



# Perspectives

HE IS  
RISEN



From The Publisher

## A Moment In The Shadows

Paul D. Mooney

**“We must discard any idea that by might, power, intellect, education, bravery, money, flesh or whatever we can do the needed spiritual work upon this earth. The baptism of the Holy Ghost is not an option. It is an imperative.”**

“Peter sat down among them” (Luke 22). At first he had “followed from afar,” yet now he moves closer, much closer. In fact, he’s taken a seat with the enemies of Jesus.

In the large upper room where the Passover supper had been prepared, Jesus had just spoken the unthinkable: “the things concerning me have an end.” Peter no doubt was shocked -- confused. The words Jesus spoke that night were life-altering, revolutionary. “Pray that ye enter not into temptation.” Temptation? The disciples must have asked themselves, “In what way will we be tempted?” Then came the punch to the core of their relationship: the time of no purse, no scrip, no shoes was over. He spoke, “he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one.” What did all this mean? Was His supernatural provision coming to an end? Further, that night each element was given new and eternal meaning. Then Jesus spoke of an unthinkable betrayal, and pronounced woe to the offender. These words ignited surmising about who it could possibly be. This while Judas was already at work.

But what really darkened the meeting was the shocking strife among them about who would be the greatest. A conversation that Jesus interrupted in order to lay down the most powerful revelation of leadership ever delivered to the human race. Jesus explained that the kings of the Gentiles (the world) rule and exercise authority while calling themselves benefactors. In other words, “our gift to you is that we rule you.” But Jesus explains His divine foundation of leadership: “But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? But I am among you as he that serveth” (Luke 22:26-27).

At that same moment, Jesus also warned Peter of Satan’s desire to “have you, that he may sift you as wheat.” Peter responded with his famous pledge, “I am ready to go with thee, both to prison and to death.” To which Jesus astonishingly responds by revealing that Peter will deny him three times in the next few hours.

From that poignant moment they move to the Mount of Olives and the drama continues; the Lord’s agonizing prayer, the visit of the strengthening Angel, the sleeping disciples awakened in time to greet a vicious multitude led by Judas. Judas had no doubt counted the cost and had chosen the money. He drew near to kiss Jesus, only to hear the painful question, “Judas, betrayest thou the Son of man with a kiss?” Then someone interrupts the dialogue, foolishly wielding a sword to cut off the right ear of the high priest’s servant. Jesus touches him and heals the

ear. In a moment, it is over; they have captured Jesus and have taken him to the high Priest’s house. All appears to be lost.

Peter now takes his lonely, bewildered journey into the shadows. He is unsure. He ends up at the wrong fire. He makes his tragic denials, just as Christ had warned him. He is face to face with his fear, weakness, and uncertainty. Who is he now? This is more than a bad day; it is a dark and ominous moment. Can he escape from his situation? Can he overcome his guilt? He is outside of his understanding.

Our intellectual environment is very limited. We respect, of course, the research of those who honestly seek understanding of our world, but just as the universe is vast and appears beyond our comprehension, so is our small journey on this earth. In simple terms, we know little of what will be tomorrow. “There is a path which no fowl knoweth, and which the vulture’s eye hath not seen” (Job 28:7). Job continues, “Where is the place of understanding?” (v. 12).

My point here is that Peter’s true place of understanding was found in his “bitter weeping.” His confession and humility is what brought him out of his hubris and self-reliance. This uncovering of the condition of his soul, as Jesus knew, would lead him into his calling—his mission, into his ministry, into his power, into his anointing, and into his divine historical moment wherein he was called upon to answer the great question, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?”

Jesus’ rebuke was pertinent to the fact that Peter did not know himself. He thought he was invincible. He was completely self-assured and filled with self-confidence. Jesus wanted to reveal his weakness and frailty to him in order to change him, to empower him. Imagine his agony when he heard the rooster crow.

We Pentecostals must humbly see ourselves as completely dependent on the Holy Ghost. We must discard any idea that by might, power, intellect, education, bravery, money, flesh or whatever we can do the needed spiritual work upon this earth. The baptism of the Holy Ghost is not an option. It is an imperative. Our mission, our calling, is to defend and earnestly contend for the “faith once delivered.” We cannot be lulled into a state of bravado and arrogance. For YES we CAN make a miscalculation of ourselves. May God forbid we ever warm ourselves at the wrong fire. Let us not set ourselves down among the enemy, looking to blend in, looking to find commonality with those assembled for an execution of the Apostles’ doctrine. We have no time for bitter tears.

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♦To report on those trends and events which directly affect the work of the church.

♦To promote and enhance the ongoing ministry of Indiana Bible College.

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# 20

## GUEST PULPIT: THE GREATEST CHALLENGE OF THE 21ST CENTURY

(T.F. TENNEY)

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# Preparing for Marriage

Interviews by Maranatha Gannon

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



**Stuart Churchill, Kenai, AK** -- Marriage is a life-long commitment. My wife and I have been married for 48 years and although there have been ups and downs we are committed to one another "till death do us part." When a couple is struggling in their marriage, I ask if they are praying and reading the Bible daily. It is normal for this question to initiate a response in the negative. If the couple is willing, my wife and

I do provide counseling. I endorse the commitment of marriage in my church by encouraging couples to not let love grow stale, but to keep their love fresh and new each and every day. Dates, special times and small vacations will stimulate this essential objective.



**Shane LaPierre, Torrington, CT** -- First of all, commitment is not an evolving word; it is what it is! Commitment requires dedication to the original marriage vow. Marriage between a man and wife should mirror the relationship between God and His bride, which is the church. When preparing to marry a couple as a pastor, it is best to take time and learn the intentions of the couple. One needs to know that the couple has a desire for the right relationship. It is a matter

of priority when it comes to keeping a marriage strong. At the end of the day it is your relationship that is most important. It is what God has given you! Everything else is secondary.



**Fred Foster, West Monroe, LA** -- I believe marriage is between a man and a woman. Marriage should be a commitment for life. You have to be loyal to that commitment and love no matter what you face. Love is the bottom of it. Preaching on this topic and identifying its beauty and role in God's plan helps encourage marriage.

Life can be very beautiful with the right spouse. Pastors should look at their own marriage and make sure it is healthy. It is essential to never lose the

spark of love. Set aside time to have a date night! From a committed marriage come children and ultimately families. Strong families help build a solid foundation for the church. Committed families inspire a special commitment to ministry.



**John Armoto, Indianapolis, IN** -- Commitment is viewed differently today than it was when my wife and I married 44 years ago. We married "for better or for worse" regardless of what would happen. The idea of commitment does not evolve with the times. In order to keep your marriage strong, you must always stay friends. In a cultivated friendship you are able to share your hurts, pains, strengths and weaknesses.

That strong friendship results in a deeper commitment to one another. One thing to remember is to never be afraid to tell your spouse "I'm sorry." Asking for forgiveness is one of the most beautiful things in a marriage. A good marriage does not just happen. Both individuals need to continually work at it.



**John Gannon, Viola, WI** -- Marriage is God-ordained so when we acknowledge Him in that commitment, a sacred richness is experienced. As a minister, it is vital to be both privately and publicly committed. Pastoring is a team effort and a modest acknowledgement of that commitment -- whether it is a hug or kiss -- is acceptable and many times needful. Making time for your spouse is vital in keeping a marriage strong. Dates, walks and little trips together will strengthen your commitment. Praying and reading together is another way to keep your marriage strong. Devotional books are effective even if you are not able to do them every day. I would recommend Dr. James Dobson's "Night Light" devotional because it focuses on the purpose of marriage.



**John Hatch, Batavia, NY** -- As the people of God, we need to stand upon the foundation that Genesis chapter one and two provide in regard to marriage. When a couple is preparing for marriage, I recommend the book *Getting Ready for Marriage*, which requires each person to answer questions about themselves and their future spouse. It allows the couple to discuss central topics such as communication, resolving topics, money and attitudes. The books, *For Men Only* and *For Women Only* by Shaunti and Jeff

Feldhahn are also effective because they provide guides to the inner lives of each individual. I personally encourage the commitment of marriage in my church by emphasizing the importance of strong families.



**Myron Anderson, Ashland, WI** -- In this present world, many people are not committed. When counseling a couple who is preparing for marriage, I try to talk them out of it to see how serious they really are. During the counseling sessions, I try to help them understand that marriage is a serious thing that should not be taken lightly. Literature I have found helpful on the topic of marriage includes *My Father's House* by Jack Yonts, Sr. and the *Marriage and Family Life Seminar* by Charles Grisham. As a pastor, it is important to help couples understand that God must be a part of the equation. Quality time to pray and read the Word of God together will help strengthen a marriage.



**Scott Phillips, Clinton, MS** -- With the exception of receiving the Holy Ghost, the greatest experience in my life has been the relationship, friendship and companionship that my wife and I have shared. Ministry is a very demanding calling, but a pastor's wife and family must come before the ministry. It would be very sad if a man gained the whole world but lost his family. Marriage difficulties spring from someone being selfish. In order to bring restoration, there needs to be a willingness to forgive whatever act that took place. Preferring the other and listening to their opinion while considering their needs will also bring healing. Because of its practicality on the topic of marriage, I recommend *The Acts of Marriage*.





# CAN ANYTHING GOOD COME FROM THE HOOD?

"Can anything good come from the hood?" This was the question facing Pastor Marshall Newble and his wife, Rita, at the beginning of their urban ministry in Milwaukee, Wis. The Newbles took the pastorate of Apostolic Worship Center in 2006. Having grown up in the inner city of Milwaukee, Pastor Newble was aware of the poverty, drug addiction and little hope surrounding this mission field. Just as people doubted if "anything good could come out of Nazareth," people doubted a great work in the "hood" of Milwaukee was possible.

"We started the church in a house and quickly outgrew it," he said. "We were expecting only 20 people but there were 58 in our very first service. God has not forsaken the 'hood' of Milwaukee! In the past year and a half, three people have been healed of cancer. Two individuals have been completely restored from the effects of a stroke. Several people have been healed from sexual and emotional abuse. Individuals have been instantly delivered from crack, cocaine and heroin." In the past, church attendance was 45-50 but now it has grown to 186. It is becoming more and more apparent that something good can come from the hood!

## Personal History

Having never been raised in a church, his mother's reassurance that he would be "used for the glory of God" was not fully understood. At 19, Pastor Newble was baptized in Jesus name and filled with the Holy Ghost. "I was saved for about five years and I continued to feel this compelling desire to win the lost at any cost," he said. "I preached my first sermon at a youth service at the age of 23." Faithful to the command to "study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed," Pastor Newble earned his master's degree in education and Ph.D. in Divinity and Family Counseling. These accomplishments have opened many doors in regard to personal ministry and the sharing of the gospel.

## Reaching Souls

While receiving his doctorate at Grace Theological Seminary, Pastor Newble was asked to help teach some classes. Because of

his teaching on holiness and oneness at this Trinitarian Bible college, he has recently been asked to open a oneness Apostolic branch within this institution. Pastor Newble and his assistant are in the process of developing this branch.

This ministry venue reaches the younger generation, but the older generation has not been forgotten.

For the past three years, Pastor Newble has also had the opportunity to share the Apostolic message on the radio. If anyone tunes into WGLB (1560 AM) on Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to noon, they will hear him speak about holiness, baptism and the infilling of the Holy Ghost. "The radio program is provided by a Trinitarian pastor," he said. "I have been preaching the Apostolic message and nothing has been said about it, so I continue to preach truth!"

Aside from his pastorate work, Bro. Newble is also an author. He was inspired to begin his first book entitled *A Prayer Model* in 1994, and completed it two years ago. His second book, *My Life and Ministry*, is also complete. He is currently in the process of having them published. At present, Pastor Newble is writing his third work titled *Mamma'isms*. When asked about this particular writing, he remarked, "This is a fun book! My mother was from Tennessee, and I still remember many of her sayings."

In fond recollection, Pastor Newble shared a phrase he often heard growing up with six siblings: "I brought you into this world; I can take you out." Wanting to expand and enrich this piece of writing, Pastor Newble invited others to join him in documenting the phrases they heard their 'mamas' say. He hopes to complete this book in time to present it to all the mothers at Apostolic Worship Center on Mother's Day of 2016.

Although souls are the heartbeat of Pastor Newble, he also makes time for his family. "I have three wonderful adult children: Marshall Jr, Angelina and Vashti. I also have a grandson. I cherish the times that I am with them. I was happily married to my high school sweetheart for twenty-four years. Although her passing was untimely in December of 2009, I remain lovingly committed to her memory. My passion for the work of God keeps me fulfilled and lacking nothing. God remains faithful! I was recently given three months to live, but God has completely healed me from leukemia." God has used these events to strengthen the work of God. "Yes, I believe that something good is happening in the hood!"

At the end of the 2009/2010 school year, he left his position as a teacher and decided to go into full-time ministry. "This has afforded me many more opportunities!" he said. "I am now better able to counsel and teach individuals one-on-one." Pastor Newble remains dedicated to the ministry. "I believe that submission to God and spiritual authority are vital if revival is to occur." Pastor Newble not only encourages this, he lives it!

If individuals visit the church website, they will discover that Pastor Newble requests not to be contacted on Mondays except in an extreme emergency. "I set aside this day for prayer and fasting," he said. "I believe prayer and fasting should match your calling. It is for this reason that I lock myself in my room and focus on consecrating myself to Him. I also believe that a pastor should study the Word of God daily and seek His direction for the church daily." This passion and dedication which Pastor Newble exemplifies has been a vital element of revival in the inner city of Milwaukee.

## Church Outreach

Apostolic Worship Center lays the foundation for revival not



only in private consecration but also in public service and outreach. James 2:16 states, "And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?" This church helps with the physical needs of others as well as the spiritual needs.

"Through a special program that the church offers, single parents are given the opportunity to earn their high school diploma and even two years of higher education if they desire," said Pastor Newble. "Flyers are passed out during the month of October to help inform people both inside the church as well as the surrounding Milwaukee community. Higher education, refined English-speaking skills, and state testing preparation provide more employment opportunities and better living conditions for families with single parents." Another ministry that caters to both the physical and spiritual needs of people is the street ministry of Apostolic Worship Center.

"Street ministry comes to life between twelve and three in the morning," he explained. "Equipped with prayer, water bottles and Bibles, about ten individuals hit the streets and join the 'street walkers' of Milwaukee. The quote, 'The darker the night the brighter the light,' rings true in this outreach. Twenty-four hour coffee shops and laundromats become hubs for Bible studies and conversations. Salvation is not always witnessed on these nights, but hungry hearts are touched.

"Although we do not always see someone come to church or receive the Holy Ghost each night, we know our labor is not in vain. We are reminded that some plant, some water, but only God can give the increase. There have been many beautiful and miraculous events that have occurred out on the streets." It is this ministry in particular that strikes a passionate chord in the heart of Pastor Newble. It is on the streets of Milwaukee that he feels most drawn. This ministry occurs around three or four times each week.

### Working Within

Apostolic Worship Center is a multi-generational, multi-cultural church. According to Pastor Newble, the church is comprised of 40% Black, 30% Hispanic and 30% other. "We do sing songs that are in Spanish," he said. "There are also members that are able to give Bible studies in Spanish. Because many of our converts are bilingual and even have had English as their first language, we have not, as of yet, felt the need to have a Spanish work. We are preparing for such a time as that, however.

"Before moving to our current place of worship, we were renting a school gymnasium in one of the worst neighborhoods in southeastern Wisconsin. We had to set up and tear down every service. Since then, we are now leasing a building in the downtown area. The Lord revealed to me that I would be pastoring here. I just continued pursuing a building until we were downtown. The building was previously an Apostolic church and before that it was a union hall. We are starting to outgrow it, so we are considering

two options that would allow us to stay for the present at least. We could start Sunday school at the onset of worship as opposed to after it. We could also have two services. Although the church location is an element that plays into revival, the church body plays the more dynamic role of reaching souls."

Church involvement is an important facet in a growing church. About fifty percent of the Apostolic Worship Church members are involved in some form of ministry, including evangelism. "I encourage involvement through my teaching," said Pastor Newble. "We have been saved to serve a lost and dying people. Just as King David worshipped

God and served his generation, so must we. To equip church members, I prepare them to teach Bible studies through a program I have entitled, 'Teach the Teacher.' Individuals need guidance when it comes to teaching others about the Christian walk. "When it comes to doctrine and holiness standards, I think we need to be careful not to become dogmatic. What I mean by this is that often time there is a focus on just the outward demonstration rather than the inward transformation of the human heart. Commitment must come first. Holiness must work from the inside

out. Holiness and the Apostolic message seem to be effective when home Bible studies, prayer meetings and small group meetings are in effect. These ministries have been the driving forces of evangelism and church growth. This church began because of small groups and Bible studies."

### Penetrating the Darkness

As Pastor Newble explained, it is also important for a pastor to keep the message the same but change methods if necessary.

"It is about meeting people at their level and reaching out to those who are hungry and lost. God's light and truth can penetrate even the darkest street of inner city Milwaukee." Can any good come from the hood? "I know that God gave me that piece of Scripture found in John chapter one verse 46, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.'"

Through the lens of Pastor Newble and the Apostolic Worship Center that same message is true in downtown Milwaukee. Good is coming out of the hood!

For more information regarding Apostolic Worship Center and/or the ministry of Pastor Marshall Newble please visit: <http://awcmilwaukee.com/bulletin.html> or [menewble@yahoo.com](mailto:menewble@yahoo.com)



**Pastor Marshall Newble**  
Milwaukee, Wis.



**Two baptisms at the church**



**Saints and visitors worship together.**



**Exterior of Apostolic Worship Center**



**Pastor Newble preaches on prayer.**



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## Ways to Supersize Church Outreach

By Hal Seed

When was the last time you read a review before you made a purchase? Nobody buys much of anything these days without listening to someone's opinion. Church has always been like that. Most people try church because someone recommended it or they were invited by a friend.

An effective outreach strategy always includes your plan for equipping your church members to be recommenders and inviters. Here are six steps you can take to proliferate grass roots invitations to your church.

1. *Value lost people.* The key to being an inviting church is to be a church that values lost people. At least every other year do a sermon series that reminds your church that you are a Great Commission church. Good times for this series are just before the inviting opportunity: leading up to Easter, August and early January.

2. *Offer an elevated excuse to invite.* Hold an attractional sermon series two to four times a year. At least twice a year, look for a big name or other big draw to kick off the series. This is a limited-time motivator for your congregation to invite others.

3. *Help everyone to know what to say.* In the weeks leading up to the attractional series, give or rehearse a script with people. Give them a simple verbal example about how to invite a friend and how to invite a new acquaintance.

4. *The right card for the right occasion.* Each attractional series should have its own invitation card. Put two in each weekend program for two weeks, skip a week, and then two more in each program on the third weekend; and put them in cardholders in the lobby and around the building.

5. *Provide a social media invite opportunity.* Post invitations on Facebook and Twitter and ask your congregation to share them. It's an easy way for them to be inviters and recommenders and to spread the word to a lot of relevant people.

6. *Make it a sermon application.* Whenever possible, one of the sermon's applications should be "take your connection card and write the names of friends you want to invite to join us next weekend. We will pray with you that they will come to church."



## Meet the TCM Board of Directors

By Stephen Judd, TCM President



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

Someone saw a post on Facebook of the photo taken of the Tupelo Children's Mansion Board of Directors, during its annual meeting in Tupelo, and commented, "Wow, that's a lot of board members!" Yes it is a large board, and it shows the broad support for the Mansion from all

across North America.

The Mansion board is made up of the District Superintendents and Secretaries of 36 "Partnering Districts" of the UPCI, ten Directors At Large, 18 Honorary Directors, as well as the UPCI Ladies Ministries President and General Youth President.

Those serving on the Executive Board are: Kevin Cox (Chairman), Aubrey Jayroe (Vice-Chairman), Matthew Martin (Secretary), David Tipton, Scott Marshall, Scott Graham, Dennis Davis and Mark Johnson. The Directors at Large include: Gary Keller, Robert Martin, Larry Sims, William Chapman, Robert Myre, Coy Hill, Cheryl Becton, Cindy Hart, Barbara Hilderbrand, James Carney, David Myers and Stephen Willeford.

The annual gathering of board members and supporters during February 10-11 included the Annual Fellowship Banquet, campus tours, a ladies luncheon, and meetings of several committees and the board.

All had a wonderful time.

For more information on how you can support Tupelo Children's Mansion, go to <http://www.mansionkids.org>.





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General Session with Bro. Gentry Mangun

wild game/seafood luncheon to follow

Acts 26:16

# Purpose

Registration opens April 18.



# PRAYER LIFE

Evangeline Rodenbush

Written by Maranatha Gannon



Evangeline Rodenbush  
Indianapolis, Ind.

## **Tell us about yourself and your ministry.**

As the daughter of an Apostolic minister, I grew up involved in the church, especially in music ministry. In 1962, I married Robert K. Rodenbush and for eight years we worked together to grow a home missions church in Illinois into a thriving congregation. Then

in 1966, my husband made a visit to Africa and was deeply moved by the obvious need for missionaries in West Africa. We were appointed as missionaries in 1968, and for the next 42 years served in Global Missions with the United Pentecostal Church International: 10 years in West Africa, 12 years as Overseas Ministries Coordinator for Global Missions and 20 years as Regional Director of Europe Middle East Region. In 2010, we retired from full-time missionary service and currently teach at Indiana Bible College, training the next generation of ministers and missionaries.

## **Do you have any prayer mentors in your life?**

My parents were my first prayer mentors. I listened to them pray often. Four other prayer mentors that have influenced my life are Judy Doughty, Cliff Readout, Thetus Tenney and Vesta Mangun. I have studied their teachings on prayer and referenced them often, including in this writing.

## **What was your purpose in learning more about prayer?**

Just because we have grown up in the church or have engaged in prayer for years does not mean we have all the answers. Desperate needs will point this out very quickly. The truth is that most of us still have a lot of questions about prayer. Questions like: "Why do we even need to pray when God already knows our needs before we ask?" "When we pray for God's will and protection, why do terrible things still come our way?" "If God has all power, why doesn't

He perform the miracle I need?" "If God can heal, why doesn't He?" "If God loves us, why doesn't He help us?" Prayer is our connection to God. I want to learn all I can about praying effectively with understanding.

## **How should one approach the throne of grace?**

I was comforted recently when reading Hebrews 4:16, "*Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*" What a welcome invitation!

When thinking of approaching the throne, my mind goes back to our years in Africa and the customs of the people regarding protocol for an encounter with a tribal king or dignitary. Proper demeanor, humility and respect must be observed. It prompted me to consider, "How should we approach the throne of grace?"

## **Are there conditions under which God will hear our prayers?**

"We must know *WHO* we are praying to. Many pray with great sincerity, even to the point of sacrificing their children to crocodiles, but to whom do they pray? We cannot just pray to the air. We must pray to the one and only true God, and pray in His name." (Cliff Readout)

"God has set perimeters around what He chooses to listen to." (Cliff Readout) Psalm 66:18 says, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me." Proverbs 28:9 warns, "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayers shall be abomination." Isaiah 59:1-2 tells us, "Your iniquities have separated between you and your God and your sins have hid his face from you that he will not hear."

"There are some qualifications to asking and receiving. According to I John 3:22, we must keep His commandments and do what is pleasing to Him. John 14:13 tells us that what we ask for must glorify the Father and must be done in His name. John 15:7 teaches the importance of His Word abiding in us." (Thetus Tenney)

## **Why does it seem that some prayers are not answered?**

"Sometimes God cannot answer a prayer in the way we prayed it. When we pray for God to save someone, we must understand they have to be willing to be saved. God will not violate a human will. Hosea prayed regarding his wayward wife that thorns would be put in her path." (Thetus Tenney)

James 4:3 says, "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." I John 5:14, "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to His will, he heareth us..." Some things we ask for, God knows would not be good for us. Paul's prayer for healing was not answered because salvation is more important than healing. (Cliff Readout) We should conclude prayer with, "Nevertheless, let Your will be done."

Some answers come later because they are part of a bigger picture. "Abraham and Sarah were promised a son, but it was 25 years before God's promise was fulfilled. Joseph had a direct word from the Lord, but it took 13 years for it to come to pass. David planned to build the temple, but the promise was fulfilled through his son, Solomon. Paul was to stand before Gentiles and kings, but his journey included shipwrecks, prison and persecution before the day arrived." (Thetus Tenney)

## **What are some elements that need to be present in our prayers?**

Philippians 4:6-7 instructs us, "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication *with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*" My friend Judy Doughty taught me the value of praise and worship in prayer. How much of our prayer time is spent asking and how much do we spend in thanksgiving, praise and worship?

Someone has said, "Our problem is not unanswered prayer, but rather unspoken prayer." When teaching on prayer, Judy Doughty would always say, "Just do it!" *We don't have to have all the answers regarding prayer to pray. Just do it!*



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 2016

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	SPEAKERS	CONTACT / INFO
<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, Jack Cunningham, James Booker 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>MAY 4-8</b>	<b>Impartation Conference</b> Day and evening services are open for everyone; these services are full of powerful worship including singing and inspired preaching from anointed men of God.	Praise Tabernacle 2121 13th Avenue South Great Falls, MT 59405	Marrell Cornwell, Dr. James Hughes and Lee Stoneking	For more info: visit <a href="http://www.praisetabernaclegtf.com">www.praisetabernaclegtf.com</a> or email: <a href="mailto:praisetabernaclegtf@yahoo.com">praisetabernaclegtf@yahoo.com</a> (406) 268-1780
<b>MAY 6</b>	<b>Indiana Bible College GRADUATION 2016</b> Paul D. Mooney and Robert L. Rodenbush All are welcome. 7 p.m.	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN Host: Paul D. Mooney	Paul Mooney, Rob Rodenbush, and 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>MAY 9-10</b>	<b>Ministers Only Book Rendezvous - Grand Rapids, MI</b> No pre-registration required. Just show up! Enjoy the newly expanded Baker Book House. No business, no agenda. Just books, sharing and fellowship.	Grand Rapids, MI	Hosts: Paul D. Mooney and O.C. Marler	For more info: contact LaDusta Brown at <a href="mailto:labwn@aol.com">labwn@aol.com</a> or 317-262-4030
<b>JUNE 8-10</b>	<b>Power Conference 2016</b> Services begin at 7:30 p.m. nightly. Day sessions at 10 a.m. Thursday and Friday morning.	Crossroads Arena 2800 S. Harper Rd. Corinth, MS Host: John Hodum	Mark Morgan, Wayne Huntley	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	Calvary Apostolic Church Of Denver, 5900 E. Yale Ave. Denver, CO 80222	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 17-19</b>	<b>The Apostolic Conference</b> A conference designed for the North American Missionary and Church Planter.	Parkway Pentecostal Church, 601 Reunion Parkway, Madison, MS 39110. Host Pastors: Jerry and Jason Dillon	J.W. Dillon, Art Wilson, David Shatwell, Chester Wright, Raymond Woodward and Mark Morgan	(601) 853-2607 <a href="http://www.parkwaychurch.net">www.parkwaychurch.net</a> <a href="http://ParkwayChurch.net/NAMRegistration">ParkwayChurch.net/NAMRegistration</a>
<b>AUG 18-19</b>	<b>Investing in Futures</b> A conference for those who invest in children. Educating, encouraging and equipping children's ministry workers.	Apostolic Sanctuary 1501 John Deere Pkwy Silvis, IL 61282 Host: Gary Randol	Donnie Sheerin, Brian Kinsey, Tim Gaddy	For more info: visit <a href="http://invest-in-futures.com">invest-in-futures.com</a> (309) 792-0414
<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	To be announced	<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 27-30</b>	<b>92nd Annual UPCI General Conference</b> Don't miss it!	Indiana Convention Ctr. 100 S. Capitol Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46225	To be announced	Online registration, hotel reservations and exhibit registration available at <a href="http://www.upcigc.com">www.upcigc.com</a>
<b>OCT 2016</b>	<b>Apostolic Doctrine Conference</b> Strengthening Our Doctrinal Foundation	New Life Fellowship 7849 Wabash Avenue Terre Haute, IN 47803	To be announced	For more info: <a href="http://www.newlifeterrehaute.com">www.newlifeterrehaute.com</a> or 812-877-9348
<b>NOV 2-5</b>	<b>West Coast Conference - Fresno, CA</b> 33rd Annual Fresno Meeting	Fresno Convention Center, 848 M Street, Fresno, CA	Paul Bertram, Larry Montano, Jess Parker, Sam Ham, O.C. Marler, Homer Looper and David Villegas	For more information call: (559) 225-1622 <a href="http://www.truthtabfresno.org">www.truthtabfresno.org</a>
<b>JAN 2017</b>	<b>Indiana Bible College LIVE RECORDING</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>FEB 2017</b>	<b>WinterFire 2017</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	To be announced	For more info: visit <a href="http://www.winterfire.org">www.winterfire.org</a> or visit Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/winterfireconf">winterfireconf</a> or Facebook/Instagram: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/winterfireconf">winterfireconf</a>



# Theology: Promised Land Given to Abraham and Moses



Robert L. Rodenbush

## Church Today

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### Scalia: An Originalist Mourned

With the death of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, Christians must understand that the 2016 presidential election is more significant now than ever. Justice Scalia represented a stalwart conservative, an outspoken voice on America's most influential seat of power and his equal will be difficult to find. It is yet unknown whether President Obama will nominate a replacement, or if the process will be delayed until after the election. Either way, this is historically a critical moment. As we have seen from the Supreme Court's ruling last year supporting gay marriage, the decisions made by this Court cut to the moral fiber of our nation and impact the freedoms of religious and individual liberty that we thought could never be taken away.

In 2004 he said these words which seem especially resonant given the situation we find ourselves in at this moment, "As long as judges tinker with the Constitution to 'do what the people want,' instead of what the document actually commands, politicians who pick and confirm new federal judges will naturally want only those who agree with them politically."

A poll recently revealed that 32% of Americans had "never heard" of Scalia and another 12% had no opinion whatsoever about his performance ([Gallup.com](http://www.gallup.com)). Our country has lost interest in steering itself, we've handed the moral compass over to a small number of elitists who in exchange promise us "free" this and that, while they rewrite history and change our country into something most of us, if we were awake enough, barely recognize. But this exchange has been made so easy. No longer does the individual have to think about where morality or lack of it leads the nation. We have made the exchange, we have handed our minds and the minds of our children over to the creators of the latest electronic devices and reality TV. It tells us how to feel, how to think and how to be satisfied with inaction.

Scalia was a man willing to stand his ground, and he had the ability to make people like and respect him whether they agreed with him or not. Scalia was a Constitutional Originalist. And, while I greatly respect this position as a fellow student of the law, his originalist position spoke to me just as potently as a preacher as it so easily corresponds to the interpretation of the Bible.

"Our manner of interpreting the Constitution is to begin with the text, and to give that text the meaning that it bore when it was adopted by the people ... This is such a minority position in modern academia and in modern legal circles that on occasion I'm asked when I've given a talk like this a question from the back of the room -- 'Justice Scalia, when did you first become an originalist?' -- as though it is some kind of weird affliction that seizes some people -- 'When did you first start eating human flesh?'" (Scalia, 2015).



Bobby Killmon

## Theology

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### Did Israel possess all the promised land given to Abraham and Moses? There seems to be a contradiction in the Joshua and Judges account of this.

This is part two of my answer. Joshua 8:33-35 are the passages that trouble some. What's so significant about this place for the covenant renewal? Here Abram first received promise of the land (Gen. 12:6-7). Here Jacob returned safely after a long exile from land he was promised (Gen. 33:18-20; 28:13). Now, here's Abraham's seed, here's Jacob's family at the Promise Place, experiencing fulfillment of God's promise of the land. Joshua wants us to note the significance of the location as a way of recognizing the faithfulness of God.

Joshua 10:28-39 singles out six towns Israel attacked and decimated in battle, while in verses 40-41 he summarizes the LIMITS of the southern campaign. That's key. Why the limits? Because it hasn't been totally subdued yet. It seems so decisive in Joshua . . . so why in Judges 1 is there apparently so much remaining? Here's where a little language will help. The Hebrew phrase *pa'am echad* in verse 42 is literally "at one time."

Theologian Jeffrey Niehaus shows the usage of *pa'am echad* is an OT idiom . . . which he shows must mean "once" or "one time" in Joshua 10:42 . . . so it's not declaring Joshua took the land all at one time, but that he took it ONCE, suggesting "the possibility that later battles were required." This verb (took/ lakad) is different from various forms of "yarash" (to possess, DISPOSSESS, drive out), which dominates the language of Judges 1 and denotes effective OCCUPATION of the territory. But what has been "lakaded" may need to be "re-lakaded" later; however what has been "yarashed" has been definitely nailed down." That word for total dispossession of the enemy is absent here in the text. So while they occupied the land, they never subdued it by driving the enemy out of it totally. That promised possession will finally happen in the millennium, according to Paul. Nothing less than God's integrity is at stake here.



T. W. Massengale

## Church Growth

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### Is It Harder For a Small Church to Grow?

A pastor must make a concerted effort to resist the "small-church syndrome" which tends to include a defeatist attitude. Small church pastors

often look at larger churches and sing the "if I only had" song: "If I only had a building like that, the leaders he has, all those saints to organize, the money coming in..." and that's only the first verse. Granted, there are challenges that smaller churches have. But the fact remains: smaller churches can double in average attendance easier and faster than large churches. I have often seen small churches double in attendance in a year or two, but a church of 300 will often take five years or longer to achieve the same result.

Like a giant tree growing from a tiny seed, every large church began as a tiny group of saints, often just the pastor's family. Most will say that their growth in

the beginning came almost entirely from their own personal soul-winning efforts: people they invited, home Bible studies they taught, homes they visited, tracts they passed out and doors they knocked. They poured themselves into the church until they won another soul-winner or two, and then the pace picked up a bit. But still, between tiny and sixty in attendance, much of the conversion growth came from the pastor's labor and perhaps a few others to help.

Small church pastors have much the same requirements as larger churches: sermons to write, saints to encourage, leaders to inspire, problems to counsel, and bills to pay. It's just a smaller scale. A large church pastor must recruit help or they stop growing. A church of 300 will have 12-15 major departments and dozens of smaller ministries. A small church may only have 5-7 departments and fewer ministries, but the need for organization, delegation and management is just as critical.

So what should a small church focus upon? It's exactly the same for ANY size church. First, they need to develop a leadership team. Organize key departments

with an emphasis on evangelism. Provide each leader a good job description. Manage those leaders by having an annual planning retreat, asking for a departmental one-year plan, meeting with those leaders monthly on an off-church night to implement the departmental plans, and tagging in weekly for accountability purposes. "To fail to plan is to plan to fail" has never been truer.

Like large churches, a small church needs a growth plan -- a five-year numerical goal for attendance, church membership and new convert conversion. They need five or six solid evangelism methods that they work aggressively: increasing first-time visitors, visitor follow-up, home Bible study, personal witnessing (CCC), transportation ministry (bus, van, car), and others. Finally there MUST be a strong emphasis upon new convert care with the goal of keeping at least 50-60% of all who receive the Holy Ghost.

Can the small church grow? Of course, but it requires a pastor willing to implement the changes and ministries to facilitate growth, plus lots of prayer, fasting and lifting up the name of Jesus in every way possible. Call 1-800-800-0247 to purchase detailed growth plans.



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Carol Clemans

## Spiritual Growth

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### Our Daily Thoughts and Actions Matter to God!

God says, "Be ye holy for I am holy!" Many Spirit-filled people do not understand what it means to live a holy life. In my counseling ministry, I encounter people who claim to be saved but allow sinful actions to be in their everyday life. Romans through Jude in the New Testament are letters written to born-again believers instructing them how to live holy lives.

Colossians 3 is a life-changing chapter. If believers would obey Paul's godly advice to the church, shining lights would be set before men declaring the glory of God by godly actions. Paul says, "Put off – anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth." He continues, "Put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering, bearing with one another, and forgiving one another; even as Christ forgave you – above all things put on love. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus." We are to do everything heartily as unto the Lord!

A person who goes to church and lies, uses pornography, is abusive in any manner to others, selfish, derogatory, demanding, sarcastic, superior attitude, angry, boastful regarding their abilities, blaming others, etc., is living a life of hypocrisy. What we are in the home reveals our true character. God looks on the heart, and He will not be mocked.

This type of person must repent of these sinful actions and seek help for spiritual growth and emotional healing. I receive calls from pastors seeking my counsel to help the hurting in their congregation. Accountability to God and His Word transforms the humble in heart. Study and obey the scriptures wherein you think you have eternal life. Obey Colossians 3 and your life and family will be changed for God's glory!

*Carol Clemans – Certified Pastoral Counselor & Christian Life Coach, anointed Bible teacher for churches/conferences. Provides nationwide counseling by phone/Skype (636) 448-0121. Ref: Pastor Daniel Batchelor, Duplo, IL & Supt. David Tipton Jr., Raymond, MS. [www.carolclemans.org](http://www.carolclemans.org) bio, 245+ articles, teaching products, book: God's Design for Marriage.*



Delano Sherley

## Accounting & Tax

### Employee Benefits

This is usually the time of year (tax season) when we are asked what types of benefits that a church can provide to employees that are tax free.

Common benefits that the church can pay for (or reimburse) include cell phone (if primarily used for business), church-related mileage, ministerial dues and study materials.

Avoid a flat monthly "allowance" for



Brian Norman

## Revival Concepts

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### Preach Life

*"Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."*

Proverbs 18:21

In writing the churches of Corinth, the Apostle Paul begins by emphasizing the necessity of preaching in the Christian experience and journey. Consider the fact that Paul feels inspired to highlight preaching's preeminence to even water baptism, preaching's power and wisdom, and how it is at the crux of the Christian experience (1 Cor. 1:17-22). To the Christian experience there are few, if any, things at the same level of impact as preaching.

Consider this Biblical truth: No one can come to God absent of hearing the preached Word (1 Cor. 1:17; Rom 10:17). As Jesus traveled among them as Emmanuel, God with us (Mt 1:23), He operated as a Rabbi (master teacher). The Church began with an experience AND a sermon (Acts 2). The power of preaching and preachers themselves cannot be overstated.

*Preaching*, because before life can come into a body, someone must breathe into it!

*Preachers*, because it is our minds, mouth, heart and spirit through which God flows to speak unto people.

If ever the world needs a preacher it is now!

As a preacher it is of premiere importance that I make sure my heart, mind and spirit are pure before God lest I corrupt the communication of His voice to the people. As a preacher it is essential that I regard the words I speak into people. When evaluating the shape of your local body, or the results that you are seeing in your ministry, you should ask yourself these questions:

- Am I speaking "life" unto the body?
- Are my sermons and words lifting men up, or the Lord Jesus Christ?
- Do people feel inspired with faith and love for God by my sermons?

Preachers are like people; we have a choice. We can speak death or life. I choose the latter.

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



Aubrey Jayroe

## Finance

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**I understand there are several changes in the tax law that could affect a minister's filing. Can you provide some of these?**

Yes, as always, there are changes in the tax law.

Highlighted below are some of these.

1. The educator expense deduction of up to \$250 has been extended for 2015.
2. The tuition and fees deduction has been extended for 2014.
3. The IRS has launched a new website that allows taxpayers to make payments directly from a checking or savings account.
4. Items such as state and local general sales tax and mortgage insurance premiums were extended through 2014.
5. The standard mileage rate for 2015 is \$.56.5 per mile and for 2016 is \$.54 per mile.
6. Per diem rates for meals and lodging have changed.
7. Taxpayers will start receiving form 1095-A, 1095-B, or 1095-C reporting the type of health insurance coverage they have.
8. The annual exclusion for gifts is \$14,000.
9. The IRS has started rejecting certain W-2 forms if they are not properly completed. A penalty will be assessed for those rejected.
10. A highly compensated employee is an employee who makes over \$118,000 per year.
11. Beginning 7-1-15 the employer (with 2-50 employees) cannot pay an employee's health insurance premiums unless the plan is a qualified group plan.

*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)*

auto expenses - they do not comply with the IRS reimbursement rules and as a result are taxable to the employee. The IRS-approved mileage rate for 2016 is \$0.54 per mile.

Health insurance is a common benefit; however, you should seek professional guidance if you want to reimburse for out-of-pocket medical expenses. We have covered these two benefits in more detail in prior articles. The church can contribute to an employee's health savings accounts (HSA) if they have a group plan that qualifies.

Church contributions into a retirement fund is also a great but often neglected benefit. We recommend participating in

the Minister's Retirement Fund (MRF), which is a 403b9 plan. This is the only retirement plan that allows distributions to be allocated to a housing allowance, which is 100 percent tax free for a retired minister (a housing allowance paid to a retired minister is not subject to self-employment taxes).

If you have questions on employee benefits or reimbursements, please contact us. We would be glad to help.

*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@dsacpains.com](mailto:Delano@dsacpains.com) Website: [www.dsacpains.com](http://www.dsacpains.com)*



**THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS****Norway Seizes 5 Children From Pentecostal Home; Prompts Protests**

International protests were planned throughout the month of January after the Norwegian government removed five children from their Christian parents under



The Bodnariu family

accusations of "religious indoctrination."

Protests were held in Czech Republic, Latvia, Austria, Romania,



Christians stage protests

Spain, Ireland, India, Poland, and Australia, along with several

other countries, to speak out against the recent separation of five Christian children from their parents at the hands of government officials.

In November 2015, Norway's child welfare services, known as Barnevernet, removed five children, including three sons and two daughters, from parents Ruth and Marius Bodnariu, residents of Naustdal and members of the Pentecostal Church.

The five children were removed from their family and separated into two foster homes after their school's teacher and principal alerted the authorities that the children were being raised in a Christian household that taught "God punishes sin." The parents were then accused by child services of practicing "Christian radicalism and indoctrination."

A petition and a Facebook page have been set up in support of the Pentecostal parents as they continue to appeal to have their family reunited again.

"They are just a normal Christian family trying to raise their children in the knowledge of God! There is no documented or otherwise abuse of any kind in this family," according to an iPetition that has gained 25,000 signatures since November reads.

Friends of the Bodnariu's have defended the Christian family, arguing that accusations of physical abuse are unfounded.

**The Top 50 Countries Where It's Now Hardest To Be a Christian**

2014 was the world's worst year for the persecution of Christians in the modern era . . . until 2015 surpassed it. The 2016 World Watch List (WWL) from Open Doors analyzes how African countries now outnumber Mideast countries on the list, affecting far more Christians numerically (though not as severely). "Open Doors USA predicted that while Christians faced the worst persecution in modern history in 2014, the worst was yet to come," the organization stated. "The prediction was sadly fulfilled in 2015—the persecution of Christians increased on every continent."

More than 7,000 Christians were killed for their faith last year, up drastically from 4,344 in 2014 and 2,123 in 2013. Those numbers don't include North Korea or parts of Iraq and Syria, where accurate numbers are hard to obtain. All three of those countries are among the WWL's top five persecutors.

In addition, 2,400 churches were damaged or attacked worldwide, more than twice the number in 2014.

Violent Islamic extremism was the main culprit, "with its rise being the lead generator of persecution for 35 out of the 50 nations on the list," stated Open Doors. "Its two hubs are in the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa, regions where persecution has risen to a level akin to ethnic cleansing."

The report agrees with the U.S. State Dept. assessment in October, which pointed to the "new phenomenon" of non-state terrorism as the biggest threat to minority Christian communities.

North Korea remained the No. 1 perpetrator of persecution in 2015. Up to 70,000 Christians are in labor camps there, Open Doors said. The countries are judged on a 100-point scale, and North Korea scored a 92. In fact, the top 6 countries all landed within 5 points of each other. Persecution last year increased an average of 2.8 points in each of the 50 countries, stated the report.

Iraq, where Christians are "on the verge of extinction," edged up from No. 3 to No. 2 with a score of 90. Syria and Afghanistan swapped places, with Afghanistan at No. 4 (88 points) and Syria at No. 5 (87 points) on the 2016 list.

The biggest change to the top 5 was the drop of Somalia from No. 2 to No. 7, and the rise of Eritrea from No. 9 to No. 3 (89 points). Pakistan (No. 6), Somalia (No. 7), Sudan (No. 8), Iran (No. 9), and Libya (No. 10) round out the WWL's top 10. Almost all of the countries are repeat offenders.

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

■ The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) passed a resolution that declared the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron and Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem as Islamic sites. This is an obvious, brazen attempt by the Arab nations to change history and delegitimize Israel's claim to holy sites.

■ LifeWay conducted a survey to gauge how pastors are likely to vote in the 2016 presidential election. Among all Protestant pastors surveyed, just four percent say they would vote for Donald Trump. While over 47 percent of the pastors say they are "undecided" on who to vote for, 17 percent said they would vote for Ted Cruz for president.

**WORLD TRENDS****China's House Church Movement Pledges to Send Out Missionaries**

In a recent development, 100 of the top house church leaders from within Communist China made it to Seoul, South Korea, where the Lausanne Movement held a special conference for them. And this fall, about 850 Chinese leaders gathered for their own Missions



Conference even closer to home. They announced from Hong Kong a long-discussed goal: to send 20,000 missionaries from China by the year 2030.

The number is enormous, especially for a country that has sent only a few hundred foreign missionaries so far. Of the world's top six sending countries, four hover around the 20,000 mark, according to the Center for the Study of Global Christianity: France, Spain, Italy, and South Korea. Only the United States (127,000) and Brazil (34,000) send more. But nobody's ruling China out.

It's hard to pinpoint the number of Christians in China since there's no official count. The Pew Research Center estimated 67 million in 2010.

**LEGAL TRENDS****Dentist Sued; Played Christian Music In Clinic**

A Christian dentist in Michigan is being sued by four former employees for playing Christian music in her clinic. The former employees claim that Dr. Tina Marshall caused them distress by forcing her religion on them.

According to the complaint, the plaintiffs "are seeking damages for loss of past and future income and employment benefits, outrage, humiliation, embarrassment, mental anxiety, emotional distress, and loss of professional reputation."

The employees also claim that Marshall violated Michigan's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, which prohibits employers from discriminating based on religion, race, nationality, age, sex or marital status.

*Christian Today* reports a trial by jury will begin this summer. Marshall's attorney Keith Jablonski denies his client violated any laws, and is being targeted by disgruntled former employees for her faith. Marshall is "being attacked in this lawsuit for her Christian beliefs, based solely on her desire to play religious music and radio stations in the dental office of the business that she owns," Jablonski said.



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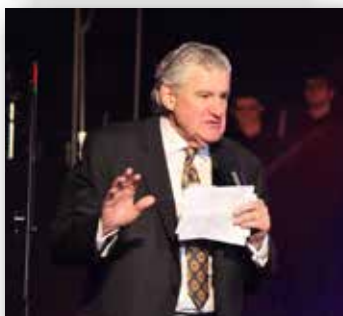
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# INDIANA BIBLE COLLEGE



## An Educational **EXPERIENCE** – Not Available Online

IBCLive 2016 beautifully illustrated what education at Indiana Bible College is all about. It truly is a whole **EXPERIENCE**. It's not just about attending a lecture in a classroom or about merely gaining knowledge – that can be done anywhere. IBC is really about a unique combination of mentorship, friendship, scholarship, and fellowship. It's about the deep relationships that are built between teachers and students, between fellow students and between a servant and the Master.

IBCLive 2016 was held on January 29. It is the annual live recording for the college choir, chorale and PRAISE. More than 200 anointed and talented students demonstrated their dedication to their faith and to their God as they poured heart and soul into creating a lasting memorial of worship to their Creator. It was beautiful, and it was the result of months of preparation and planning filled with long hours of rehearsals and practice.

The audience responded to each song and the students' testimonies of faith and deliverance. The Spirit of the

Lord moved into the sanctuary and as the last song came to a close the altar area and aisles were quickly flooded with hungry hearts. The music stopped, yet the worship continued and a lingering presence of the Lord kept the crowd long after the concert had ended.

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

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

The **EXPERIENCE** of being a student at IBC is a once in a lifetime thing. Soon,

each of these talented individuals will be off doing their own work, finding and executing their own individual callings, and with God's help becoming who they are supposed to become – But tonight, they *were* Indiana Bible College and they were **EXPERIENCING** this great thing together in preparation for the greatest Apostolic revival this world has ever seen.

The harvest that has been promised us in the last days is great, but we know the laborers are few. IBC is dedicated to training the next generation of men and women to proclaim this Oneness Apostolic message.

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

By: Jaye M. Rodenbush



# The GREATEST CHALLENGE of the 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY T.F. TENNEY

*Genesis 32: 27-28: "And he said unto him, what is thy name? And he said, Jacob. And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed."*

We are living in a world in an identity crisis. People simply do not know who they are, or who they are supposed to be. The society in which we operate is in trouble. Morality is disappearing; there is no "normal" any more. As Apostolics, we must find our true identity, knowing it is when we find God's destiny for our lives, then and only then will we know – and become – who we are meant to be.

Jacob had to come to his identity before he was truly blessed. He had to know who he was – and he had to know it in light of knowing his God – before the blessing could come. When Jacob wrestled with the angel, he realized he was literally wrestling with God. It was in the course of this wrestling match, the Lord asked Jacob a simple question: "What is your name?" Jacob answered, "I am Jacob." His name meant "a cheat; a coveter." It defined him as someone who was always after what someone else had.

His life so far had reflected that. Yet God replied, "You will be called Israel." This new name meant "prevailing strength."

For the God wrestler, that was a pretty good indicator things in his life were being forever changed by this encounter. In the wrestling, Jacob came to grips with his identity and found out he was destined by

God himself not to be a cheating low life but, rather, to be a man of prevailing strength in the Kingdom of God.

You get your identity from your altars. In Genesis 33, Jacob built an altar and called it El Elohe Israel – "the mighty God of Israel." Yet in Genesis 34, when his sons murdered all the men of the city, he went back to referring to himself as Jacob. He needed to be reminded of who he was. So in Genesis 35:10, God reminded Jacob, "Thy name is Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: *and he called his name Israel.*" Jacob almost gave up on himself because of a family crisis; God did not give up on him. God called him by name; "...he called his name Israel."

There is a lesson here for all of us. We cannot be defined by names given to us by anyone other than God. The enemy cannot be allowed to haunt and taunt us about whom and what we used to be. God is ever present to remind us of who we are in Him. We must remember that God recognizes who we truly are.

Several years ago, a preacher called me and was quite frankly despondent over some tragedies he had experienced in his family. He said, "I just called to tell you I'm not fit to be a pastor due to issues in my family." I told him, "God only had two kids in the garden and they both backslid, but he did not quit being God!" You have to be what God called you to be – regardless of the circumstances around you. You are still you, and He is still God!

God designed a special purpose for you. You must first discern what that is, be willing to do it, and set about seeing the fullness of what He has dreamed for you become a reality. While others may define themselves by their education, their family name or their nationality, our true identity comes from who we are in Him. Remember, when you find God's destiny for your life, you know who you are, and the circumstances of life cannot change that.

On Jacob's journey back home he sent his entire family and all their belongings across the brook first. "God, the last time I crossed this brook I did not have anything but You. This time, I am separating myself from these things, even though they may be your gifts in my life, to remind myself that who I am is found not in things but in You."

Jacob had an incredible lineage. However, you don't get your identity from your lineage. You have to settle that issue between you and God. Jacob had lied to his own blind father, cheated his brother, and had to learn how to out-cheat Laban. Ultimately, he wrestled with an angel and demanded a blessing. He said, "I won't let you go until you bless me. I refuse to leave here like I came. I'm not leaving here until I know who I am."

Why do you think God asked Jacob his name? God, who is omnipotent, did not need to be reminded of Jacob's name. Jacob did. Twenty years before this, when Jacob's father, Isaac, asked him his name, he lied and said, "My name is Esau." I believe the angel asked the question to remind Jacob of the lie and what it had gotten him – and to focus his attention on the fact that it was time to tell the truth and receive the blessing of God. To get this blessing he was seeking, Jacob was going to have to be honest. "Tell me who you are..."

Jacob was afraid of Esau his brother – especially when he heard he was coming after him with 400 men. When Esau came, Jacob went out to him. Before Esau could do anything, Jacob was bowing down to him. Jacob's humility gave him authority



over his brother that he never received by his manipulation. His brother dismounted, ran and hugged him. All was forgiven because Jacob came to his real identity and it affected his brother. His brother recognized a new man. When others see the change in us, it will help us see ourselves that we, too, have been changed by our own divine encounter.

Some people wrestle with their identity, letting circumstances define them. They are constantly affected by who likes them or who doesn't like them in the moment. There are always going to be people who don't like you and people who do. There will always be people that accept you and people that don't. Live with it. Quit being frustrated over it. The important question is not whether they like you or not. God loves you enough He gave His life for you and that's really all that matters.

I've known wonderful people who have made one bad mistake and some people could never get over it. I'm glad God's not like people. He is a loving and forgiving God. After the disciples dealt with Judas and replaced him in the first chapter of the book of Acts, he is never mentioned again. If that would have been me, I would have mentioned him in every sermon. However, they never mentioned him; it was over. The Judas factor is to be able to get over some people. Just close the chapter, because you can't change it. Only a dog returns to its vomit. If you keep going back to things you have regurgitated over and over you are no better than a dog. Let it be. You have to get your identity from Him, not from circumstances or people or things that have happened in your past.

Many years ago, I was camping in a rather remote area of the Smokies with some friends and family. One night we heard something scratching along the tent. I stuck my head outside to see what it was – and there was a big bear. I quickly settled back into my tent and tried to be as still as possible until the bears moved on to their next spot – hoping it wasn't going to be one of our tents.

The park rangers had already warned us that bears had been foraging in the garbage at campsites that season. Basically, the bears rule – even over humans. They explained there was only one animal that bears would let eat with them – a skunk. A skunk is a little thing next to a bear, and the bear doesn't appreciate the skunk stealing his food, and if the bear wanted to, he could get even with the skunk, but there would be a high price of getting even with the skunk. Getting even just isn't worth it. To get even with a person, because they are below you, you have to come down, and now you have stooped to their level.

At Calvary, Jesus wasn't to blame; He had done no wrong. The sinless One became sin for us. He who knew no sin became sin, taking the blame for things He was not guilty of to act redemptively. Are we big enough to take the blame for something we did not do in

order to act redemptively? My identity and my righteousness are in Him.

On the night of February 26, 1996, east of Tampa, Florida, three teenagers were out cruising late one night, bored, looking for something different to occupy their minds and their time. By all accounts, they were what you would call "good guys." They weren't drug addicts or muggers. They were just up to a little mischief and thought it would be fun to pull up some traffic signs and move them around.

A little later that evening a couple of their friends were driving around listening to music after a night of bowling. They breezed through an intersection without stopping because the stop sign had been moved. They were hit broadside by a truck. The two friends and the truck driver were all killed. Why? Because someone moved the stop sign. On January 20, 1997 the three teenaged sign-movers were each sentenced to 15 years in prison.

Pentecostals, if we move our signs we are going to lose our identity. There is a generation following us that's going to run through the intersection and get hit. There are some things that identify us that we cannot abandon. We are a "Jesus name" people. We are a holiness people. We live a different lifestyle. We don't worship like everybody else worships. One of the greatest challenges of the 21st century is to settle who you are in Him. Jesus died, and He arose again. He is alive forever more. He is the author and the finisher of our faith – He is the source of our true Apostolic identity.

*T. F. Tenney was born and raised in DeRidder, Louisiana. At the age of 15, in 1949, he began his ministry and at age 19 assumed his first pastorate in Monroe, Louisiana. He attended Apostolic Bible Institute. Later, he received an Honorary Doctorate from ABI.*

*From 1976-78, he returned to DeRidder to serve as pastor of his home congregation. In 1978, he was elected District Superintendent for the state of Louisiana, charged with the oversight of approximately 300 churches and 800 ministers and pastors. He held this position for 27 years – until his recent retirement and re-launch into full-time mobile ministry.*

*He has been a radio speaker, both on a nationally broadcast radio program and a local daily program. He is a respected writer and regular contributor to various religious periodicals. He is the author of eleven books, to date.*



**T.F. Tenney**  
Alexandria, La.





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NAM Split Sessions

7:00 PM

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Rev. Art Wilson

**Thursday**

9:30 AM

Rev. David Shatwell

Rev. Chester Wright

7:00 PM

Rev. Raymond Woodward

**Friday**

9:30 AM

Rev. Chester Wright

Rev. David Shatwell

7:00 PM

Rev. Mark Morgan



# When God Says No

## Author Shares Emotional Struggles Dealing With Child's Autism, Epilepsy

By Brooke Robinson



Sis. Denise Wynn  
Pennsville, NJ

*When God Says No* is a rare gift which grants the reader access into the very soul of a mother as she desperately tries to hold onto faith, while accepting the disabilities of her child profoundly affected by autism and epilepsy. It is raw; it is

authentic. The reader throughout the story can feel the emotional struggles with faith, spirituality and relationships.

The journey, which led to the development of the book, began when Sean, the Wynn's second child, began having life-threatening seizures and required frequent hospitalizations. Sis. Denise Wynn said, "Each time he regained consciousness, we were so relieved that he was alive that we didn't consider the fact that brain damage occurred with each episode. He was diagnosed with epilepsy, developmental delay and cognitive disabilities. The autism diagnosis was made just before his third birthday." The emotional trauma of absorbing such a diagnosis into daily life was overwhelming for their family. Spiritually,

the Wynn's were affected in a way that they could not articulate at the time. The family suffered and they did so alone.

There are families just like the Wynn's who want to live for God, who want to work in His Kingdom and be in fellowship with the church community but are not accepted or supported. This needs to change. It is appalling to know that there are families being asked to leave churches because their child is a disruption.

Sis. Wynn, who attends Spirit & Truth Worship Center in Bridgeton, NJ, said, "I have two dreams of what this book will accomplish. One is awareness . . . that those who are in our pews and struggling to find acceptance, love and support will find them in the body of Christ. Two is change . . . that this awareness brings change, which welcomes souls into the Kingdom as we reach for families impacted by disabilities in our community." Recent statistics tell us that 85 percent of individuals with a disability do NOT attend church. There needs to be a change!

The response to the book has been humbling and overwhelming, according to Sis. Wynn. Those that live the life described

in the book are relieved to see the authenticity of the heartache exposed. Truth brings freedom. She stated, "One success story that stands out to me is after reading my book, a lady came to our church to find me. She brought me out to where her 19-year-old daughter with autism was waiting in the car. With tears streaming down her

cheeks she asked if she could come inside with her. I hugged her and assured her that they were welcome. A spirit of worship filled the room as she and her daughter entered the sanctuary." The book has opened the door for a ministry called ABLE (Accepting, Believing, Loving, Embracing), which was launched in 2014. Pastor Jeremy Cornett and church leadership are supportive of ABLE ministry and are currently remodeling rooms to create a sensory friendly environment for individuals with autism.

If you are interested in starting such a ministry, ask families impacted by disabilities how the church can effectively minister to them. The book, *When God Says No*, and the workbook are excellent tools for small groups and can be found on Pentecostal Publishing House and Amazon for \$14.99.



## Series Teaches Children About Apostolic Doctrine

By Maranatha Gannon



Bro. and Sis. Paul Brown  
Flint, Mich.

Burdened for children and their need to know and understand the basic teaching of Apostolic doctrine, Bro. Paul Brown approached his pastor, Bro.

Robert Henson of South Flint Tabernacle, in hopes of teaching a

class to help instill these principles at his local church. From this passion and request, the Kidz Doctrinal Training (KDT) series was born. This series has been designed to be a personal curriculum for children based on Apostolic doctrine.

Whether it is taught in Sunday school classrooms, group settings or at home by parents, this fully illustrated curriculum has been a blessing to children across the United States. With a teacher's guide, student workbook, answer key and all twelve lessons on PowerPoint, this series keeps students engaged and learning.

KDT includes essential topics rooted and grounded in Apostolic doctrine. "Knowing that children often grow up into teen-

agers who do not know or understand why they believe what they believe, I felt it necessary to focus on core teachings such as the Oneness, Jesus name baptism, the infilling of the Holy Ghost, holiness and the second coming of Christ," said Bro. Brown. "Children and teenagers need to be able to explain why they believe what they believe."

While teaching this class at South Flint Tabernacle, he began refining the materials. "My pastor suggested I look into having them published," he said. "As I researched other possible materials I realized there was little adequate material on this subject." Throughout this process, several individuals have provided guidance and insight. South Flint Tabernacle Sunday School Superintendent Dr. Anita Harrison, along with Pastor Henson, and a graphic designer have worked diligently to bring this work into fruition. Although it has been published, supplemental additions are continuing to be made.

At a recent seminar, Bro. Brown offered many more ideas that could be included in the teaching of KDT, such as DVDs, object lessons and songs. Although it is currently geared for children between the ages of eight

to twelve, he hopes to add another series for children ages three to six in order to better expand and scaffold their learning.

Bro. Brown, who recently completed his bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, has been able to put this training into action to enrich children's ministry in a dynamic way. He has run a preschool and childcare program at a church in Howell, Mich. and is transitioning this ministry to his home church. He is very excited and passionate about this ministry as well as the future of the Kidz Doctrinal Training.

To order or research the Kidz Doctrinal Training series, you may access the Pentecostal Publishing House through its website: <https://www.pentecostalpublishing.com/>. You may also contact South Flint Tabernacle by phone (810) 743-1710 or browse its website <http://www.southflint.org> to gain more information. If the series is ordered through the church, a special discount is available for orders of 10 sets or more. The cost for one set is \$35.



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**Word To The Wise:**

"Blessed are they who have nothing to say and who cannot be persuaded to say it."

\*\*\*\*\*

A rabbi went to the barber shop. After his haircut, he got ready to pay the barber and the barber said, "No, Rabbi, I don't charge the clergy for haircuts." So the next morning the barber found a loaf of Jewish rye bread outside of his doorstep.

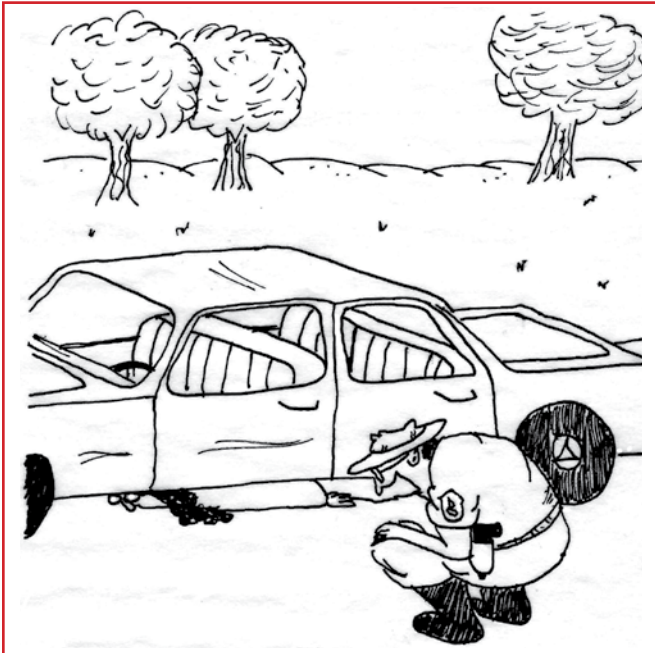
A couple of days passed and a Catholic priest came in to get his hair cut. He got ready to pay and the barber said, "No, Father, I don't charge the clergy for haircuts." So the next morning he found a bottle of wine outside his front doorstep.

A couple of days later the Baptist preacher came in to get his hair cut and when he got ready to pay the barber said, "No, Reverend, I don't charge the clergy for their haircuts." So the next morning, the barber found 15 Baptist preachers on his doorstep, ready to get their hair cut!

\*\*\*\*\*

A minister who was very fond of pure, hot horseradish always kept a bottle of it on his dining room table. He offered some to a guest, who took a big spoonful.

When the guest finally was able to speak, he gasped, "I've heard many ministers preach hellfire, but you are the first one I've met who passed out a sample of it."



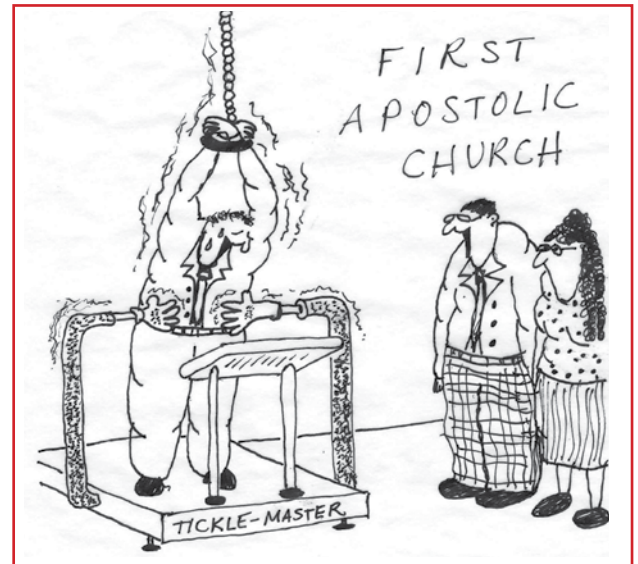
"Look, Sis. Foozman, I only wanted to tell you your license was expired. If you will come out, I won't tell Pastor you went out in a bath robe with your hair not fixed."

\*\*\*\*\*

Grandma and Grandpa were sitting in their porch rockers watching the beautiful sunset and reminiscing about "the good old days." Grandma turned to Grandpa and said, "Honey, do you remember when we first started dating and you used to just casually reach over and take my hand?"

Grandpa looked over at her, smiled and obligingly took her aged hand in his. With a wry little smile, Grandma pressed a little farther, "Honey, do you remember how after we were engaged, you'd sometimes lean over and suddenly kiss me on the cheek?"

Grandpa leaned slowly toward Grandma and gave her a lingering kiss on her wrinkled cheek. Growing bolder still, Grandma said, "Honey, do you remember how, after we were first married, you'd kind of nibble on my ear?" Grandpa slowly got up from his rocker and headed into the house. Alarmed, Grandma said, "Honey, where are you going?" Grandpa replied, "To get my teeth!"



"It's based on Proverbs 17:22: 'A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.' So far we have it booked through next month."

A woman accompanied her husband to the doctor's office. After the check-up, the doctor took the wife aside and said, "If you don't do the following, your husband will surely die."

1. "Each morning, fix him a healthy breakfast and send him off to work in a good mood."
2. "At lunch time, make him a warm, nutritious meal and put him in a good frame of mind before he goes back to work."
3. "For dinner, fix an especially nice meal and don't burden him with household chores."
4. "Satisfy his every whim."

On the way home, the husband asked his wife what the doctor had said. She replied, "You're going to die."

\*\*\*\*\*

Two pastors' wives were visiting and sewing their husbands' pants. One wife said: "My husband is just beside himself, he does not know what to do anymore and he is so tired and depressed. He said he is ready to just give up and resign."

The other wife said: "I am sorry to hear that because my husband has never been happier. Our membership is growing and we are out of our financial burden, we have such a large and loving congregation. Life could not be any better than it is right now."

One woman was mending the seat of her husband's pants, the other was mending the knees.



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### ENDOWING THE FUTURE THROUGH BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP

What is Biblical Stewardship? Some think tithing is the essence of stewardship, others think living a lifestyle of simplicity is being a Biblical steward. Both of these views are important components of stewardship, but each on its own falls short of the privilege and responsibility of stewardship in the Bible. The theme of Biblical stewardship is that God is owner of all. This means that Biblical stewardship is always about managing someone else's stuff.

The Stewardship Group of the UPCI desires to help our constituents be good stewards by using tools like endowments. With endowments we can provide a more stable environment

financially for our churches. Churches often only think about the current fiscal year or the next payroll. An Endowment helps a church get out of that financial trap and in time, will diversify church income and reduce dependency on the fluctuations of the economy and any donation reductions. By using this tool we are stewarding the blessing that God has given to us by providing a stable future for the church.

If you would like more information on opening an endowment for your church please contact the United Pentecostal Foundation and Kent Russell at: [krussell@upci.org](mailto:krussell@upci.org) or 314-373-4363

[www.upcstewardship.com](http://www.upcstewardship.com)

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