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IBCPerspectives

# REVIVAL IN THE ALOHA STATE





From The Publisher

## Historical Inevitability?

Paul D. Mooney

**“Becoming a weak, fearful church without convictions and without power, without boldness and without true anointing is not inevitable, nor is it acceptable! We are built and empowered for overcoming the world.”**

The foregone conclusion is that our nation and our churches have adopted a pluralistic view of values. Some say it's time to be more tolerant, more open minded, and more accepting of all views – as long as they aren't *too* extreme, of course. We're seeing time-honored ideas and foundational principles being set aside. In no way has this been more dramatically demonstrated than by the present redefining of marriage in our country and the blatant attacks we are witnessing against our constitutional rights. The traditional Biblical definition of marriage has been tossed aside through intimidation and manipulation of public opinion, and our religious freedom has been trampled.

Perhaps it is true, as some historians indeed suggest, that when nations “mature” the core principles are viewed as less important, less valuable, or simply irrelevant to the times. Therefore societies judge the old principles to be less sacred and subject to historical drift, or, as philosopher Isaiah Berlin put it, “historical inevitability.”

Many things do give way to historical inevitability. But must all things? Modernity has demanded the disuse of the telegraph and the typewriter, but only because something superior replaced it. It doesn't mean that we should throw out the mores and principles that have stood the test of time. We must resist the urge to embrace change for change's sake – to launch ourselves into some great experiment that is untested and untried.

Let us ask what it means when America disregards our constitution's basic premise that “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” Has this idea become irrelevant, indefensible, or outdated? Of course not! Those words ring more true today than ever before and remain fundamental to our future. They are the cornerstone of our national identity. Indeed, “all men are created equal.” We must be forever prepared to defend this truth, because liberty is incompatible with dictatorship and individual freedom is an anathema to socialism.

We fight this philosophical shift both in our country and within the Church. It is interesting how often discussions come along about the inevitability of modern sophistication and how it requires us to rethink our position on this or that. The positions on holiness issues, Bible translations, doctrinal essentiality and ecumenism that once united our fellowship now seem to be points of contention. “It's a new day. Time for open mindedness,” they say. In resignation, they grab hold of beliefs that shift their hearts away from absolutism as if this were all just ultimately historical inevitability. But, is it really?

The Church is challenged to “be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life” (Philippians 2:15-16). We cannot live in two worlds, because our mission conflicts with the world. In addition, we cannot build two kinds of churches at the same time, because there is but one foundation. A light that shines upon the world clearly is inherently in opposition to darkness. So too must we be in opposition to the world. Our ability to shine demands our separation from the world. Historically the people of the Upper Room were unique to the world. They were unique because they had received the new birth experience evidenced by speaking in tongues. This experience instantly became part of their message (Acts 2:38), their lifestyle (2 Corinthians 5:17) and their mission on this earth (Matthew 28:19). The disciples of Christ were not called to concede or compromise but rather to challenge the whole world to come to Christ.

I do not believe that the church is designed to submit to the world. If the church is to shine as the light in the world then it cannot be in partnership with the darkness of the world. Present day Apostolic ministers and saints need not be intimidated by the world or the worldly among us. We are obligated to think deeply before we allow ourselves to submit to so-called historical inevitability. We are not up against an unavoidable event called historical compromise. Becoming a weak, fearful church without convictions and without power, without boldness and without true anointing is not inevitable, nor is it acceptable! We are built and empowered for overcoming the world.

People do not turn from truth because it is historically inevitable. They may drift, or give up their values. They may deviate from righteousness. But it does not “just happen” and it is not inescapable. It is a decision. It may be, historically speaking, a fact that people often give up their values and turn from righteousness, but it is not inevitable. Spirits may move away from the light. Hearts may wax cold, but this is not unavoidable. It is a choice. “And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil” (John 3:19). Always remember, the world has no power to stop the moving of the Spirit.



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♦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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# 06

## Feature: Revival In The Aloha State

(Richard McGriffin)

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# CHURCH LOAN FUND

The United Pentecostal Church Loan Fund is a financial ministry that benefits individuals, churches and ministries of the United Pentecostal Church.

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# PRAYER IN THE APOSTOLIC HOME

Interviews by Linda Schreckenberg

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



**Bobby Moore, Malden, MO** -- My wife and I pray every morning and every night. Our children are married and gone, but we prayed with them and had family devotion every day and family prayer at meals. I felt it was important for our children to know we were praying, and we knelt together as a family. I never felt it was wrong in any way for my wife or children to know I was praying. I believe Jesus' words to "pray in secret" referred to times of private prayer,

which we all need. Prayer is our communication with our Lord; therefore, it is highly important to set an example of prayer before our family.



**Paul Lyon, Burlington, VT** -- I bring prayer into our home by personal example. Either we pray with or for our children every day, and I lift my wife up in prayer daily. At our table, we have family sharing and pray for expressed needs, and we all have an opportunity to tell about something good that happened to us during that day.

I feel it is very important that our family knows I am praying. As to the context of Jesus' words to "pray in secret or in our closet," he was referring to the necessity of private times of prayer. Three or four in the morning is a great time to pray in secret. Being an example of prayer is extremely important. We shouldn't be instructing others about prayer if we do not pray.



**Ronnie Eaves, Lancaster, PA** -- I would have to say that our children know the value we place on family prayer and also private sessions of prayer. We want our kids to hear us pray, but not to rely on our prayers to see their needs met, so we also encourage a private prayer life for each family member as well. This teaches them to feel comfortable about a personal prayer life and an open one with the

family. It is important that we teach our children at a young age what is most important in life. Prayer is the key to God's will! On a scale of one to ten, I believe prayer is an 11!



**Robert Smithey, McClure, IL** -- My wife and I have personal time in prayer. We pray together at meals and have sessions of prayer for our family, the church, and for special needs. We had what we called "evening time prayer" with our children every night.

It was important for my spouse or our children to hear me praying. Jesus spoke of prayer in secret or a closet of prayer. Those are times of secret prayer when we talk to

God on a one-on-one basis. My secret places are my office at church or in our bedroom at home. James 5:16 says, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." The family that prays together usually stays together.



**Ricky Bowen, Aberdeen, MS** -- We are very involved in prayer in our home. Our son commutes to college, but we go to church as a family to pray every night. Signs of moral decline at college bombard him every day from every direction! We lay hands on him every morning and every night for God's protection over him and his mind. My wife and I pray together for personal and church needs, and I feel it has always been important for my family and spouse to know I am praying. It is important for them to depend on my prayers.

Even my grandchildren ask Pappa to pray for them. Group prayer is necessary, but there are also times of private secret prayer. At three in the morning, it is just me and God.

Being an example of prayer is irreplaceable! I can't even describe the importance of prayer in our home.



**John Owens, Providence, RI** -- We emphasize prayer by example within our home. We pray with our children, now teens, before they go to school, before meals, and we pray for any needs that may arise. We also stress the importance of pre-service prayer and our weekly prayer meetings.

Due to our varying schedules, I don't usually pray with my wife in the mornings, but I do pray for and with her at church and in prayer meetings. I feel it is important for my family to know that I am praying for them. I believe that Jesus' words to "pray in secret" has more to do with having an attitude of humility in prayer rather than with actually praying in public or letting people know that you are praying for them.

Prayer is an extremely important element in my life, but I never feel that I pray enough. What is too much prayer, and what is enough prayer? I have grown to realize quality is better than quantity. Everything that I am and everything that I will ever be is directly connected to my relationship with God, and that relationship has to be solidified through prayer.



**Gerald Sherrill, Decatur, AL** -- Our family has always felt it was necessary to hold hands and pray together as a family and for prayer needs that come. We always made a point to pray with our children. They are grown now, but my wife and I still hold hands in prayer daily and have private personal times of prayer. Whatever the age, our children need to know we pray for them. When Jesus spoke of praying in secret or in our closet, I feel He was speaking of an attitude of prayer. The

Pharisees wanted to be seen and heard praying.

We set the tone through our homes with prayer. The Bible says we are teachers, and we teach through prayer. We must pray against spirits that come against us so they know their limitations.



Pastor Richard McGriffin, superintendent of the Hawaii District, says the arrival of the Gospel on the islands is the literal fulfillment of Jesus' promise in Acts 1:8.

"Hawaii is further from a continental land mass than any other island chain in the world, which, by definition, makes it the uttermost parts of the earth," Pastor McGriffin notes.

Due to its location in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, Hawaii has become, in Pastor McGriffin's words, "the melting pot of Asia."

"Every nationality and culture that you find in the Pacific Rim is found here," he explains, adding that the believers in Hawaii represent a cross-section of that cultural mix.

This presents the Hawaiian District with a tremendous opportunity, Pastor McGriffin says.

"We feel very strongly that Hawaii is an epicenter of future church expansion in the entire Pacific Rim," he said.

### ***The challenge of geography***

Most North Americans living on the mainland view Hawaii as a vacation paradise. But the beauty of the remote island chain comes with a very high price tag. The median home value in Hawaii is in the neighborhood of \$700,000, and the median rent is \$2,300 per month.

Hawaii is one of the most expensive places to live in the entire U.S., notes Pastor McGriffin. He praises his fellow Hawaiian pastors, who he says have "dug in and paid the price."

"Ninety percent of our pastors are bi-vocational, and pouring everything they've got back into the work," he explains. "The work is really progressing as a result of that."

Pastor McGriffin says the astronomical property values also inhibit churches from purchasing property.

"It takes a million dollars an acre if you even have a chance to build a church building here," he explained. As a result, Pastor McGriffin says, "Most of us are in rented facilities that we don't have full access to."

New Life Pentecostal Church in Honolulu, the congregation Pastor McGriffin leads, shares a facility with five other churches. New Life pays \$2,000 in monthly rent for the right to use the building on Sunday and Tuesday evenings, as well as two Saturday evenings per month.

"Thankfully, on Sunday we're the last (church) that meets, so we don't have any time constraint," Pastor McGriffin said. "We absolutely squeeze every bit out of it we can."

The other challenge resulting from Hawaii's remote location is the inevitable feeling of isolation.

"There is no bridge between here and San Diego," Pastor McGriffin says with a laugh. "The average stay for someone who just uproots and says, 'I'm going to go live in Hawaii and be a part of the church in Hawaii,' is three and a half years," he adds. "The local populace will not always ask it verbally, but there is an implied question in all of them when someone comes from the mainland U.S. to be involved in ministry here, and that is, 'How long are you going to be here?'"

### ***Help from the mainland***

Clair Delmar Stiles never left Hawaii. He died on July 21, 1964 in Mountain View, on the island of Oahu. His descendants continued his legacy of Pentecostal ministry. Stiles' granddaughter, Sis. Evalani Nordan, and her husband, Pastor Bobby Nordan, served as pastors of the church in Lahaina, Maui, during the 1990s.

The UPCI also sent other missionary families to continue Stiles' work, including Bro. and Sis. Oscar Vouga, Bro. and Sis. J. T. Clark, Bro. and Sis. Lewis Manuwal, Bro. and Sis. R. E. Holly, Bro. and Sis. W. E. Scott, Bro. and Sis. Rex Robertson, and Bro. and Sis. John Wolfram. Individual pastors also responded to God's call and moved from the mainland U.S. to establish congregations in Hawaii.

Incoming missionaries sometimes partnered with Pentecostal believers who already were preaching in Hawaii. For example, a former nun named Janet Ely and a former Buddhist, Sakie Oka, established a Pentecostal church in Maui during the 1940s. When Bro. and Sis. J.T. Clark arrived from the mainland in 1952, they were able to help that work move forward.

The Manuwal, the first UPCI missionaries to Honolulu, arrived in the summer of 1954. They immediately inherited a small congregation led by Helen Bradley, an Apostolic lady from Indianapolis, Indiana. With support from the UPCI's Foreign Missions Department, that church eventually purchased property. Today,

Clair Delmar Stiles sailed to the Hawaiian Islands in 1912 with a commission to serve as an officer in the Salvation Army. After ministering for several years in the newly minted U.S. territory, Stiles began suffering from gall stones. Desperate for relief, he attended a tent meeting hosted by Pentecostal evangelists Charles and Ada Lochbaum, who were converts from the Azusa Street Revival in Los Angeles.

God miraculously healed Stiles during that tent meeting. This supernatural experience created a new hunger in the Salvation Army officer's life. He invited two other Pentecostal evangelists to stay with him and teach him more about water baptism in the name of Jesus, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Sometime afterward, Stiles attended the church the Lochbaums had founded in Honolulu. He received the Holy Ghost and was baptized in Jesus' name during his visit. Stiles' life and ministry were on a new path. He eventually became pastor of an Apostolic church in Hilo, Hawaii, and a charter member of the United Pentecostal Church International (UPCI) in the islands.

Nearly a century later, the UPCI's presence in Hawaii is expanding. To date, 17 autonomous UPCI churches have been established, with more than 1,500 constituents.



Calvary Pentecostal Church in Honolulu is one of only two Hawaiian UPCI churches that own property.

Hawaiian believers also have been strengthened by short-term visits from mainland ministers. Pastor McGriffin notes that Pastor Rex Robertson began inviting Evangelist Lee Stoneking to preach single adult conferences on the island in the early 1990s.

"That relationship expanded to an annual event that became the marquee event of the year" for Hawaiian Pentecostals, Pastor McGriffin said. "Brother Stoneking's ... miracle vision has really impacted so many here."

In the mid-1990s, UPCI leaders decided Hawaii should become an autonomous district. The new district was officially formed in February 1996, with Pastor Rex Robertson serving as superintendent, and Pastor McGriffin as secretary/treasurer.

"From that day, we've grown," Pastor McGriffin said of the decision to form the Hawaiian District. "In less than 20 years, we've gone from seven churches to 17; from the minimum number of ministers required to start a district to ... 32 ministers."

### From Tennessee to Hawaii

Pastor Rex Robertson returned to the mainland in the fall of 2002. Pastor McGriffin stepped into the role of both district superintendent and pastor of New Life UPC. Interestingly, God was preparing him for both assignments long before he assumed either.

Pastor McGriffin and his wife, Jo Ann, are natives of Indiana. In the 1980s, the couple served as missionaries to Europe. In 1988, they returned to the U.S. to assume the leadership of a church in Clarksville, Tennessee.

During that time, a University of Hawaii student named Michael Loscalzo came to Clarksville to visit his sister and brother-in-law, who were stationed at a military base in the area. Loscalzo, who is of Hawaiian and Italian descent, visited a service at the McGriffin's church. That same day, Loscalzo was baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost.

Bro. Loscalzo then returned to the University of Hawaii to continue his studies. He also began teaching Bible studies in his dorm. Several students were filled with the Holy Ghost as a result of his efforts.

A few years later, the McGriffins felt God calling them to Hawaii. When they arrived, they saw first-hand how God was using Bro. Loscalzo. "The church that I eventually pastored (in Hawaii) was augmented by those young people (Bro. Loscalzo's converts) who became soul-winners in their own right," Pastor McGriffin said. "Eventually, Michael was a part of that church."

Today, Bro. Loscalzo is a licensed minister with the UPCI, and he serves the Hawaii District as both a presbyter and North American Missions Director.

To this day, Pastor McGriffin still is awed by this miraculous turn of events.

"Hawaii was the uttermost parts of the earth, in our estimation," Pastor McGriffin says of his days in Clarksville. "We never considered ever coming here."

# Revival In the Aloha State

### Reaching the Pacific Rim

A military connection may have taken Bro. Loscalzo from Hawaii to Clarksville, but the military also brings many mainland Americans to Hawaii. Members of all five branches of the U.S. military are stationed on the islands.

"The military influence has been a strong factor in helping to solidify the church here,"

Pastor McGriffin says, adding that the downside is that most service members are only stationed on the islands for a few years.

Interestingly, many native Hawaiians also eventually leave the islands, often moving to the mainland U.S., where the cost of living is more affordable. A few years ago, McGriffin said, he purged the contact information of more than 200 former Hawaiian residents from his cell phone. Of that number, approximately 40 percent were born and/or raised in Hawaii.

As a result, "Hawaiians only make up a small portion of our churches," McGriffin says.

God has augmented the church with believers from other cultures, including Filipinos, Samoans, and Japanese. At present, Pastor McGriffin estimates that about half of Hawaiian pastors are from North America, while the other half are from various other cultures.

This fits perfectly with the Hawaiian District's vision of reaching the Pacific. To forward this effort, the district has started a bi-annual youth convention open to all churches in the Pacific Rim. Pastor McGriffin also travels to the Philippines several times each year to minister.

"Our vision is to one day have congregations ... that have services specifically designed for those cultural demographics, with preaching in Samoan, preaching in Korean, preaching in Vietnamese, in the Filipino dialects, etc.," Pastor McGriffin said.

The Hawaii District also continues to welcome North American ministers who wish to serve God in the "uttermost part of the earth." Pastor McGriffin warns that there are sacrifices to be made, however. For example, the McGriffin's two children and seven grandchildren all live on the eastern seaboard of the United States, so the family is only able to connect in-person about once per year. ("Thank God for FaceTime!" Pastor McGriffin said.)

"We welcome folks inquiring and discussing our field of labor as a place that they would seek God about," he said.

For more information, visit [www.hawaiidistrictupc.com](http://www.hawaiidistrictupc.com).



Bro. and Sis. Richard McGriffin  
Superintendent of the Hawaii District







## Is God calling you?

Romans 10:15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!



## Are you a church planter?

Acts 13:2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. <sup>3</sup>And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away.



## What city tugs on your heart?

Luke 4:43 And he said unto them, I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also: for therefore am I sent.



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## Seven Questions Pastors Should Ask Their Ministry Leaders

By Ron Edmondson

Questions are a powerful tool for every leader. They encourage discussion. Plus, questions allow other people to have an opinion other than the leader—adding huge value to organizational health. Here are seven examples of questions leaders should memorize and use often:

1. *How can we improve as a team?* This is a practical question which, in my experience, people will enjoy answering. It can make their life better. They may have thoughts on needing more meetings—or fewer meetings—or better meetings. That could be valuable insight you don't see. Even if they've never thought about this question, it opens their mind to ways to improve. Who doesn't need that?

2. *Will you help me?* Everyone wants to be wanted. They want their input to be needed. I'm not talking about dumping on people, but when a leader asks this question and genuinely invites the team into the decision-making process they feel empowered.

3. *How can I help you?* Knowing a leader is willing to help is huge. Even if they don't need your help they appreciate knowing they are truly part of a team. And, the leader is a team player.

4. *Do you understand what I'm saying?* This is a valuable question to follow up with after you've said anything, but especially when you've delegated a task or given someone a responsibility. Because, again, they may not ask if you don't. Not asking this question can lead to unnecessary confusion, miscommunication and frustration.

5. *Do you have what you need?* Giving any assignment without asking this question leaves many people unprepared and doomed for failure. Good leaders make sure the team has adequate resources to do their work.

6. *What do you think we should do?* This question is helpful, for example, whenever there is a problem to be solved which has never been addressed before. Most likely, when the question is answered it will impact others on the team. Inviting people to help solve the issue or come to a conclusion about it gives them ownership in the solution.

7. *What's next for us?* This is a great brainstorming question. It forces people to dialogue about creating something new or developing something existing. It fuels momentum.



## SAVE THE DATE: Mansion Sunday -- November 1

By Stephen Judd, TCM President



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

Mansion Sunday, November 1, will be a special day, set aside in conjunction with "National Orphan Sunday," that specifically focuses on Tupelo Children's Mansion.

Please join with Apostolics across North America and feature Mansion Sunday on November 1 by doing three things: 1) Inspire your congregation with the "pure religion" mission of the Mansion, 2) Pray for the children and the staff, and 3) Receive a special offering to bless the work at TCM.

Thank you for becoming the hands of God to the most vulnerable of our society, the fatherless.

[www.mansionkids.org](http://www.mansionkids.org) | [www.stephenjudd.com](http://www.stephenjudd.com)  
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A vintage-style world map with a grid of latitude and longitude lines. The map is rendered in shades of green, yellow, and orange. A large red circle is centered over the map, containing the text "GLOBAL MISSIONS TOURS". In the bottom left corner, there is a small illustration of a three-masted sailing ship. A compass rose is located in the bottom right corner of the map area.

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# CONTROL YOUR TONGUE!

Written by John Fonzer Jr.



Bishop Clifton Jones  
Pentecostal Assemblies of  
the World

## Bro. Jones, tell us a little about yourself and your ministry.

I'm called of God, and I thoroughly enjoy doing what God has assigned me to do. He had no difficulty getting me to accept my call to the ministry. I've been preaching now about 52 years. I began pastoring in Philadelphia, Mississippi

at the age of 25 and continued until age 65. Then I stepped aside, and I am now sharing with congregations what I believe God gave me over a period of years.

## What inspired this book?

I grew up hunting. It doesn't matter how loaded the gun is, to get results you have to pull the trigger. I saw my tongue as a trigger. Jesus said, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

When I thought about all the scriptures that have something to say about the mouth and the heart, I started teaching on the subject. God expects you to come with right words. When right words are spoken, it's a sign they came from a right place: the heart. When the heart speaks right words to God, it activates and releases your faith. When you say the right thing, it creates an atmosphere where spiritual things can operate. Speaking right words is almost like inviting God's presence to come where you are because what you say is in harmony with what is written; therefore, God is at home in that environment—all initiated and activated by the tongue.

## How do our words affect our future?

Inspiration, motivation and revelation are activated by right words. When the tongue is in line with God's Word, it starts moving things in the right direction to do for us what needs to be done. Right words release the encouragement in our spirit that wards us against what we don't want by filling us with what we do want. The more we say of what God said, the more we align our intents and purposes with God.

## Why is it important for us to be careful of the

## words that come out of our mouths?

Speaking without thinking is dangerous. When we speak without thinking, we speak as natural people. When you think and speak, it allows you to be more selective. Why not talk more about what you want to see than what you don't want to see? If you don't want to see it, don't talk about it. There are a number of things our ears don't need to hear our mouths say, things like "Why me? I can't take any more."

## Sometimes we're not comfortable with this teaching as it compares to what the Charismatics teach. How is what you teach different?

I distinguish mere positive speech from saying what the Bible says. Positive preachers and Charismatics did a lot of talking but they had no Bible backing. When you think that by just saying makes things happen, that's positive confession and it has nothing to do with faith. Faith does not come from nowhere; it is birthed from the Word of God.

Psalms 119:11 says, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart..." Your ears should hear you saying what God's Word says.

## Are we talking simply about faith here, or is this something more?

Faith plus. All faith stems from belief in God's Word — all faith. Verbalizing is what I call "pulling the trigger to make negative life positive."

Faith comes by hearing. If my mouth speaks what God's Word supports, I need to hear that. When my ears hear what my mouth says, my spirit can remind me to talk more about what God says.

## What individuals in the Bible best illustrate the power of the spoken word of faith?

The woman in Kings would not say, "My son is dead." She remembered a man who came through and said she would have a son, and she still believed he had contact with God. Rather than say what she saw, she wanted to get to the man who triggered her confidence

in the beginning. She believed he had enough leftover faith to see/receive her son alive again. Acts like that bless me.

## Can you share some personal examples or testimonies of how words have resulted in success in your life and ministry?

I can recall once when a gentleman visited the church. On his third visit, I turned to someone and said, "Let us agree that this is his Sunday." Sure enough, he was baptized and filled with the Holy Ghost. One lady, whose husband got saved before she did, got angry and physically struck him. Two weeks later she went to one of our tent meetings. I was singing songs that were loaded with positive words. She came under conviction and she told her husband, "I am not going to work until I get the Holy Ghost." He brought her to my house. She turned out to be one of the most enthusiastic hearers of God's Word; even going as far as to come from the back of the sanctuary to shine the preachers' shoes when they were preaching. She literally saw to it that the shoes of those who brought the Gospel were beautiful.

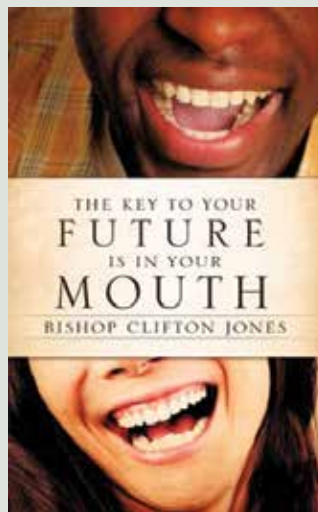
## What are some practical ways that our readers can put into practice this important principle?

A wealth of scriptures is in the Book. The more positive things you have in your mind, the more likely you are to speak in positive terms. What better way to program what you say than by God's Word? 1 Peter 3:10 says, "For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile."

The more of God's Word you have inside, the more likely you are to address situations in the light of the scriptures. While some people call it "positive speech," you will call it "rightful use of the tongue." No need in telling a bear you have a gun loaded with buckshot; you've got to pull the trigger!

## How to order your book, cost, etc.

The title is *The Key To Your Future Is In Your Mouth*. It can be ordered at [avoicetrying.com](http://avoicetrying.com). The price is \$13.95 including shipping.





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.

# apostolic alendar 2015

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	SPEAKERS	CONTACT / INFO
<b>AUG 27-29</b>	<b>Times of Refreshing -- Mattoon, IL</b> Service times are Thursday and Friday 7:30 p.m., Saturday 6:30 p.m. Children's church nightly with Lloyd Squires -- ages 5-11	Apostolic Center Church 205 Country Club Rd. Mattoon, IL 61938 Host: Pastor Shine & Bishop Derold Doughty	Doug White, Jerry Dillon 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>SEPT. 10-11</b>	<b>Mid-America Renewal Conference (MARC)</b> Indianapolis, Indiana - A Power Packed Preaching Conference in the Heart of the Midwest.	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN Host: Paul D. Mooney	Paul Mooney, Brian Kinsey, Matthew Johnson, Gary Keller, Kenneth Carpenter and David Bernard	<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>SEPT. 22-25</b>	<b>91st Annual UPCI General Conference</b> The theme is "Send." Early registration is \$50 per person ages 18 and older. Don't miss it!	Music City Center Nashville, TN	Tim Zuniga, Anthony Ens, Jerry Dean, Tim Gaddy, Paul Mooney, Sammy Sherrill and David Bernard	Online registration, hotel reservations and exhibit registration available at <a href="http://www.upcigc.com">www.upcigc.com</a>
<b>OCT 16-18</b>	<b>Apostolic Doctrine Conference</b> Strengthening Our Doctrinal Foundation	New Life Fellowship 7849 Wabash Avenue Terre Haute, IN 47803	Raymond Woodward and James Hughes	For more info: <a href="http://www.newliferrehaute.com">www.newliferrehaute.com</a> or 812-877-9348
<b>NOV 3-6</b>	<b>West Coast Conference - Fresno, CA</b> 32nd Annual Fresno Meeting	Fresno Convention Center, 848 M Street, Fresno, CA	Nathan Morton, PJ White, Paul Bertram, Ron Garrett, Matt Davies, Jess Parker, and Vaughn Morton	For more information call: (559) 225-1622 <a href="http://www.truthtabfresno.org">www.truthtabfresno.org</a>
<b>FEB 18-20</b>	<b>WinterFire 2016</b> WinterFire's focus is ministering to those in ministry. Our objective is that every member of your team will leave renewed and refreshed.	First Cathedral 1151 Blue Hills Ave. Bloomfield, CT 06002	Paul Mooney, Sam Emory, T.F. Tenney, Jerald Staten, David Bernard and Rashidi Collins, Tim Greene and Janice Sjostrand	For more info: visit <a href="http://www.winterfire.org">www.winterfire.org</a> or visit Twitter: winterfire-conf or Facebook/Instagram: winterfireconf
<b>FEB 2016</b>	<b>INAAP Regional Training Center</b> Empowering and equipping Apostolic leaders to build the Kingdom of God. Our vision is to align the Apostles and Prophets for the purpose of affirmation, awakening, aligning and activation.	To be announced	To be announced	For more info: visit <a href="http://www.spiritled.net">www.spiritled.net</a> , e-mail <a href="mailto:spiritledm@gmail.com">spiritledm@gmail.com</a> , or call 888-776-0797
<b>MARCH 3-4</b>	<b>Passing the Mantle 2016</b> PTM exists to equip ministers and ministry teams with spiritual tools to better reach their communities for the Lord. Our goal is to make each attendee more effective in their place of ministry.	Bartlett United Pentecostal Church 270 E. Schick Road Bartlett, IL 60103	Eli Hernandez, Harold Hoffman, Allan Shalm, James Stark and Tom Trimble	For more info: visit <a href="http://www.passingthementle.org">www.passingthementle.org</a> or call 630-837-9800
<b>APRIL 6-8</b>	<b>Indiana Bible College MUSIC FEST 2016</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 2016</b>	<b>Eagles Summit Conference - Stockton, CA</b> Eagles Summit is committed to birthing, empowering and equipping Apostolic leaders to build the Kingdom of God.	To be announced	To be announced	For more info: visit <a href="http://www.eaglessummit.net">www.eaglessummit.net</a>
<b>JUNE 2016</b>	<b>Power Conference 2016</b> Services begin at 7:30 p.m. nightly. Day sessions at 10 a.m. Thursday and Friday morning.	To be announced	To be announced	For more info: contact Josh Hodum @ 662-872-9999 or John Hodum @ 931-332-3926
<b>JULY 2016</b>	<b>Mile High Conference 2016</b> Revival of Prayer, Praise and Evangelism	To be announced	To be announced	(303) 758-5900 <a href="http://www.cacdenver.org">www.cacdenver.org</a> <a href="mailto:DEH2@comcast.net">DEH2@comcast.net</a>
<b>AUG 2016</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 2016</b>	<b>Investing in Futures</b> A conference for those who invest in children. Educating, encouraging and equipping children's ministry workers.	To be announced	To be announced	For more info: visit <a href="http://invest-in-futures.com">invest-in-futures.com</a>



# Theology: Discussing Abortion



Robert L. Rodenbush

## Church Today

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### How Satan Kills

Growing up in West Africa as a missionary kid left me with a curiosity for strange and exotic wildlife. Perhaps it was the four-foot green mamba with the deadly poisonous bite that dropped from a tree right in front of my bicycle, the geckos that climbed my bedroom walls and ate the spiders that lurked in the corners, or being raised with the menagerie of pets in my backyard including an African Grey Parrot, a monkey, dogs, and so many others including a fruit bat at one time. As a boy growing up in Africa, I developed an interest in animals and why and how they behave the way they do. So when browsing the *New York Times* website, the video link entitled "How the boa kills" instantly caught my attention.

It has long been assumed and taught that a Boa constrictor squeezes the life out of its prey by wrapping itself around the body of its victim, then each time the helpless prey takes another breath the snake constricts tighter, eventually suffocating its target meal. However, in this video the scientists from the "Journal of Experimental Biology" debunk the common myth that these constrictor snakes kill by suffocation. In actuality, boas kill because they block blood flow and cause circulatory arrest in mere seconds.

Leviticus 17:11 states, "For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul." Like the deadly Boa constrictor, Satan knows that ultimately his attack on our life, in order to be fatal, must disconnect us from the blood of Christ. Christ shed His blood so that we through His grace could be made clean and whole before Him. We may feel like the pressure of the world is taking away our breath, our energy, our ability to thrive, but in actuality the enemy is after something much more deadly. If we are constricted by sin, by doubt, by deception, by worldliness we will easily be disconnected from the lifesaving blood shed for the remission of our sin.

Today many shy away from the subject of the blood of Jesus. They want it removed from the songs we sing and the vernacular we use. However, our elders knew the importance of talking about the blood of Jesus. They walked the floors singing beautifully penned songs about the blood of Christ. They preached about the blood. They taught Bible lessons about the blood. They understood that the blood was essential for salvation. They wanted to be sure they did not lose connection to this life-sustaining force. I pray this generation never loses its connection to the blood. I pray that we won't be afraid to preach the necessity of Christ's blood as atonement for a lost and sinful world. Our souls, and the souls of our children, depend upon it.



Bobby Killmon

## Theology

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### How do we talk to people about abortion if they're not open to scripture?

We are living in a day where tolerance is promoted, but really only aimed at shutting up conservative values. In fact, if you espouse the biblical position in the public arena you will be met with incredible intolerance. The most effective way forward today is to demonstrate the biblical position alone blesses and enriches life. Prov. 10:22 says, "The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it." Deep conviction about this truth will help us see we are the only hope in this world, not the lies of the culture.

One powerful way to do this is to expose these sins as the horrible things they are. For instance, in 2012, for the first time in New York more black babies were killed by abortion (31,328) than were let live (24,758). Further, black babies were 42.4% of the total number of abortions in New York even though they're not even close to that percentage of the population. We shouldn't be surprised because Margaret Sanger who founded Planned Parenthood said it was started "...to protect society against the propagation and increase of the unfit." But this was hidden cleverly by offering it as "choice" instead of "murder" so these undesirables wouldn't know, for as Sanger went on to say, "We don't want the word to get out that we want to exterminate the negro population." We must show that the roots that started this sinful behavior were racism and eugenics intended to eradicate black people. Further, the sheer number of women who are a psychological wreck after an abortion, and the staggering amount who attempt suicide should be enough to see this as the sin it is. This helps people see quickly to the heart of these things.

Another way to show how only our views bless is pointing at the horrendous things touted as social programs which ignore the importance of the family. The Institute for American Values did a study on the taxpayer cost of out-of-wedlock childbearing. It's an annual figure of \$112 billion per year. This shows we can bankrupt ourselves as a nation trying to occupy the place only God can hold. Sin doesn't work. It impoverishes. Our arrogance and its consequences are also found in tax benefits and social programs weighted toward non-married mothers. The fallout is easily seen in that the number one common denominator in male prisoners is . . . absentee fathers.

The point is I'm not against these things because I'm against someone's "choice." I'm against them because it's murder and it rips women apart mentally and psychologically for years. Because breaking up homes destroys lives! All opinions must be tested and each must show how our opinion blesses. I can show how the biblical one does! The evidence is in, and it's clear that God is right!



T. W. Massengale

## Church Growth

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### Four Outreach Ministries Every Church Should Consider

Every church knows that church growth is closely tied to the amount of gospel seed sown by evangelism ministries. Here are four critical ministries every church should consider emphasizing:

**Personal Witnessing:** This is the most successful form of evangelism. When saints are witnessing and inviting those they know to church, more conversions occur. Churches can encourage this many ways, but two of the best are: (1) each year teach a series on "How to Be an Effective Witness." Use one of the many soul-winning books on the market as a curriculum guide. (2) Launch a "Constant Contact Consciousness" ministry in your church. The CCC ministry serves as a powerful motivation and reminder to

participants to be faithful in witnessing. The CCC team can inspire the whole church. Not everyone will participate. Use those that will.

**Home Bible Study:** Train your saints to teach home Bible studies (HBS). This training should be offered annually. Bringing in an outside "expert" to conduct this training is a real plus. New converts and move-in's since your last training seminar should especially be encouraged to attend the training sessions. Keep your trained HBS teachers busy teaching by using several of the methods outlined in my past column "How To Get More Home Bible Studies."

**Visitor Follow-up:** 100% of your new converts come from guests that attend your church. But less than 5% receive the Holy Ghost the first time they come. This means, for your church to grow, guests have to return on average 3-5 times before going to the altar. The best way to encourage return visits is with a comprehensive guest follow-up ministry. This ministry should include: a phone call within 24 hours, a letter within 48 hours, an at-home visit within seven days,

and 2-3 follow-up visits over the next 12 months. No ministry will impact the growth of your church more than visitor follow-up.

**Sunday School and Bus Ministry:** Your Sunday school provides you with a powerful platform to promote special days and events. Give your saints lots of reasons to invite their family, friends and co-workers! Special Sundays could include: Watchnight, Easter, Pentecost Sunday, Military Day, Multicultural Sunday, Friend Day, Children's Crusade, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and more. And don't forget Bus/Van Ministry! When coupled with Parentreach, this ministry will bring in families year after year. At least monthly a "Super Church"-style children's church will see bus kids receiving the Holy Ghost consistently. Strong Sunday schools build churches!

If you are unsure how to implement any of these outreach ministries, contact the IBC Perspectives office and purchase *Total Church Growth* which explains these ministries and more in great detail. Call 1-800-800-0247 or email: [ibcperspectives@apostolic.edu](mailto:ibcperspectives@apostolic.edu).



# THE DISCIPLESHIP PROJECT



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# TRANSFORMED

February 18-20, 2016

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**Janice Sjostrand**  
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**Mark Morgan**  
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**Sam Emory**  
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**Tim Greene**  
Atlanta, GA



**Paul Mooney**  
Indianapolis, IN



**David Bernard**  
Hazelwood, MO



WINTERFIRE





Carol Clemans

## Spiritual Growth

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### PASTORS! Saved People May Need Emotional Healing

Twenty-three years ago, Pastor Kenneth Haney brought me on staff part-time at Christian Life Center as a Certified Pastoral Counselor. I provided this counseling/teaching ministry for CLC the last 10 years he was pastor before he went to WEC as UPCI Supt. I also taught six years at Christian Life College under Dr. Daniel Segraves – one of six subjects: “Principles of Counseling.” God’s Word is the foundation of my teaching, counseling and writing. I’m always asking the question, “What is God’s truth about this?”

On my website, [www.carolclemans.org](http://www.carolclemans.org), I’ve posted 180+ articles addressing issues regarding helping the saved but wounded people sitting on our church pews. Isaiah 61 explains that Jesus Christ came to bring the good news – the gospel – but He also came to heal the broken in heart and set the captives free – I say, “Of their stinkin’ thinkin’.” Emotional pain can cause major distortions of God’s truth. Many hurting people define themselves through their painful experiences instead of understanding their identity in Christ. Romans 12: 1 & 2 – “be transformed by renewing our minds” – with God’s truth.

I provide nationwide *confidential* counseling by phone/Skype - (636) 448-0121 - for pastors and lay people. For three years we were part of Pastor Daniel Batchelor’s church in Duplo, IL teaching and counseling. Pastor Batchelor is on my Board of Directors of LEM, INC. (501c3).

I love teaching God’s anointed Word for churches/conferences for spiritual, emotional and relational growth. I also teach marriage seminars from my book: *God’s Design for Marriage*. If you are a ministry leader, please call me for a free teaching DVD. I thank God for the gift of the Holy Ghost 60 years ago, teaching from His Word for over 50 years and counseling for 23 years – to HIM be all the glory and honor!

[www.carolclemans.org](http://www.carolclemans.org) - (636) 448-0121 – [carol@carolclemans.org](mailto:carol@carolclemans.org). Go to website – click ‘follow’ button – insert your email – you will receive all new articles posted. Teaching CD’s, DVD’s & book: *God’s Design for Marriage* are available.



Brian Norman

## Revival Concepts

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### Necessary Components For Growth

“Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel” – 2 Kings 5:15.

“I asked and the Lord answered,” he said. Such a response might seem simplistic, yet is it? Naaman needed a healing and the prophet Elisha let it be known God was going to provide it . . . but not the way Naaman wanted it. Often we are guilty of, in essence, doing the same thing – wanting the miracle but wanting it our way.

Biblically, there seems to be several precursors involved in the miraculous manifesting (healing, provision, kingdom advances). Most notably, the spoken word and obedience to it. Yet let us not forget the most basic of them all – asking God.

It has amazed me how many times God has showed up for needs in my life and in the cause advancing the objectives of what He has commissioned me to do. Just recently I finished an overseas global evangelism trip which I did not have the finances for. I put it on my card and simply asked God if it was His will for me to continue to make a trip to that part of the world to meet the need. I even gave Him specifics on how. Candidly, this prayer was not in a deep intercessor prayer meeting, rather driving to the local post office in St. Louis to get my mail. I thought no more of it – it was in God’s hands. And God took care of it!

Let me challenge you, faithful pastor, preacher, saint of the most high God. Do not give up on your prayer meetings, but rather make mention of the things you need God to do as you go about your daily life as well. Also make note of the requests. Why? For the praise report that surely follows. There is a God in Israel, and He is the God over all of heaven and earth. Let us have our prayer warring meetings, but let us not forget to make mention of the things we need the Lord to do as we live life.

Brian Norman has been in the ministry for 23 years, serving as a Pastor, Church Planter and now as a full-time Evangelist. Phone: 636-544-0627 Website: [GlobalEvangelism.org](http://GlobalEvangelism.org)



Aubrey Jayroe

## Finance

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**Our church has been established for several years and very little has been done to update any records or documents. What should we be reviewing to ensure we are protected by having all our records and documents current?**

There are several items that need to be addressed by a local church. We have to remember that laws change frequently, so we must review our corporate records and other forms of recordkeeping to ensure we are up-to-date as required. Some of these are as follows:

First, you need to be sure your corporation is current. Most states require an annual report each year and failure to complete that report will cause the corporation to NOT be in good standing. Check the website of your Secretary of State to see where your church corporate stands in this area.

You must have your policies and/or resolutions up-to-date. There are presently 13 policies or resolutions that each church should have implemented. These policies provide protection for the staff, tax benefits for the ministry, and legal protection in many areas. No church should be without these items in their policy manual.

Because the IRS has made many provisions and changes to the non-profit requirements, every church should review its by-laws at least every three years. Over the past 10 years, we have seen many modifications made that must be included in all non-profit by-laws. Without these mandatory inclusions in a church’s by-laws, the by-laws would not be valid, which could create a great hazard for the church, board, officers and directors.

With all the changes being implemented, there should be a full review of the procedures and performances of the church regarding the accounting procedures, collection and depositing of funds, training for the staff, meeting the new requirements for contribution recordkeeping, and maintaining of the payroll records and maintaining all information tax returns required of a church. Training of the staff is critical so they can be current with procedures and how things are to be maintained.

In addition to these items noted above, periodically the insurance policy should be reviewed with your agent to make sure of adequate coverage. You may go to our website, [www.jayroeandcompany.com](http://www.jayroeandcompany.com), for additional information and more free information concerning the church policies and procedures.

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)



Delano Sherley

## Accounting & Tax

### Internal Controls

Maintaining control of church assets, particularly cash, is a critical function of a church financial system. Having the proper procedures in place protects not only the church, but also protects the staff and volunteers from any false allegations. It is not a matter of IF someone would violate the church’s trust and embezzle funds, but COULD they do so as the result of weak internal controls.

Here is a summary of some basic guidelines:

1. All collections should be locked in a fire-proof safe until two or three unrelated people can count the money together.
2. At no time should collected monies be taken off of the property to be counted.
3. The amount should be recorded on a “receipts record” and each counter should sign that they agree to the amount counted. This process should be also be used to count cash and checks received in envelopes.
4. By Monday morning, you will

have multiple receipt records filled out for the prior week – as money is received from multiple offerings. When the deposit is prepared, the receipt records should be added up and should balance to the amount of the deposit, thus verifying that all monies collected equals the amount of the weekly deposit.

5. The weekly receipt reports should then be stapled to the back of the deposit slip and filed.

Delano Sherley is a CPA and president of Delano Sherley & Associates, Inc. He can be reached at 513-737-1314. Delano Sherley & Associates, Inc., 3189 Princeton Road, Suite 228, Hamilton, OH 45011. Email: [Delano@dsacpainsc.com](mailto:Delano@dsacpainsc.com) Website: [www.dsacpainsc.com](http://www.dsacpainsc.com)



**THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS****Oregon Allows 15-year-olds a Sex Change Operation Without Parental Consent**

A report has claimed that residents in Oregon are only now finding out that the state allows teenagers as young as 15 to get state-subsidized sex-change operations without parental notification.



The report says that the policy, the first of its kind in the nation, was enacted in January, and that residents are "stunned" that the state will pay for such procedures through the Oregon Health Plan, its Medicaid program.

The Oregon Health Authority explained its policy in a statement: "In Oregon, the age of medical consent is 15 or older. Patients should be able to demonstrate the capacity to make a fully informed decision and to give consent to treatment, regardless of age. However, nothing in Oregon law requires a health care provider to provide medical services to a minor or safeguard the confidentiality of a minor. In most cases, providers will encourage (and in some cases require) family engagement and supports unless it would endanger the patient."

The decision to cover sex-change operations, which includes cross-sex hormone therapy, puberty-suppressing drugs and gender-reassignment surgery, was made by the Health Evidence Review Commission, and not state lawmakers.

**LEGAL TRENDS****Kentucky Juvenile Dept. Bans Biblical Counseling**

An ordained pastor's counseling credentials have been revoked by the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) for refusing to sign a statement promising to never tell inmates that homosexuality was "sinful." The Liberty Counsel is now defending David Wells, who has counseled inmates at the Warren County Regional Juvenile Detention Center for over 10 years.

Chairman of Liberty Counsel Mat Staver said, "Many juveniles are in DJJ custody because of sexual crimes. David Wells must be able to discuss what the Bible says about matters of sexuality with the juveniles he is trying to help. To remove the Bible from a pastor's hands is like removing a scalpel from a surgeon's hands." The Liberty Counsel has sent a letter to the Commissioner, demanding that Wells' credentials be reinstated.

**Geneticist: DNA Evidence Confirms Adam and Eve**

A respected molecular geneticist explores the historicity of Adam and Eve in a newly-released documentary, explaining that modern findings in the field of genetics confirm the Bible's teachings that all humans descended from an original couple created by God.

Dr. Georgia Purdom earned a Ph.D. in molecular genetics from Ohio State University and has published papers in a number of scientific journals, including the *Journal of Neuroscience* and the *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research*. Her latest work, titled "The Genetics of Adam & Eve," examines the Genesis account of mankind's origins from the perspective of genetics. "One of the biggest debates in Christianity today concerns the first two people: were Adam and Eve real or are they the product of myths? One of the most compelling genetic evidences for an original human couple created by God is mitochondrial DNA research done by creation geneticist, Dr. Nathaniel Jeanson," she advised. "He clearly shows that the common human female ancestor of us all (biblical Eve) lived within the biblical timeframe of several thousand years ago."

These findings, along with other evidence, directly contradict the claims of evolutionists, said Purdom.

"This female ancestor could not have lived 100,000 or more years ago as the evolutionists claim," she continued. "In addition, genetics clearly shows that human and chimps do not share a common ancestor. There are many, many differences in their DNA that completely undermine the possibility of shared ancestry only a few million years ago."

Purdom told Christian News Network that Christians should equip themselves with this scientific information, so that they can defend the reliability of the Bible, starting in Genesis.

"Christians should be aware of the scientific proof for creation because Genesis is the most hotly debated book among evangelical Christians," she asserted. "We need to show people that science supports and confirms the history presented in Genesis."

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

■ The quarter-century controversy over the Mt. Soledad Veterans Memorial has finally ended, after the U.S. Department of Defense sold the government land on which the 29-foot cross stood. Supporters of the memorial celebrated the sale. Liberty Institute attorney Hiram Sasser said, "This is a great victory for the veterans who originally placed this memorial and the Korean War veterans the memorial honors." The Mt. Soledad Memorial Association, which has long provided upkeep for the cross, paid \$1.4 million for the

memorial's half-acre of land.

■ A Mississippi public school district has been fined \$7,500 after a minister prayed during a district-wide honors assembly. The U.S. Federal District Court said the Rankin County School District violated a 2013 court settlement that ordered the district to stop "proselytizing Christianity." The assembly was held in May 2014 at Brandon High School and opened with a prayer by Rev. Rob Gill. The assembly was not mandatory to attend, but honored all of the district's students who earned a high ACT test score.

**SOCIAL TRENDS****Satanist Statue Unveiled in Detroit Amid Protest**

A one-ton statue of the Satanic idol Baphomet was unveiled recently in Detroit, much to the dismay of Christians. Christian News Network reports the statue was presented by the Satanic Temple, a Satan-worshipping group that has a significant following, about 200 of whom are in Detroit.



According to Satanic Temple spokesman Lucien Greaves, the statue of the horned goat with children on either side would "serve as a beacon calling for compassion and empathy among all living creatures. The statue will also have a functional purpose as a chair where people of all ages may sit on the lap of Satan for inspiration and contemplation." Hundreds of protesters went to the unveiling to pray for intervention in the city.

**EDUCATION TRENDS****Christian Students Denied College Admission**

The American Center for Law & Justice is representing two students who say they were denied admission into a Baltimore County community college program because they said they were Christian. *World News* reports the students, Brandon Jenkins and Dustin Buxton, claim they were denied admission into the Community College of Baltimore County's Radiation Therapy Program. Jenkins says he was asked in his interview what was the most important thing in his life. He replied, "My God."

Radiation Therapy Director Dr. Dougherty reportedly told Jenkins: "I understand that religion is a major part of your life. However, this field is not the place for religion. If you interview in the future, you may want to leave your thoughts and beliefs out of the interview process." Buxton told interviewers that the guiding principle in his life was his "faith." In response Dougherty said: "He [Dustin] also brought up religion a great deal during the interview."

Matthew Clark, of the ACLJ, says this isn't the only case of Christian discrimination on public campuses. "Audrey Jarvis, a student at Sonoma State University in California, was asked by a university administrator to remove her cross necklace during orientation because it could offend others. In Florida, at Polk State College, a professor gave a student zeros on several assignments because the student refused to agree with the professor's anti-Christian bias."





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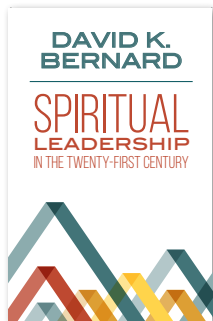
#### SPECIAL ADOPTION GRANTS

- Two \$1,000 grants are available through the Steve and Evelyn Drury Ministry Fund to apostolic couples who qualify for the China Adoption Program.

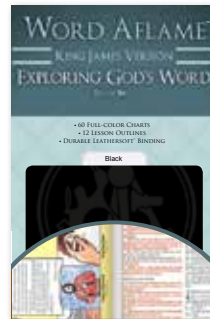




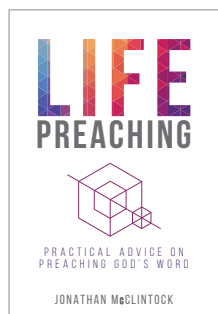
# ALL-NEW FROM PENTECOSTAL PUBLISHING HOUSE



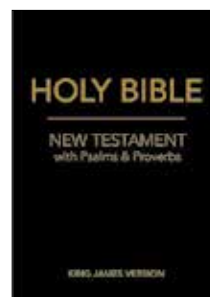
**SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP IN  
THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY**  
By David K. Bernard



**EXPLORING GOD'S WORD**  
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**LIFE PREACHING**  
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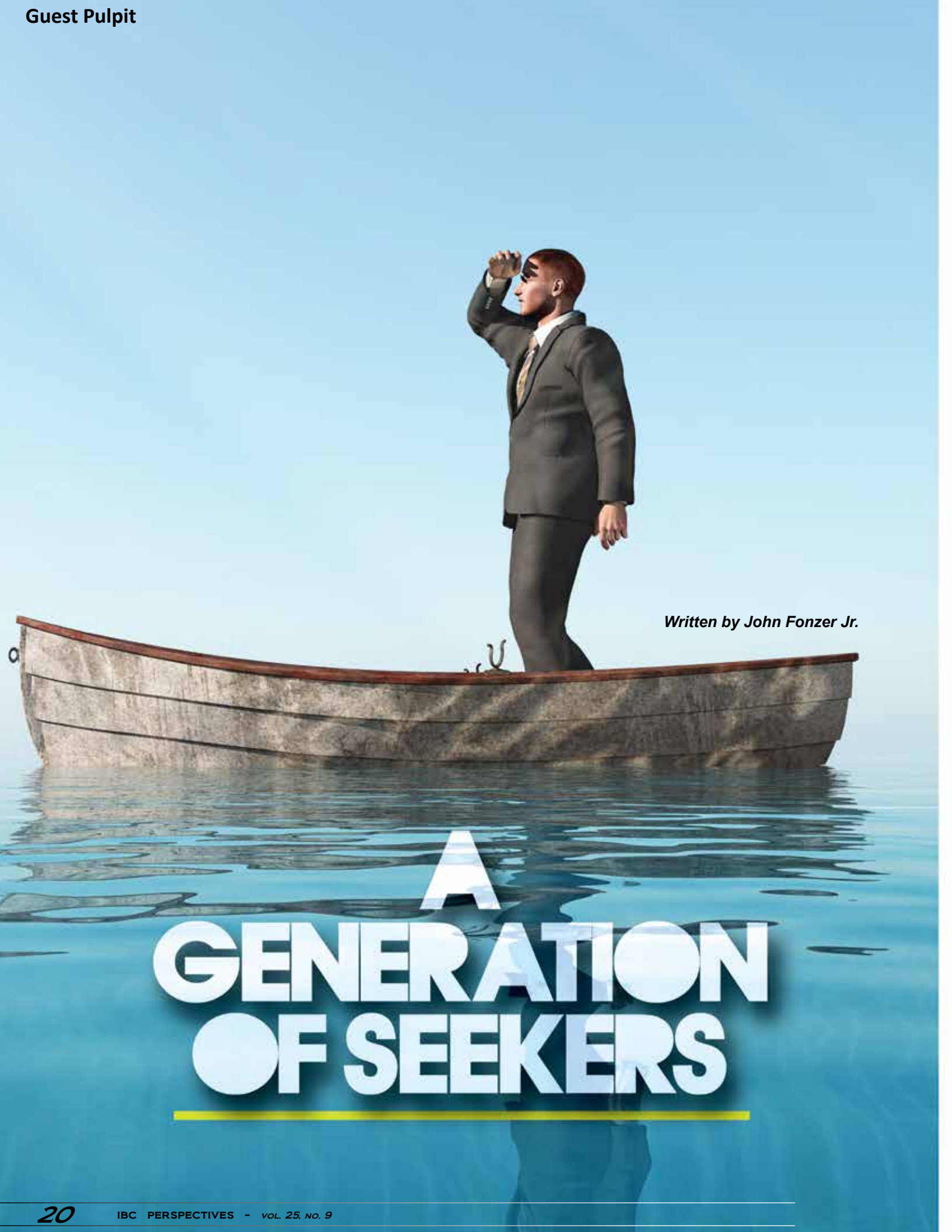
**POCKET NEW TESTAMENT**  
Word Aflame Press



**FOUR TABLES**  
By Ken Gurley



**STILL FLYING FULL THROTTLE**  
By Bennie Demerchant & Dolly McElhaney



*Written by John Fonzer Jr.*

# A GENERATION OF SEEKERS



*Psalms 24:3 – “Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place?”*

*4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.*

*5 He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.*

*6 This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob.”*

The majority consensus of both the rabbis and the Christian theologians is that David wrote Psalms 24 to be sung on the occasion of the Ark being returned from the house of Obed-Edom to Jerusalem. David heard that there was a blessing on the house of Obed-Edom, and David wanted that blessing in Jerusalem. David and his men went to retrieve the Ark. The men went on a fast and they sanctified themselves before the Lord. The psalm they sang tells us about the person who is going to get the blessing from the Lord. He is the man with the clean hands and the pure heart. He shall receive *the blessing from the LORD*. I’ve got this “clean hands” figured out, I think; but I’m worried about the pure heart. *He shall receive the blessing of the Lord.*

### What Will It Take?

I think I have the “clean hands” figured out: quit lying or stealing and don’t murder someone. Stop fellowshiping with Jack Daniels. These are things we can all see. But this business of the heart worries me, especially since, as Jeremiah said, the heart is desperately wicked who can know it? In one sound bite, Jesus said, *“Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.”* Mt. 5:8

Sometimes cynicism and criticism come out of my mouth. It worries me because I don’t see it as a pure heart. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

I read somewhere that if you knew everything your friends were saying about you, you wouldn’t have any friends. When someone gets up at a public meeting and says something that the rest of us are thinking, we want to throw them under the bus. Yet, it was in our hearts.

### The Folly of Life

I find it interesting that in one generation, a man being hidden away as a shepherd boy who seemed as forgotten and unknown as David was, God took from the sheepfold. If there was ever a servant that started riding like a prince, it was King David.

Conversely, Solomon grew up with much given to him and reigned in a kingdom that never knew war. He started so well but lost it in the end. His great wealth became a folly to him. Solomon in Eccl. 10:6-7 bemoaned wealth when he said, *“Folly is set in great dignity, and the rich sit in low place. I have seen servants upon horses, and princes walking as servants upon the earth.”*

We have to come to the place where we recognize that we don’t have enough talent nor can we attend enough planning meetings, or do enough recreating. We need the blessing. And if you have the blessing, you don’t need anything else.

God’s choice of a man who was going to get a blessing was Jacob, the heel-grabber, the man who went after Him. He was a man who had decided that he needed more than intellect, ingenuity and cunning ways. In his heart he said, “I have got to have something from God. My brother is coming after me with 400 servants.” With that in mind, Jacob crosses the brook and there wrestles with a man. In the English Standard Version, the word *man* is capitalized. We understand it was not just a man he wrestled with.

When you have God’s favor, you don’t need everybody to like you if God likes you. Joseph didn’t need everybody to like him. He only needed one man to like him, and that was the king. We all want the favor of our brethren, but there may come a time when we will have to say, “Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done.”

### Attention, Pastors and Preachers

Pastors, make sure you have more prayer meetings than planning meetings. When it takes you four hours to plan and 10 minutes to pray for God’s blessing, you are not trying to impress

God. You are trying to impress men. We are not going to casually impress a God who every morning oversees a universe that is vast and growing. What will impress Him is when you say, “I want that blessing.” I’m not good enough, God. I tricked my brother out of the birthright.

J. H. Osborn showed me something about King Ahaz, who paid off the King of Assyria to protect him from his enemies against the advice of the prophet. And he took the money out of the church to do it. When he went over there to thank the King of Assyria, the Bible said he saw this pagan altar. He admired the pattern and fashion of the altar and wrote down the design and sent it to Urijah the High Priest and asked him to copy it. If Urijah had been a true priest of the Lord he would have thrown it in the fireplace. However, by the time the king got back home, Urijah had already taken the pattern and copied the pagan altar. King Ahaz wanted to use the new altar but also instructed them to keep the old one just in case they needed to use it to inquire of the Lord. The old brazen altar, covered with the blood of thousands of sacrifices, was put over on the north side out of the way. However, let’s keep it handy just in case.

When he got through building that new altar, he changed the laver of water. That laver was so big the Bible called it a sea. 2 Kings 16:17 says, *“And king Ahaz cut off the borders of the bases, and removed the laver from off them; and took down the sea from off the brasen oxen that were under it, and put it upon a pavement of stones.”* He made it easily accessible to all the people, but in doing so lowered the standard and moved away from the pattern given to Moses. Too often, we see this happening. The writer of Hebrews tells us that Moses was instructed to build everything in the tabernacle exactly like the pattern that God gave him. Be careful that you don’t start messing with the pattern because this plan follows Heaven’s pattern.

We must all be cautious about the little things we start changing from the book of Acts pattern. Some churches now practice delayed baptisms. Special celebration Sundays are set aside each quarter or so for people to be water baptized. Neat-sounding church growth reasons are given for this. It might make sense for church growth, but it doesn’t follow the Apostolic pattern. There are no delayed baptisms in the book of Acts. After getting rid of the altar of repentance, you’ll be lowering the laver of baptism. To delay baptism, in my view, is to de-emphasize the importance of baptism.

As I have begun to seek His blessings, I am examining myself. Are my motives pure? What motivates me to give and endeavor to build Bible schools around the world? Is it really for His Kingdom, or do I like the awards and the attention? To search my heart I must rely on the Spirit, for only God knows what my true motives are. He knows why I want to build a bigger church. Only God knows if it is to extend His Kingdom and exalt the name of Jesus.

### Generation of Seekers

May the Lord raise up a generation of seekers -- men and women who want to abide in God’s holy hill. If you are going to abide in that holy hill, you need to have clean hands and a pure heart.

In Heaven, there is only one throne. Everyone else sings to honor the slain Lamb. I envy John with a godly envy when I read, *“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled...”* (1 John 1:1). Jesus is the transformer of lives, the healer of leprosy, the One who opened the blinded eyes and walked on the water and turned water into wine. I long to see the Lion of Judah, who is transformed into the slain Lamb, who is worthy to open the seals. I want to be there when they sing, “Worthy is the Lamb.”



Pastor Jerry L. Dean,  
The Pentecostals of Bossier City, LA



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# A Door Is Opened For Revival in United Nations

By Charlotte L. Pound



Bro. and Sis. Art Wilson  
Detroit, MI

The Acts 2:38 experience that ushered in a mighty move of God and opened a door of spiritual awakening is still happening today. God is manifesting Himself to the general assembly at the United Nations. "We are excited to see

what is unfolding at one of the most secure and exclusive operations in the world," said Pastor Art Wilson of The International Church of Metro Detroit, MI.

It all began in 2013 when Maria (*not her real name*), a secretary to the U.N. Secretary-General, had to leave her position at the United Nations due to a terminal illness. Maria visited her sister, who is an Apostolic believer that attends Pastor Wilson's church in Metro Detroit, and went to church seeking more of Jesus. During her visit, God miraculously healed Maria of her illness, filled her with the Holy Ghost, and she was baptized in Jesus' name!

After she returned home, word spread about her astonishing miracle of healing and many global officials wanted to hear more. Maria then called Bro. Wilson, whom she regards as her pastor, and asked

for his help in trying to better handle the questions. After praying about the situation, Bro. Wilson felt he should go to the U.N. to verify that Maria had been completely cured of her illness, and to explain how the healing power of Jesus was at work.

They had prepared for the meeting with x-rays and medical documentation, confirmed by her doctors, of the healing. Bro. Wilson imagined four or five people would be in attendance. When he arrived, there were over 100 ambassadors, delegates, and workers in the U.N. chapel where the meeting was scheduled.

Every guest that attended the service was given a Bible and a book containing salvation information written by Bro. Wilson. Maria gave testimony of healing and her New Birth experience. Bro. Wilson then expounded on Jesus and explained that the Pentecostal experience is still available to "whosoever will." He asked if any would like to have this experience and many raised their hands and came forward for prayer. Many have been baptized since that meeting.

Because of such interest, Bro. Wilson decided to set up monthly evangelistic services and weekly meetings to teach Bible

studies right on the U.N. campus. He has been given a special security clearance badge that allows total presidential access, as well as the opportunity to meet with the highest officials of the U.N. Bro. Wilson is currently teaching many high-level ambassadors private Bible studies, which he considers another miracle.

Two revivals, at which several special guest speakers have given their testimonies of God's healing power, have resulted in

mighty moves of God upon the listeners and many people have been miraculously healed and filled with the Spirit. They have seven documented miracles of healing. They have baptized 11, and 13 have received the Holy Ghost in just 20 services.

"We have an average of 40 different nationalities at any given service and many of

these individuals represent their respective countries and cultures at the highest level," said Pastor Wilson. "Jesus is bringing them into the church and with the Lord's help they will have the tools necessary to take this gospel back and reach their world! Our plan is to keep moving forward with the Bible studies and evangelistic services as long as Jesus keeps the door open."

For more information, view the website: [www.theinternationalchurch.org](http://www.theinternationalchurch.org) or you may contact Pastor Art Wilson directly at [www.ArtWilson.org](http://www.ArtWilson.org) or [actsknight@comcast.net](mailto:actsknight@comcast.net).



## "On Being Pentecostal"

Book Explains Beliefs and Practices of Oneness Pentecost; Excellent Visitor Gift

By Linda Schreckenberger



Bro. Robin Johnston  
Saint Charles, MO

The book *On Being Pentecostal* is an excellent visitor gift for those first-time guests to Apostolic Pentecostal churches. "It can also be used as the basis of a short class to help newcomers understand the church or as a stand-alone book," said Bro. Robin Johnston, editor-in-chief for Word Aflame Press.

He co-authored the book with Bro. David K. Bernard, general superintendent of the United Pentecostal Church International. They decided there was a need for a book that discussed the beliefs and heritage of Oneness Pentecostalism.

Bro. Johnston explained, "I was a guest at one of our churches years ago and was given a small hardcover book written by Max Lucado. This was the standard practice of that church for all who visited. As a result, I began to consider developing a similar book that would tell the story of who

we are. I floated the idea by Bro. Bernard. He agreed to write five chapters, and I wrote the other five. The talented Word Aflame Press team developed it into a unique and attractive product. In addition, Word Aflame created visitor information and follow-up cards that matched the book's design. They also designed matching templates that can be downloaded so churches could make the book fit their local setting."

Bro. Johnston described the book as a small book (127 pages) designed to give a brief introduction into what it means to be Oneness Pentecostal. He explained, "It contains ten short chapters that include our beliefs, our practices and highlight the stories of our heritage. We intentionally designed the book as a hardback, because we saw it primarily as a gift book. We felt the hardback format would be more attractive to visitors. To date, we have sold over 20,000 copies of the book. Because we print a large volume of books, the books are relatively inexpensive. If purchased by the case, they are \$6.99 each. Stand-alone books are \$9.99. Since the books are as inexpensive as they are, there are no plans

to publish a soft cover edition."

Many churches use it as part of their visitor follow-up program. One church licensed the content of the book and custom-designed its own visitor follow-up book. Bro. Johnston noted, "We continue to receive positive feedback and are in discussion about developing a leaders' guide for churches that would like to use it for a classroom or small group setting for newcomers."

*On Being Pentecostal* is available at [www.pentecostalpublishing.com](http://www.pentecostalpublishing.com), and downloadable templates are free from that site.



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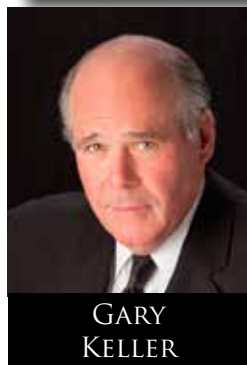
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**Word To The Wise:**

"The greatest of all faults is to imagine you have none."

\* \* \* \* \*

Johnny asked his friend, Tony, whether he had bought his wife a gift for Valentine's Day.

"Yes, I bought her a belt and a bag," replied Tony.

"That was very kind of you," Johnny added, "I hope she appreciated the thought."

Tony smiled as he replied, "So do I, and hopefully the vacuum cleaner will work better now."

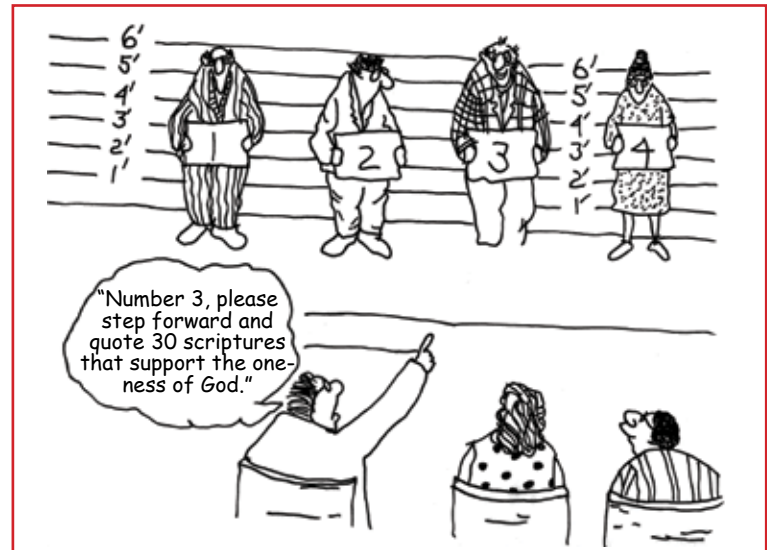
\* \* \* \* \*

A pious man, who had reached the age of 105, suddenly stopped going to church.

Alarmed by the old fellow's absence after so many years of faithful attendance, the pastor went to see him.

He found him in excellent health, so the pastor asked, "How come after all these years we don't see you at services anymore?"

The old man lowered his voice. "I'll tell you, Pastor," he whispered, "When I got to be 90, I expected God to take me any day. But then I got to be 95, then 100, then 105. So, I figured that God is very busy and must've forgotten about me, and I don't want to remind Him!"



Although not a large church, the First Apostolic Church of Mumfugee still prided itself in selecting pastors that were strong in the doctrine.

A tourist browsing a curio shop in San Francisco saw a very lifelike, life-sized bronze statue of a rat. It had no price tag but was so striking he decided he must have it.

He asked the shop owner: "How much for the bronze rat?"

The reply: "Twenty dollars for the rat, two hundred dollars for the story." The tourist gave the man \$20 and said, "I'll take the rat, you can keep the story."

As he walked down the street carrying his bronze rat, he noticed a few real rats crawling out of the alleys and sewers and following him down the street. This was disconcerting; he began walking faster. But within a couple of blocks, the herd of rats behind him had grown to hundreds, and they started squealing.

He began to trot toward the Bay. Glancing backward, he saw that the rats now numbered in the thousands, and were squealing and snarling and coming toward him faster and faster!

Terrified, he sprinted to the edge of the Bay and hurled the bronze rat far out into the water. Amazingly, the millions of rats rushed past him and jumped into the Bay after it, and all were drowned!

The man ran back to the curio shop. "Aha," said the shop owner, "You have come back for the story!"

"No," said the man, "I came back to see if you have a bronze politician."



"Perhaps no one told you, Pastor, but it's been a long-standing tradition around here that after the election of a new pastor, he takes the whole church out to lunch. How does Ruth's Chris Steak House sound?"



\* \* \* \* \*

**Actual Comments by Police Officers During a Traffic Stop**

● "You know, stop lights don't come any redder than the one you just went through."

● "Relax, the handcuffs are tight because they're new. They'll stretch after you wear them a while."

● "If you take your hands off the car, I'll make your birth certificate a worthless document."

● "If you run, you'll only go to jail tired."

● "Can you run faster than 1,200 feet per second? Because that's the speed of the bullet that'll be chasing you."

● "Warning! You want a warning? Okay, I'm warning you not to do that again or I'll give you 'another' ticket."

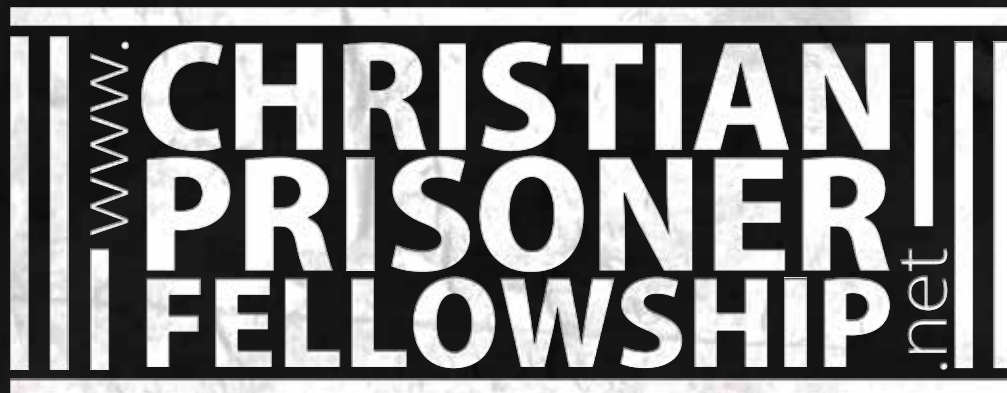
● "The answer to this last question will determine whether you are drunk or not. Was Mickey Mouse a cat or a dog?"

● "Yeah, we have a quota. Two more tickets, and my wife gets a toaster oven."

● "You didn't think we give pretty women tickets? You're right, we don't. Sign here."

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- Students will be able to demonstrate significant knowledge of the Bible, interpret Scripture's original meaning, and apply Scripture to contemporary situations.
- Students will be able to integrate systematic and exegetical theology into a correct biblical framework.
- Students will be able to demonstrate competent leadership in cross-cultural ministry and effective missionary impact.

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- Cross-cultural evangelist
- Evangelist
- Global missionary
- North American missionary
- Urban missionary