone with a purely physical mental disorder or something natural (like drugs, neurological problems, etc.) or if it's a real spirit involved. Then you have to discern whether it's demonic oppression or actual possession.



Glenn T. Howard Jr., San Antonio, TX — It is my opinion there are several reasons we don't see more casting out of demons today: First, true "demon possession" occurs more in undeveloped or third world countries. In the developed countries, people are greatly demon deceived, but not necessarily demon possessed. Second, unlike the infinite supply of the Holy Ghost, there are just so many demons, and with the population of the earth more than 10 times what it was in the days of Jesus there are only so many places they can go. Thirdly, it is my conviction the

effectiveness of "casting out demons" is significantly determined by the degree of personal commitment to the disciplines such as fasting and intensive prayer. Fourth, once a demon has been cast out, the person who had it must commit himself or herself to obey the gospel of Acts and live for God. If they don't, they are putting themselves in the position of being re-invaded by demons.



William Felt, Union City, CA — I can think of a time when a young girl was praying at our altar and as we prayed with her she started acting very strange. We started calling on the name of the Lord, and she acted up even more - that was the key that let us know she was demon possessed. We kept praying for her, and she was delivered. For God to deliver a person from a demon is no harder than to deliver a person from alcohol. It has been my experience that a person has to want to be delivered. This said, I also believe that working under the gifts of the Spirit can assist

us in taking control over such powers.

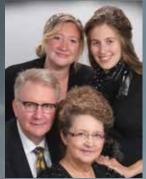


Charlie Scully, Morehead, KY — When I was about seven years old, a man came into church and kept being disruptive; suddenly he jumped up and ran at our pastor with the intent to kill. A deep voice began to speak from the man's chest as he spit and cursed. After he was delivered, we found that he had been in the Satanist movement, burned Bibles, and had been sent by the spirits that night to kill our pastor. My advice for a young pastor should he encounter a person needing deliverance from demons? 1. Be submitted to God (James 4:7). 2. Ask the individual

if they want to be delivered. If the answer is "no" then persuade them through love or command them to leave the premises. 3. If the answer is "yes" then have someone gather the children and take them somewhere safe to pray. 4. Be firm and maintain control of the conversation; you have the power, and greater is He that is in you (I John 4:4). 5. Persistently command the devils to come out "in Jesus name" (Mark 16:17). 6. Continually encourage the one seeking the deliverance.

EXPEGING

By Christina Li



The Michael Hook family Waukesha, WI

What does revival look like?
Pastor Michael D. Hook of True Life
Church in Waukesha, Wisconsin has
this to say, "Every time I'm in the
pulpit, I talk about revival. I speak
on revival, miracles, deliverance and
healing in every service. I expect
the miraculous every time we come
together. If I can help it, I will not allow a service to go by without God's
touch. I purposely make an opportunity for worship and the supernatural.
We create an environment of worship
so people can make a connection
with God."

Priorities

Pastor Hook's priorities are mentorship and discipleship to all believers. Pastor Hook and his wife, Rose, have been married for almost 42 years. "For the last 25 years, I have taught a home Bible study at the church on Tuesday nights and missed very few Tuesdays through the years. I'd rather be at my Tuesday night Bible study than almost anywhere else. That's how I make a personal connection with first-time believers. I have had the privilege of teaching a Bible study to the majority of the people at True Life."

Pastor Hook teaches different parts of various Bible studies. "After ten or twelve weeks, I'll make a renewed push to have new attendees join my Bible study. They can jump in at anytime. Most of the time, I have 10 to 15 in the study ongoing."

After these initial Bible studies, "we introduce the new believers to our Life Keys class which is more in-depth discipleship. This is the tool we use to disciple people and at the end of these classes we give them a gift test and get them involved in a ministry. It's all about finding people's individual gift that can be used in the body of Christ. In today's world, most people don't know what a Godly family really looks like. In these Life Keys classes, we also teach tithing, standards and other fundamental Apostolic beliefs."

Ministries and Methods for Increasing Attendance

Special events have been True Life Church's biggest growth. "We're partnered with Feeding America and have a monthly mobile food pantry. A semi-truck comes, and we take the food and feed people. We normally have 70 to 100 people volunteer their time once a month on a Friday night to help feed Waukesha. We go downtown and feed 1,200 to 1,300 people. We've been featured in numerous articles in newspapers and on several occasions have been highlighted on local news outlets for our community involvement. It is great advertisement while we impact our community."

On the Sunday morning following the food connection, True Life Church gears its services for the new guests that come as a result of these efforts. "We have a SuperChurch for the kids where they can worship and receive the Holy Ghost," explained Pastor Hook. "The lowest number of guests has been 30, and most months we have around 50 first-time guests. Also, the evening service following the food connection is bilingual to help us reach our Spanish community."

Another outreach is the church's 4th of July float that has won first place the last three years in the city. About 10,000 to 15,000 people attend this event in downtown Waukesha. "We're

situated right on Interstate 94," said the pastor. "We allow people to watch the city fireworks from our parking lot. We give them a flier and provide snacks. We have our praise team sing. We offer tours of the property and allow them to use our restrooms.

"Also, we have an event called 'Trunk or Treat.' It's safe, nothing scary. We give away stuff and have over 200 guests on our parking lot the Saturday before Halloween."

Organization and Management

There are several departments at True Life Church including Children, Music, Life Keys (Discipleship), Greenhouse (Leadership), Hyphen (18-35), Ladies, Men, Outreach, Prayer, Sign Team, Usher/Greeter, Youth, Audio/Visual, Food Pantry and Hospitality. Also, visitors can enjoy cappuccino, espresso and sweet rolls at the church's coffee shop.

For regular communication with his leaders, Pastor Hook uses Facebook. "We're constantly communicating on Facebook. We have a massive database which allows me to text everyone in our various departments or groups. We don't have as much face-to-face time, but that works pretty well. We have a quarterly meeting as well as yearly planning. We have an administrative pastor full-time and a secretary. My administrative pastor has helped a great deal with organizing our social media."

For their annual meeting, the leaders talk about their vision for the next year. "We will already have the calendar," said the pastor. "We don't override and conflict with each other. We'll critique the calendar, major events, VBS, district events, sectional events and state events. We make Thursday night church-wide prayer twice a month. The other Thursday nights our elder women invite the young ladies to meet at a restaurant once a month. We have a men's fellowship the first Friday night of each month. Fellowship is a key part of the church."

Pastor Hook said that two-thirds of the church members are involved in some form of ministry, with 25 percent involved in evangelism. "We have four outreach teams that every Monday night call MIA's and visit new guests that have come the previous Sunday," he said. "We'll call and stop by for five to 10 minutes and give a gift card. That's where we try to get the Bible study. Every fifth Monday, we have all-church outreach where all four teams come together to do outreach."

Getting Involved in Church and Lives

Pastor Hook says, "Most people need some kind of deliverance, from dealing with all sorts of addictions to low self-esteem. I try to exemplify kindness and connecting with people. I enjoy preaching faith and teaching Bible studies. It doesn't matter if you've been in church 30 years, you still need the Word. I'm a heart preacher. I try to reach people's hearts and help them make a decision. It's not just head knowledge. I try to help people make a change of heart.

"Revival is our biggest focus. We reach for the people that most wouldn't want in their church, like people needing food.

We have worked with local authorities for the past 25 years for people to do community service to help work off their jail time. A lot of those people have gotten baptized. We've reached and trusted people that others wouldn't."

Outreach and Promoting Greater Buy-In

According to Pastor Hook, Bible studies have always been the church's biggest method of outreach. "One on one, I've tried to build friendships," he said. "I'm very personable. My door has always been open to my office. I keep regular office hours and make myself accessible. I let people know that I'm not perfect. I'm a human being and allow people to see that 'what you see is what you get.' That's the way I've always built relationships."

To encourage involvement, he promotes it every way he can. "If you don't involve people somehow, they don't stick," he said. "Once a year, I'll allow people to be a part of Christmas music choir. They can't wear jewelry or anything like that. We allow people to help with the food pantry and in the nursery. I don't let people on the platform unless they conform to Apostolic guidelines. I do allow people to greet that do not look Apostolic. I just want everyone to feel a part. If people are willing to become involved, we need to find a place for them to become involved. If people are involved, the buy-in is much greater."

As of May 1, 1989, attendance at the church was about 25. "In the last three years, we've doubled," said Pastor Hook. "Now we have over 300 that attend our church. We average 10 baptisms a month, 120 a year. This year we're probably on that same track."

Concluding Comments

"I just had the privilege of traveling in every section in our district," he said. "The main thing God was speaking to me about was that everybody, every minister is important, whether they pastor a small or large group. None of us deserve by our own goodness to be pastors or evangelists. It's only by the grace of God that we are where we are. Speaking from my heart, everybody is of equal importance in the eyes of God. It's not just about the guy that can preach the best or the guy that's got the biggest number. I'm not in competition with anybody else. What I've done and what I do is just as important as those who hold any office or serve on any board. I know what it is to be small and larger. Everyone needs to show that same kind of love and compassion. In God's eyes, everybody is important in the body of Christ.

"I'm a boy from Kentucky asked by my peers to lead this district in revival; I feel so unworthy and unqualified, but God is not looking on the outside. God is raising up men and women. When I'm gone, I'm praying that God gives every younger minister a double portion of faith to impact this generation. I want that double portion of anointing from God that my father had. The darker the night, the brighter the light. Everyone has that potential to become a mighty man or woman of God. None of us deserve to even be here. We're all fellow strugglers together."



Children participate in Sunday school activities.



A baptismal service at True Life Church



The church's 4th of July float won first place in the city parade.



Saints enjoy the service inside the church sanctuary.



An exterior view of True Life Church in Waukesha, Wisconsin

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7 Warning Signs a Leader Is Heading For Burnout

There are some common indicators that a leader is heading toward burnout, according to Ron Edmondson, a church planter and pastor. The sooner we can recognize them, the sooner we know to reach out for help.

1. Isolation. When the leader begins to avoid others, something is wrong. Leadership involves people. Not all leaders are overly communicative, but when the leader tries to avoid people who need the leader's attention, something is wrong. Some leaders begin to question people around them. They struggle with mistrust or fear that others are talking about them, questioning them or out to get them.

2. Excuses. When the leader always has an answer why he or she was late, blames others for everything or can't see his or her own shortcomings, they are struggling with something. It may be burnout.

3. Hidden sins. Many people hide in their sins, but burnout causes secret, deep sins. These are often new vices hidden from people who normally know you. The person who never drank before is now drinking often. Someone who never struggled with pornography before suddenly can't avoid it ... and justifies it as a "release."

4. Apathy. When you don't care anymore. And you don't really care that you don't are anymore.

5. Indecisiveness. This is about paralysis and a refusal to make decisions. The person in this condition feels like every decision is a major one. And there seem to be so many, they make none.

6. Short-tempered. Normally easy-going people often become shorter fused when under extreme pressure.

7. Desperation. When every day seems to be a panic day, beware. The leader is in a danger zone. There will be seasons of this in all of our lives, but we can't live there long. If the leader always feels this way, something is wrong.





Lance

By Stephen Judd, TCM Presiden



Stephen Judd

This May, three of our TCM residents will celebrate a major milestone in their lives...they will become high school graduates. Among them is 18-year-old Lance, who has a lot of reasons to celebrate.

Lance is an outgoing young man with a very

optimistic outlook on life. Surprisingly, he is a true orphan who has overcome many obstacles including losing both of his parents in the matter of a year. When Lance arrived at the Mansion, he was angry with God and frustrated with life.

With God's help and loving caregivers, Lance is doing fantastic. Although he did not have a church background, since coming to the Mansion he has been baptized and received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. He is growing in his newfound faith and trusts that God truly wants to use him and has a plan for his future. Lance loves church and most enjoys being on the youth sign team.

The TCM Education and Assistance Committee has approved Lance for financial assistance over the next two years, as he transitions into adulthood. He will be entering our STEP program toward independent living and is finalizing his plans for college and further education.

We are so pleased with all that God is doing in Lance's life. Please help us to continue to pray for his future. If you would like to make a difference in his life, you can become a Mansion Kid Sponsor.

Our sponsors are the lifeblood of Tupelo Children's Mansion. Without our sponsors, we would not be able to care for the children that God has entrusted to us. Sponsorship dollars help provide for the children's clothing, food, shelter, special educational needs, medical needs, parental support (through our loving residential mentors) and personal care.

To become a sponsor of Lance, or

any other child at the Mansion, please go to www. mansionkids.org and click on "Mansion Kid Sponsor." You can also call or email Annette Tomlinson, Sponsor Relations Coordinator, at annettetomlinson@ mansionkids.org / 662.791.7726.



Lance, a resident of TCM

We invite you to connect with Tupelo Children's Mansion on Facebook and Twitter: @mansionkids @stephenjudd @ermajudd. At www.mansionkids.org, you can subscribe to our blog: The Tupelo Insider and our monthly e-newsletter, The

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Five-Year	3.5%	3.81%	

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Christine Carney, author Grove City, Ohio

Sis. Carney, tell us a little about yourself and your ministry.

I am blessed to be married to an amazing guy who isn't shocked by an occasional "Bwwaaahaaahaa!" echoing up the stairs from my lab. In addition to being a mad scientist, I am a born-again Christian and

licensed nurse, specializing in women's health, wellness and developmental stages. Being born again and having lived the transition from "the world" into a Christcentered lifestyle has given me a unique skill set that enables me to appreciate the stages of a woman's commitment to uncut hair. My goal is to empower women to step off the defensive line of uncut hair and live in its liberty!

Many of our Apostolic women are struggling with the "hair question." How would you respond to the question of "why uncut hair" in addition to the obvious Biblical response?

To women who understand the Biblical principle of uncut hair, I respond, "Why cut? What are the reasons women in the world cut their hair? And, if uncut hair is not important, why is it more offensive, convicting and attacked than wearing skirts and not using make-up?

To those who see the Biblical principle but don't understand it, I encourage them with, "Sincerely ask the Lord for the revelation of uncut hair and how much it means to Him. It's a step into a deeper experience in our Christian walk. To those who don't get it and don't want to, I say, "As a Christian woman, I choose not to cut my hair. I have found sufficient Biblical support for this choice and feel it's a vital part of my walk in Christ."

What does uncut, long hair mean to YOU and your walk with God?

My personal revelation imparted a new understanding of 1 Corinthians 11:15. My hair is given to me, and it is a glory given to me to use as a covering. My long, uncut hair is given to me as a representation of the headship of Christ in my life and a protective veil of His glory. This revelation of uncut hair came with a deep sense of responsibility. According to 1 Corinthians 11:10, "For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels." The covering of hair is a witness to the angels of our submission to the Lord. They are created for submission. I am regenerated with the gift of the Holy

Ghost and can choose whether or not to be submitted to God. I know the angels watch me as I care for God's precious gift by covering it with His choice of glory.

Why is it so important to care for your hair properly?

A woman's hair is the only body part separated by God for a particular purpose. It is an example of Christ's glory to us and

the world. Caring for our hair should be an important part of our daily regimen. Would the Levites allow the cherubim who covered the mercy seat get dusty and dirty? No. Would Solomon allow the Temple of God to become disheveled and in ill repair? No. So should our hair be well cared for and tended to, as it is our most obvious exhibit of the Holy Ghost? Yes! Many women are making mistakes with hair care. For instance, using shampoo and conditioners with harsh detergents, silicones, waxy additives and brushing wet hair. Use a wide-toothed comb! Also, over-using heated styling tools and using chemicals to change the natural

structure of hair, such as perming, coloring and straightening (I know those are touchy subjects, and it's personal choice - but, damage is damage).

Share some tips on how to "enjoy the gift of uncut hair" that God has given you.

Laugh at uncooperative hair! We all know that sometimes a bun and big flower is as good as it's going to get. Embrace the comedic tragedies of big 'dos getting caught in car doors, seat belts and low flying objects. Every Sunday, plan on shouting your hair down - old school style!

Here's one of my personal stories: Last Christmas, for our church banquet, I was inspired by the grandeur of the season

> and decided to create a hairstyle worthy of the occasion. I built a tower of curls over a roll of toilet paper. In it, I strategically placed ornaments, holly and a few partridges. It was huge! As I walked through the restaurant, I was stopped several times and asked, "Is that all your hair?" Sure is! A couple of kids stared wide-eyed and pointed. Fun times! The look on my pastor's face when I walked into the banquet



How to order book, cost, etc. Today is the First Day of the Rest of Your Hair is available for \$10, along with all Uncut Hair Care Products, at www. uncuthaircare.com.

I am a teacher and speaker on modern women's issues, specializing in marriage to unsaved husbands and spiritual application to developmental stages of a woman's life. I am on the UPCI Ladies Ministry list of approved speakers. For more information and inquiries of availability, please e-mail me at cmcarney1205@live.com.



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.

aposto i Calendar 2014

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DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	SPEAKERS	CONTACT / INFO
MAY 14-16	Harvest Northwest Conference 2014 Specific direction, anointed ministry, practical solutions and new inspiration to rise to the challenge of planting, growing and developing churches in the great Northwest.	Ramada Plaza Abbots- ford Hotel and Conven- tion Center, 36035 N. Parallel Rd, Abbotsford, BC V3G 2C6	Carlton Coon Sr., Gerald Staten, Sam & Kristen Zeno- bia, Jesse Fortaleza	(314) 837-7304 or (778) 229-6657 mfavorite@upci.org facebook.com/harvest. northwest
JUNE 11-13	Power Conference 2014 Corinth, MS	The Historic Coliseum Civic Center, 404 Taylor St., Corinth, MS 38834 Host Pastor: Josh Hodum	Tom Foster and Jerry Jones	(662) 872-9999
JULY 11-12	The Well (Ladies Conference) - Tyler, TX Today's woman is bombarded everyday with messages that bring question and concern to their well-being. The Well is a place where lives can be refreshed, hope can be restored and power can be replenished.	First Church of Tyler Tyler, Texas Host Pastor: Larry Gandy	Gordon Poe, James Hughes and Dedie Cooley	For more info: visit www.gordonpoe.com/ TOR/conference. (717) 755-7202
JULY 18	The Well (Ladies Conference) - San Benito, TX Today's woman is bombarded everyday with messages that bring question and concern to their well-being. The Well is a place where lives can be refreshed, hope can be restored and power can be replenished.	Pentecostal Church of San Benito San Benito, Texas Host Pastor: J.C. Milligan	Gordon Poe, Judy Gandy and Shara McKee	For more info: visit www.gordonpoe.com/ TOR/conference. (717) 755-7202
JULY 23-25	Mile High Conference 2014 Revival of Prayer, Praise and Evangelism	Calvary Apostolic Church 5900 E. Yale Ave. Denver, CO 80222 Host: Don Haymon II	Martyn Ballestero, Lonnie Treadway, Doug White and Steve Pixler. Guest music ministry by Timothy Spell.	(303) 758-5900 www.cacdenver.org DEH2@comcast.net
JULY 29-31	IMPACT Family Conference 2014 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	Lee Stoneking, Wayne Huntley and Jack Cunningham	For detailed schedule, visit www.woodlawn- church.cc (601) 736-5128
JULY 30- AUG. 1	4th Annual Azusa StreetRiders National Rally Motorcycle rides and outreach services open to the public. Tail of the Dragon, fun, fellowship	First Apostolic Church, 1723 William Blount Dr., Maryville, TN Host: Kenneth Carpenter	Cortt Chavis	www.AzusaStreetRiders. com/event, Fred.Beall@ AzusaStreetRiders.com 843-450-6200
AUG 2-5	Arkansas Campmeeting - North Little Rock, AR A conference where Apostolic doctrine is not only preached but embraced. The message of Acts 2:38 remains the same!	First Pentecostal Church of North Little Rock, 1401 Calvary Dr., North Little Rock, AR Host Pastor: Joel Holmes	To be announced	For more info visit www.arkansascampmeeting.com
AUG 13-15	The Apostolic Conference - Madison, MS A conference designed for the North American Missionary and Church Planter.	Parkway Pentecostal Church, 1620 Manns- dale Rd., Madison, MS 39110	J.W. Dillon, Brian Kinsey, David Shatwell, Chester Wright, Omar Jolly, Lee Stoneking, and Mark Morgan	For more info: visit www.parkwaychurch.net or call 601-853-2607
AUG 18	Indiana Bible College Fall Semester Begins Register for Fall classes today!	Indiana Bible College 1502 Sumner Ave. Indianapolis, IN President Paul Mooney	Paul Mooney, Rob Roden- bush, Lindel Anderson, Dave Brown, Bobby Kill- mon, Jim Sleeva, others.	ibc@apostolic.edu www.go2ibc.com or calf (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069
AUG 21-22	Investing in Futures A conference for those who invest in children. Educating, encouraging and equipping children's ministry workers.	The Apostolic Sanctuary, 1501 John Deere Park- way, Silvis, IL 61239 Host Pastor: Gary Randol	Marrell Cornwell, Steve Cannon, Brent Coltharp, Jerry Jones and Wayne Huntley	For more info: visit invest-in-futures.com
SEPT. 4-5	Mid-America Renewal Conference (MARC) Indianapolis, Indiana - A Power Packed Preach- ing Conference in the Heart of the Midwest.	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN Host: Paul D. Mooney	To be announced	ibc@apostolic.edu www.go2ibc.com or calf (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069
SEPT. 30- OCT. 3	90th Annual UPCI General Conference Official conference of the UPCI. Don't miss it!	St. Louis, MO	To be announced	For more information visit the UPCI website at: www.upci.org
Nov 5-7	West Coast Conference - Fresno, CA 31st Annual Fresno Meeting	Fresno Convention Center, 848 M Street, Fresno, CA	James Townley, Jimmy John- son, Rocky Dunlap, Wesley Jackson, Tommy Jackson, Ron Garrett and Jesse Galindo	For more information call: (559) 225-1622 www.truthtabfresno.org
JAN 30 2015	Indiana Bible College LIVE RECORDING Under the direction of Lindel M. Anderson, Dean of Music	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN Host: Paul D. Mooney	Paul Mooney, Rob Roden- bush, Lindel Anderson, IBC Choir, IBC Chorale, IBC Praise, others	ibc@apostolic.edu www.go2ibc.com or calf (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069
FEВ 26-28	Indiana Bible College CONNECT 2015 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 Roden- bush, Jason Gallion, Bobby Killmon, Lindel Anderson, others.	ibc@apostolic.edu www.go2ibc.com or calf (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069
FEB 19-21	WinterFire 2015 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	Sam Emory, Jelaine Lumpkin, Elias Limones, Mark Morgan, Theodore Brooks and Jerry Jones	For more info: visit www.winterfire.org or vis- it Twitter: winterfireconf or Facebook: winterfire

Church Growth: The Hazards of Eliminating Sunday School



Church Today

rlrodenbush@earthlink.net

Unnecessary Confusion

Many in India took to the streets to celebrate their Supreme Court's decision to create an official third sex for those who live as transgendered individuals. In its ruling, the Supreme Court of India said the Indian constitution provides equal opportunity "irrespective of caste, religion

or gender." Justice K.S. Radhakrishnan said the "recognition of transgender (people) as a third gender is not a social or medical issue but a human rights issue. It ordered the government to launch public awareness campaigns to end the stigma transgenders suffer" (http://www.telegraph.co.uk).

We are elated and thankful to the court," said Kalki Subramaniam, a leading transgender rights activist. "The decision has come after a century of suppression and marginalisation by the legal and social systems. This verdict is certainly landmark and a new beginning. The biggest challenge is the social recognition. We have to educate and make people aware that we exist and there's nothing abnormal about us. This will give a boost to the transgenders who want to study or work but were denied a chance. They can now be part of the mainstream" (http://www.telegraph.co.uk).

The mainstreaming of the transgender lifestyle has been a goal of the GLBT community for many years and this decision will certainly be used as a benchmark as they encourage other countries to follow suit to continue advancing the political agenda and causes surrounding this issue. America is witnessing the effects of activist judges and legislation that accommodates transgendered males using women's restrooms, transgendered adoptions, transgendered fertility treatments, mandated coverage for sex-change operations

Another area of concern is transgendered and gender-neutral parenting. There are a growing number of parents who are raising their children to be neither boys nor girls. They are raised "gender neutral" and will be allowed to choose their gender as they grow older. However, if they choose to live as the opposite gender, grade schools and high schools in America are being re-trained in how to deal with these situations that affect restrooms, locker-room facilities and sports.

The enemy works best through confusion and disorientation. He has entrapped these souls in a physical and spiritual war in which their deceived minds betray their own bodies. The battle will not be won or lost in the courtroom; it will be lost in the hearts of our young people who will be on the frontlines facing these issues for years to come. Apostolic young people are increasingly, and unnecessarily, confused by this issue, unable to define sexual sin and unwilling to stand for biblical morality. Not wanting to be un-Christian, they are often pressured into accepting these lifestyles. We must ensure that we are sending a certain sound. Giving them solid answers to hard questions. Helping them understand God can love the sinner without making exception for the sin itself. We may be unable to stop the onslaught of this attack of the enemy, but we can control how we respond and how we train our young people to deal with these issues. The confusion is unnecessary.



Theology

bobby.killmon@sbcglobal.net

"What do you make of the 'Blood Moons' and their timing regarding prophetic implications today?

It is true that there will be some interesting phenomenons in the heavens in the near future. This has caused some to name this the year of

Bobby Killmon the "Blood Moons." As the four lunar eclipses were set to occur in the heavenlies beginning April 15, it has caused many people to turn their attention to the coming of the

The interesting thing is these blood moons occur on the Feast of Passover and within the Feast of Tabernacles. Alongside the historic implications of Ukraine's current conflict and the resurgence of "old Russia" under President Vladimir Putin, we can only wait with bated breath as these events unfold. There is a passage in the Old Testament that holds the interpretative key to unlocking the timing of prophetic events in this cycle of Blood Moons. With "sabers rattling in the east" and growing tensions in Palestine we can understand the possibility of marching toward "wars and rumors of wars" in an escalating fashion until we find ourselves on the cusp of prophetic fulfillment such as has not occurred in over a millennia.

Okay, forgive the impertinence, but the above is the type of thing I expect we will hear for the next entire year on both religious and secular talk shows, prophetic ministries like John Hagee, in books and sermons claiming to have "THE" insight you need to understand the prophetic calendar, and even unfortunately some pulpits. While looking at the "end of days" in Scripture is important, the exploitation of people for money through 'prophecy" books is egregious. Let me help you. Take the \$15-30 you would spend on these books and put it in the offering plate. That would be a wiser investment and benefit the Kingdom instead of helping make these people become millionaires (again) even though they have been getting the timing of Christ's coming wrong for years.

Then why teach the "end of days" or eschatology at all? Paul did this in 2 Thess. 2:1-2 so the Church wouldn't be exploited (for money or power) by false teachers regarding the end of time. This is a very current issue, and our ministries should protect people in the same way. The Bible also shows God gives us this information to help us grow in maturity now, not fret about the future! (1 Thess. 5:11, 15-17; 1 Cor. 15:58) The big "take away" is not trying to figure out "the day" things will happen (Matt. 24:36) but to be ready! Matthew 24 is followed by Matthew 25 which tells us about the 10 virgins and the parable of the talents. The whole point of these passages is "be ready!"

As someone has said, "The focus of some 'ministries' seems to be to know more and exalt what Antichrist is doing rather than what Christ is doing." So, rather than wasting time on speculating on timing through reading books or listening to prophecy teachers that exploit us monetarily and emotionally, we should obey Christ and simply seek to be witnesses in the present (Acts 1:7-8).



Church Growth

tmassengale@apostolic.edu

We are thinking of eliminating our Sunday school. Your thoughts?

In my opinion, this would be a terrible mistake. Here's why. First, it provides a tool

T. W. Massengale to reach children in your community whose parents do

not attend church. By utilizing a bus, van or car ministry, you can pick up children weekly and teach them Apostolic truth. Drop S.S. and you lose this unique opportunity.

Second, it gives you a reason to knock on the door every Saturday of the children you pick up

on Sunday morning. By utilizing a concept called "Parent Reach," churches win entire families to God every year. The main purpose of your Saturday visit is to talk to little Tommy's parents. Get to know them. Find out their hobbies and interests. Develop a relationship. Once you win their friendship, you can begin to reach for their soul." Parent Reach works!

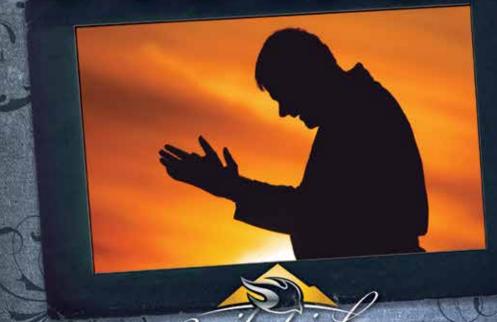
Thirdly, it provides a way to see those bus/ van kids receive the Holy Ghost. Every church should have an evangelistic children's church at least once a month. The purpose of this service is to give an altar call at the end and pray with children to receive the Spirit. Many churches have a monthly "Holy Ghost Sunday" in which all the children's classes have a rally and they see children saved every month.

Fourth, it provides opportunities for special Sunday programs that bring out large numbers of visitors: Easter dramas, Pentecost Sunday services, Sunday school picnics, Vacation Bible School, Friend Sunday, block parties, Fall Thrust, Christmas pageants, and more. Lose the Sunday school, and you lose a key method of high-attendance Sundays.

Finally, every Sunday school should have an annual Children's Crusade with a good children's evangelist. The entire church is blessed by these talented individuals and many children are saved who only attend church on Sunday mornings.

The largest Protestant denomination in the world points to their Sunday school program as the key reason for their past and continued growth. Why would we Apostolics want to abandon such a productive method of evangelism?

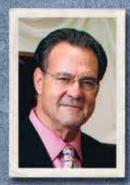
Answered PRAYER



mile high conference REVIVAL JULY 23-25



Martyn Ballestero SDUTH BEND, IN



Lonnie C. Treadway LAKE CHARLES, LA



Doug White SILSBEE, TX



Steve Pixler

FEATURING THE MUSIC MINISTRY OF:

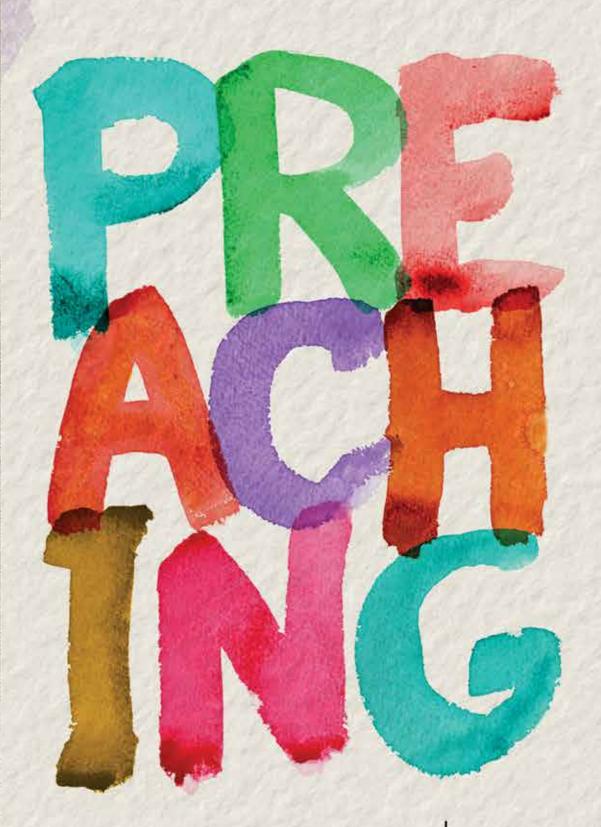


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Carol Clemans

Spiritual Growth

Counseling for Emotional Healing

My ministry of teaching, counseling and writing is from the Word of God. We can be saved but be deeply wounded from things in the past such as any type

of abuse, broken relationships, grief, etc., to current issues in life that are painful experiences. Isaiah 61 is the prophecy about Jesus coming as Savior, but it also says to heal the brokenhearted and set the captives free. Salvation erases our sin but not our memories or emotions. God wants you to be set free from your "stinkin' thinkin'.

God-based counseling is looking at the facts of life and processing them through the Word of God. The devil has a devious way of taking the pain of life and creating distorted thinking. Satan's lies are -- you are unlovable, unworthy, hopeless, helpless, life is never going to change. He wants you to believe these lies as your truth. God's truth says you do not have to allow past painful experiences to define who you are now in Christ Jesus. God's truth is the healer of pornography addictions.

Romans 12:2 tells us we can be "transformed by renewing our minds!" My confidential counseling is based on helping the emotionally wounded to renew their minds with God's truth. I share how to not allow painful people and experiences to take up permanent residence in the mind and heart. As a man thinks in his heart so is he. I allow people to share their emotions and then ask the question, "What is God's truth about this?

I counsel pastors as well as lay people. If you are dealing with a problem with self or your marriage, call me (636) 448-0121, and I will explain the process. I also teach the above for churches/conferences. If you are a ministry leader and would like a DVD of my teaching, please call me. Fifty years of teaching God's Word and 22 years as a counselor is the foundation for my ministry using God's wisdom.

Go to: www.carolclemans.org for 55+ articles, teaching CD's & DVD's, book: GOD'S DESIGN FOR MARRIAGE. I love teaching the anointed Word of God for spiritual, relational and emotional Go to: www growth for churches & conferences including Marriage Seminars. (Our pastor is Jerry Dillon, Madison, MS).



Revival Concepts

Gifts For Growth

"And God hath set some in the church, first apostles . . . HELPS . . . "1 Corinthians 12:28.

An old class watch Brian Norman is a beautiful thing. Those timepieces are masterfully

made. Keeping time perfectly to the hour, the minute and, yes, the second. To fully appreciate them, or even come close to doing so, one must see them without their face. This way the inner workings are revealed. And the wonder of how all the various parts of the watch work together to make it function can be appreciated.

The effective local church assembly is much the same. Certainly there is the visible, and viable face of leadership of the church. Yet without all the inner workings the local church assembly simply cannot function properly. We are Pentecost. We believe in the sovereign move of God and in His will to save one and all. No one believes this more than I, but this does not negate the fact there must be an order to things. Did not Jesus set them in companies of 50 before the miracle of multiplication? Yes, He did. And this required the utilization of others, both in establishing the order and in ministering to it. The church and every assembly is much the same way.

One man simply cannot establish order and minister to it effectively all by himself. Many a church has been capped in the size of its congregation for the simple reason it was attempted. This is why the ministry of helps and/or administration is so vital and important to every congregation and leader. Without them there may be a vision but no effective implementation, or an influx of new people but no retention and growth. Few things are more frustrating than seeing many new people come to God only to realize later the church is still averaging the same on Sunday.

To be truly Apostolic we must utilize the ministry of helps and administration, along with others. This is the pattern of the original Church in Acts. This is the example of the Apostles. By focusing on our strengths we become stronger. Allowing others to focus on their strengths makes them and the church stronger.

Brian Norman travels full-time preaching Jesus Christ. Phone: 636-544-0627 Website: GlobalEvangelism.org or HarvestConference.org



I just received a letter from the IRS stating they were examining my tax return for the prior year. What

Finance sbcglobal.net

do I do?

Unfortunately, this is Aubrey Jayroe a part of the American way

of life that we don't like or look forward to. However, it is something that all of us have to be prepared to go through.

As a minister, you will be examined first on your income. How did you receive funds from the church? Are you self-employed or an employee for tax purposes? This is critical as pastors have been designated as employees for tax purposes. If you received a W-2 from the church, then your audit will be much smoother. You should have the documentation to prove the income on the W-2 and your housing allowance.

Regarding expenses claimed on the tax return, you must provide documentation that will verify the deduction. If you claimed charitable donations, then you will need your statement from the church showing how much you gave. You will also want this statement to be in compliance with the current regulations concerning the \$250 per day

If you claimed other expenses such as Schedule C or for Form 2106, you must verify the expenditures with receipts and/or other forms of documentation. Unless specified by the auditor, you will need to verify everything that has been reported on your tax return.

In addition, one of the best things you can do as soon as you get the letter from the IRS is to contact your tax preparer. He or she can assist you in gathering the necessary information needed. In fact, if your tax preparer is a CPS, attorney or Enroll/Registered Agent, the preparer can handle the audit for you without you having to be at the examination. This certainly would be to your advantage. Don't panic. Just contact your tax preparer and let him or her handle the matter for you.

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



Eric K. Hall

Investments

Financial Planning Conference

It is our strong desire that every person experience the spiritual, emotional and relational freedom that results from practicing Biblicallybased financial stewardship.

You might be asking yourself, what could I gain from learning in-depth faith-based financial principles or why should the church invest time into a financial-based conference or seminar?

The financial and emotional results of poor money management are wellknown - debt, anxiety, guilt, shame, broken relationships. Often overlooked are the spiritual ramifications such as decreased giving due to debt, the breakdown of the family, and the lost harvest. With more than 2,000

scriptures devoted to the subject of money and possessions, the Bible is clear that our relationship to money and material possessions is extremely important. As Jesus taught, an improper relationship to money can:

- Keep us from serving God (Matthew 6:24)
- Steal our hearts from God (Matthew 6:21)
- Choke out the Word of God in our lives and make it unfruitful (Matthew 13:22)
- Keep us from the blessings God wants to bestow upon us (Matthew 25:11-30)

One way the Church as a whole can combat this is by providing not only hope but practical help and Biblical teaching that meets people at their points of need. We have developed a Financial Planning Seminar that reaches deep into the financial needs of the Apostolic community. This one-day, threesession seminar is designed to increase giving, decrease debt, grow wealth, and leave a legacy to the local church. We cover Giving, Debt

Management, Investment and Retirement Planning, Trust and Estate Planning, Insurance Planning and much more. Whether you're an individual, pastor or church, we are committed to providing you the tools necessary to apply Biblical financial principles to every area of your life or organization. We provide the materials, the time and the expertise. In order to accomplish this we use several financial tools: Education, Consulting, Planning, and Management. We want to make an investment into the financial future of your church and provide you with expert, one-on-one financial advice from an Apostolic perspective. Call me today to discuss hosting a Financial Planning Conference at your church. We also specialize in personal, one-on-one financial advice. Initial consultation is always free.

Eric K. Hall is an Independent Financial Advisor with Fisher Investments and the Senior Pastor of Greater Life Church in Greentown, IN. Contact him at (765) 860-9335, e.hali Member FINRA/SPIC

THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS

Church Gives Disability Pay to Pedophile Priest

After the Rev. Gil Gustafson, 62, was convicted of child sex abuse 30 years ago, the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis made sure he was financially secure for decades to come. Although the priest was



Brian Herrity, victim

convicted of abusing Brian Herrity from 1977 through 1982, the Catholic church continued his priestly salary and health insurance, covered his

living expenses and psychological treatment and paid for his education and training, according to church records and a former archdiocese accountant. It has given him jobs in the chancery and helped him establish his own consulting business.

In July 2006, Gustafson was declared "disabled" based on his pedophilia. This allowed him to collect disability checks on top of his earnings as a leadership consultant. The archdiocese's long-standing support of Gustafson has angered abuse victims and their families. "Since when is a crime a disability?" asked Jeff Herrity, the father of the boy whom Gustafson was convicted of abusing. "If that's the case, everyone in prison should be disabled." The archdiocese said it is required by church law and "Christian compassion" to care for priests removed from ministry.

LEGAL TRENDS

German Home-School Family Likely Faces Deportation

Uwe and Hannelore Romeike came to the U.S. in 2008 seeking political asylum. They fled their German homeland in the face of religious persecution for home schooling their children. Had the family stayed in Germany they would have faced the prospect of losing their kids.

The Romeikes were initially given asylum, but the Obama administration objected, claiming German laws that outlaw home schooling do not constitute persecution. "The goal in Germany is for an open, pluralistic society," the Justice Department wrote. "Teaching tolerance to children of all backgrounds helps to develop the ability to interact as a fully functioning citizen in Germany."

Recently, the Supreme Court declined to hear the Romeike's appeal, paving the way for the Christian family of eight to be deported.



Four Blood Moons -- A Divine Sign For Israel?

As it was in Genesis, God will try to communicate with us supernaturally through entities like the moon. The book of Genesis says God uses the sun, moon and stars for signs and seasons. Examples can be found throughout the Bible. Think of how a star led the wise men to Jesus or how the sun stood still as Joshua led Israel to victory over its enemies.

In his latest book, *Four Blood Moons: Something Is About to Change*, Pastor John Hagee lays out what he calls celestial signals. He describes how a series of blood moons in 2014 and 2015 will have great significance for Israel.

"I believe that in these next two years, we're going to see something dramatic happen in the Middle East involving Israel that will change the course of history in the Middle East and impact the whole world," he said.

Blood moons are set to appear in April 2014 on Passover, and then again in September 2014 during the Feast of Tabernacles, or Sukkot.

The timing is the same for 2015—a total of four blood moons, all appearing on Jewish feast days. Although single blood moons happen fairly regularly, four appearing so closely together is extremely rare. There have only been a series of blood moons a handful of times over the past 500 years.

So what exactly is a blood moon and what is the biblical significance? Experts say a blood moon is when the Earth comes between the sun and the moon. And the sun is shining through the atmosphere of the Earth and casts up on the moon a red shadow. And so the moon appears to be red.

Such moons appear several times in scripture. In the book of Joel, God says there will be "wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire ... the sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord."

In Acts, the Apostle Peter repeats that verse from Joel. And the book of Revelation says that during the Great Tribulation, "the moon will become like blood."

The blood moons of 2014 and 2015 are poised to appear as Iran works toward nuclear weapons and Israel's neighbors, Egypt and Syria, are in chaos.

"The only reason Iran will not acquire a nuclear bomb will be that Israel chooses a military solution to that crisis," Hagee told CBN News. "I believe that if that happens, it will start a series of events that will change the course of world history."

NEWS IN BRIEF

■ The Disney Channel recently decided to air its first TV show episode with a same-sex couple, a decision which has drawn complaints from many parents concerned that it introduced controversial topics children are far too young to comprehend.

■ A book of Psalms, dating back from 1640, sold for \$14.2

million recently and is believed to have set a new auction record for printed books. Businessman David Rubeinstein bought the book with intention of loaning the book to American libraries. The Bay Psalm Book was one of 11 existing copies remaining and was sold by Boston's Old South Church.

SOCIAL TRENDS

Giant Cross Survives Massive California Fire

A wildfire that ravaged Southern California recently, forcing thousands to flee and destroying multiple structures, left behind a powerful symbol of hope. A giant cross that has stood for years in the Azusa mountains remained

unscathed and in place.

The Colby fire began last month



after an out-of-control campfire quickly spread, burning more than 1,800 acres of land. The span stretched from the San Gabriel Mountains to the cities of Azusa and Glendale, about 25 miles from Los Angeles. Early news reports of the massive blaze seemed to indicate that the cross, which was placed on the mountain in 2007, was destroyed. But once the flames subsided, the cross could still be seen atop the mountain, according to CBN News.

Photographer Ryland Talamo captured the cross just as the smoke began to clear, later calling the image "a symbol of God's faithfulness, watching over His people in times of need." Talamo said that students at Azusa Pacific University, a nearby Christian college, have a deep appreciation for the cross and its presence on the mountain.

"It is common for groups of us to hike the Garcia Trail to the top of the mountain and sit at the foot of the cross. It reminds us that though we are a part of a specific university we are also a part of a larger community," Talamo said.

RELIGIOUS TRENDS

Most Pastors Say Religious Liberty On Decline

Most Americans say religious liberty is important, but they don't always agree on how much liberty is enough or too much. Religious liberty is the issue at the heart of the Supreme Court hearings between Hobby Lobby and the Obama administration over the HHS contraceptive mandate. It's a dispute that is unlikely to go away, no matter what the Supreme Court decides.

American preachers, it turns out, are more than a bit uneasy about religious liberty these days, according to a survey by LifeWay Research. The survey, conducted in September 2013, found that seven out of 10 senior pastors at Protestant churches said religious liberty is on the decline in America. About seven in 10 also said Christians have lost or are losing the culture war. Self-identified evangelical pastors (81%) are more likely to agree than mainline pastors (47%).

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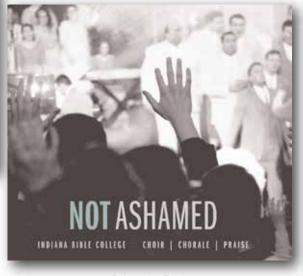
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"Where there is no vision, the people perish." Proverbs 29:18

Defining the Vision

We are definitely living in the last days. It is very important to strengthen the stakes, the fundamental doctrine of truth. What I have to share with you today will not be new, but I hope to stir up your remembrance in some areas.

today will not be new, but I hope to stir up your remembrance in some areas. We all quote this verse in Proverbs 29:18, "Where there is no vision, the people perish..." Most of us stop right there, but I want to read the rest of that verse, "but he that keepeth the law, happy is he." We often emphasize the word *vision*, and we usually have a singular understanding of it. In our 21st century mentality, our minds immediately tend to think about outreach, reaching the world, white fields, etc.

We generally think of our own idea of the word *vision*. I have a vision to reach my city, the lost and the world with the gospel. There is absolutely nothing wrong with that perception of vision. We process this verse as: where there is no vision, no insight, no foresight, then we will not have growth and revival, and people will perish.

Solomon's Insight

I'm not sure that was exactly what Solomon was saying when he penned that verse, as we note the last part of it: "....he that keepeth the law, happy is he." What exactly was Solomon saying when he penned this proverb? He was a very wise man who studied people and God's relationship to them. Solomon made a lot of mistakes, and we must attest to that. Often, he failed to follow his own counsel.

But what exactly was he saying in this proverb? Allow me to quote that verse in a couple of different translations. I hope a picture will emerge as to what Solomon really was trying to say. The American Standard version translates it this way: "Where there is no vision, the people cast off restraint, but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

The New American Standard says, "Where there is no vision, the people are unrestrained, but happy is he who keeps the law." The Living Bible says, "Where there is ignorance of God, crime runs wild, but what a wonderful thing it is for a nation to know and keep his law." The New Living translation is what really seemed to put it into perspective for me: "When people do not accept Divine guidance, they run wild, but whoever obeys the law is happy." Solomon was simply saying that when people do not listen and obey the Word of God, they run wild and are unrestrained. One translation says, "they are naked and ashamed."

God's Vision

What I see from this verse is that the vision is not my vision, but it is God's vision. It's not particularly what I desire to see, but it is what God desires for people to hear and see. It is His vision that He sends to His people through His messengers. The vision is the Word of God that comes to people. When we realize the vision is the Word of God, then we can understand the latter part of the verse. When people hear and obey the Word of God, they are happy. Someone said it this way: "Divine guidance is critical. Without it, people run wild, but he who hears and obeys the law of God will be happy and will be blessed."





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Transcribed by Linda Schreckenberg

Sharing the Divine Vision

The application is very simple for you and I here today. Solomon was saying that we must embrace, obtain and propagate the truth of the Word of God. If we refuse to give Divine guidance, people will run wild, fall away and not be saved.

We are the agents God has chosen to show His vision to the world. As ministers, we are the oracles of God to this world. It is our responsibility to preach His vision. We must preach the infallibility of the Word of God, because He has placed His vision inside of us. It is our responsibility to preach the vision about who He is, because without that vision, people perish. Solomon was saying if God can have a messenger to share the Word, then people's lives can be changed. We need to preach the oneness of God. We need to preach the new birth and separation from sin. It's God's vision for His people to be set apart from the world. He deposits that vision into the hearts of people and ministers like you and me, and we are to share that vision with the world. If we don't do it, people perish.

God's Vision Must Become Our Vision

We must preach about morality, integrity and honesty. Those things aren't popular with the world around us, but that is God's vision. He is trying to get the world to embrace those things, so He deposits that vision inside our hearts. Just as the Old Testament prophets, we must become and remain the oracle of God to this generation. Isaiah 1:1 says, "The vision of Isaiah, the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah." It was God's vision, but then it became Isaiah's vision. We must tap into God's vision and allow it to become our vision. Nahum 1:1: "The burden of Nineveh, the book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite." What was that vision all about? It was the message God wanted Nahum to tell His people. It's our responsibility to share the vision.

Make the Vision Plain

The commandment given to Habakkuk is very applicable to us. Habakkuk 2:2, "And the Lord answered me and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it." God intends for us to make His vision plain, to preach the truth without fear or favor. If we don't, the world will assume that we don't really believe it is or it's not important. I don't want people walking out of my church not knowing what I believe. I want to make it plain. However, making it plain draws lines and divides. The word *decision* means "to cut." When we make a decision to make it plain, we are cutting off other options. It must be done with love and wisdom, but we must make it plain.

When David committed sin with Bathsheba, Nathan the Prophet confronted him with these words, "Thou art the man." One would have thought David would have hated Nathan for this, but he did not. David later named a son after the prophet Nathan.

He was saying, "There was a man who made it plain and told me the truth. There was a man who got the vision from God, and he shared it with me!"

Our towns and cities deserve that kind of preacher. There are many scriptural admonitions that emphasize our responsibility to share the vision. I Corinthians 1:21 says, "For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." Romans 10:14 reminds us, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe



Kala and Matthew Martin Dewar, OK

in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?" Verses following declare, "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation." We must preach His vision and share that vision with the world. Remember the words of Solomon, "But he that keepeth the law, happy is he." That word *law* in Proverbs comes from the same word from which we get the word *Torah*. We are God's representatives to preach that law.

A Time of No Vision

There is a picture of the world without the vision, found in I Samuel 2:12: "Now the sons of Eli were sons of Belial, and they knew not the Lord." Hophni and Phinehas were simply living out the pleasures of their flesh and not doing what God had commanded them to do. Verse 17 says, "Wherefore the sin of the young men was very great before the Lord; for men abhorred the offering of the Lord." I Samuel 3:1 tells us, "And the child Samuel ministered unto the Lord before Eli. And the word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision." Adam Clark describes it this way: "There was no public accredited prophet with whom the secret of the Lord was known to dwell and to whom all might have recourse in case of doubt or public emergency." Jamieson, Fausset and Brown Commentary explains it this way: "There was no publicly recognized prophet whom the people could consult and from whom they might learn the will of God." There was no open vision.

Not Sharing the Vision Brings Disaster

Failing to share the vision brings disastrous results. Hosea 4:6 says, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." After Joshua's generation, Judges 2:10 says, "...there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel." Notice the result: "And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord, and served Baalim. And they forsook the Lord God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them and provoked the Lord to anger." I Timothy 4:16 instructs us to, "Take heed unto thyself and unto the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee." I don't want my town or my world to be without the vision.

Bio: Matthew Martin has been a licensed minister with the UPCI for 31 years. He has served the United Pentecostal Church in Dewar, Oklahoma as pastor since January 1990. He is currently the Oklahoma District Superintendent, and serves as the Secretary of the UGST/UC Board of Trustees and the Secretary of the TCM Board of Directors.



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Rev. David Shatwell Rev. Chester Wright

7:00 PM

Rev. Omar Jolly Rev. Lee Stoneking

Friday

9:30 AM

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7:00 PM

Rev. Mark Morgan



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UPCI Provides Own Apostolic Study Bible



Lee Ann Alexander Managing Editor

As a movement rooted in the Word of God, it is important that we have our own credible Bible resources created by Oneness Pentecostals committed to the Apostles' doctrine. It is exciting to think that for the first time, Pentecostals have a single resource that provides study materials for the

entire Bible from authors whose doctrinal position we can trust. The Apostolic Study Bible, which has been the dream of many Pentecostals across the years, is now a reality.

Pentecostal Publishing House explored the project at various points in the past, but it was not until the summer of 2011 that it was determined that the project was feasible to undertake. "One key reason we are now able to produce a study Bible is the growing number of scholars with advanced degrees in the UPCI," said Sis. Lee Ann Alexander, Managing Editor of the Apostolic Study Bible. "In the spring of 2012, a team from the UPCI Division of Publications began the planning phase of the project. Twenty-eight scholars spent months researching and composing study materials, and then a team of field editors reviewed and further revised the contents. Finally, the materials were edited, designed and reviewed by the staff of Word Aflame Press to finalize the Bible for printing."

One of the major factors that sets this Bible apart from anything else is that all of the study materials are written exclusively by Oneness

Pentecostal authors. Every key passage of Scripture has study notes and every book of the Bible has an introduction and an outline. "These study materials have been researched and composed by our own Apostolic scholars," explains Sis. Alexander. "We are at this exciting juncture thanks to the team investing much time

and study in this project."

There are 12 feature articles interspersed throughout the Bible covering Apostolic doctrinal topics. "The twelve feature articles

will be effective tools for Bible studies because they succinctly address distinctive Ápostolic doctrines such as the new birth, the oneness of God, holiness and more," said Sis. Alexander. "While these pieces were primarily written for personal study, these two-page articles would be an effective way to dialogue with someone new to Pentecost and answer their questions, especially with the many Scripture references provided.

In addition to the study notes for key passages of the Bible, each book of the Bible begins with an introduction that provides contextual information on theme, authorship and Apostolic insights, which will aid readers conducting a book study. "Additionally, we developed our own concordance," said Sis. Alexander. "In doing so, we were sure to include terms helpful to Apostolic readers such as 'gift of the Holy Ghost' and 'speaking in tongues' that perhaps a small concordance in a traditional Bible would not have.'

Since one of the aims from the inception of the project was to emphasize the Oneness Pentecostal message of Scripture, contributors and field editors did a commendable job of presenting the mighty God in Christ. "While page count limitations prevent us from exhaustively treating Oneness theology as fully as a stand-alone book on the subject could, this Bible will be a helpful guide in providing an overview of the Oneness understanding of

these types of verses," explained Sis.

Alexander.

Word Aflame

A POSTOLIC

STANDARD EDITION

Since the King James Version is public domain, Word Aflame Press developed its own block of Bible text. "One of the exciting aspects about this project was that we did not have to depend on another publisher for the Bible text," said Sis. Alexander.
"For the *Apostolic Study Bible*, we have added topical headings within the text and, of course, all of the study materials. We are printing the Bible domestically and we [WAP] are the exclusive publisher.'

The Apostolic Study Bible will begin shipping to customers May 22, 2014. The Bible will come with a genuine leather cover and a dedication page that could be used for presenting the Bible as a special occasion gift. The limited edition first run printing sold out within one week, but the standard edition is currently available for preorder. The standard edition comes with all of the features described in this interview and is \$89.99 or \$99.99 with a thumb index. Visit www.pentecostalpublishing.com to see sample pages and pre-order copies.

Basic Training For Life: Transforms Civilians into Soldiers



George Akers, author Sanford, NC

In preparation for all elements of service, you must go through basic training, the initial training course that transforms civilians into soldiers. If you are a new convert, taking a major step in life, wishing to establish yourself deeper in doctrine or a membership transfer, Pastor George Akers of Sanford, North Carolina

has developed Basic Training for Life, a lesson series designed to establish the essentials for the Apostolic lifestyle.

Amidst the uncertainty of the times, Bro. Akers assembled a series of lessons that, as born-again believers must be established in our lives. "If we want to make it to heaven, these principles must be settled in our lives, said Bro. Akers, who is the National Missions America Director for the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ. "They are not optional; they are essential. With the looming threat of war and unrest in the world, I was inspired to

entitle the series Basic Training For Life. In these lessons, the student is being equipped to survive the end time. The idea of this course is to provide a survival kit for the sincere-hearted child of God. For 10 lessons, students attend boot camp for what I have termed the 'End Time Christian Militia.' We are engaging in basic training for life."

Covering 10 essentials for Apostolic living, this program helps establish a spiritual walk with God in a carnal world. "The first three lessons build the foundation of repentance, water baptism, and Spirit baptism," explains Bro. Akers. "Then the series continues with worship, prayer, the Godhead, holiness, standards, spiritual gifts, and it closes with the Church.'

The training program has met with great success. "In the first couple of years, we have had pastors and teachers contact us and tell us how excited they are at the results of this program in their churches and Sunday school classes," said Bro. Akers, "and in the past year, it has been published and made available in book form. The distance this series has come has been far beyond anything we anticipated. I taught this first to

our entire church and thereafter taught every soul that has repented, been baptized in Jesus name, and filled with the Holy Ghost. The retainment of those new converts has been tremendous.

Along with Basic Training for Life, Bro. Akers also developed Home Bible Study 101, a series of 26 lessons that takes the student from Genesis to Revelation. This study has been the result of 25 years of pastoring and soul-winning efforts. "Teaching home Bible studies has been proven as the number one means of soul-winning," said Bro. Akers. "It is more effective than any other method of winning lost souls. New convert training is essential to the maturity and spiritual growth of the infant babe in Christ. The sincere milk of the Word of God is vital if we are to nurture and protect our new converts from the many winds of false doctrine. Teaching the Word of God is essential to establishing souls in living for God, and HBS 101 and Basic Training for Life are two tools that pastors and teachers can use to meet that end." For more information, contact him at pastorglakers@gmail.com.

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Word To The Wise:

Even if you're on the right track, you can still get hit by a train.

* * * * * * *

Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement center were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turned to the other and said: "Slim, I'm 83 years old now, and I'm just full of aches and pains. I know you're about my age. How do you feel?"

Slim says, "I feel just like a newborn baby."

"Really? Like a newborn baby?!"

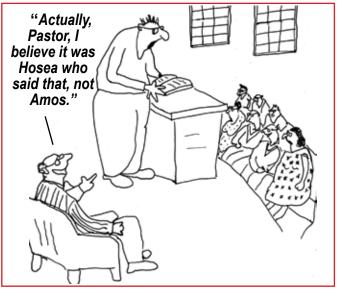
"Yep. No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants."

* * * * * * *

Heather and Marcy hadn't seen each other in awhile when they bumped into one another at church. The talk naturally got around to dating. Marcy confided that there really wasn't anyone special in her life. Heather, on the other hand, was beaming about the new young man she had met at a youth rally.

"He's perfect," said Heather. "Last night when we went out to dinner, he said the four little words I've been waiting to hear a man say to me!"

"So he said, 'Will you marry me?'" Marcy asked. Heather replied, "No, he said, 'Put your money away.'"



Why Assistant Pastor Hoobie no longer sits on the platform.

A little boy was asked whether he was excited about the new baby his mother was expecting.

"Yes!" the 4-year-old said, "And I know what we are going to name it, too. If it's a girl we're going to call it Christina, and if it's another boy we're going to call it Quits!"

* * * * * * *

An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor who was able to fit him for a set of hearing aids that allowed him to hear 100 percent.

The elderly gentleman went back in a month and the doctor said, "Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."

The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!"

* * * * * * * *

A man in a hurry taking his 8-year-old son to school made a turn at a red light where it was prohibited.

"Uh-oh, I just made an illegal turn!" the man said.

"Aw, Dad, it's okay," the son said. "The police car right behind us did the same thing."



"Pastor jammed the photocopier again."

* * * * * * *

Four-year-old Lizzie was in the pediatric ward to get her shots. "NO! NO! NO!" she screamed.

"Lizzie," her mother scolded. "That's not polite behavior." So the child yelled even louder: "NO, THANK YOU!! NO, THANK YOU!!"

* * * * * * *

A guy sees a sign in front of a house: "Talking Dog for Sale." He rings the bell and the owner tells him the dog is in the backyard. The guy goes into the backyard and sees a black mutt sitting there.

"Hey," the dog says. "You really talk?" the guy asks. "Yep," the

mutt replies. "Wow. So, what's your story?"

The mutt looks up and says, "Well, I discovered this gift pretty young and I wanted to help the government, so I told the CIA about my gift, and in no time they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping. I was one of their most valuable spies eight years running. But the jetting around really tired me out, so I signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security work, mostly wandering near suspicious characters and listening in. I uncovered some incredible dealings there and was awarded a batch of medals. Got a wife, had a mess of puppies, and now I'm just retired."

The guy is amazed. He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog. The owner says, "Ten dollars." The guy says, "This dog is amazing. Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?"

The owner replies, "He's such a liar. He didn't do any of that stuff."

"7:45, 7:46, 7:47, 7:48, 7:49, 7:50, 7:51..."

As soon as she began to read the minutes of the last leaders' meeting, Pastor Browbo knew that Sister Pegan was not going to work out as the new counsel secretary.

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