

Vol. 22 / No. 9

Indiana Bible College

Perspectives



God Has No Opposite

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Nothing Will Ever Be Solved

“Nothing will be solved until men cease from greed, corruption, sinfulness, hate, murder, fornications, and adultery. Nothing will be solved until fearless Spirit-baptized men and women proclaim what they know through the Holy Ghost, what they know by revelation and what they know through the experience of the new birth.”

“Nothing will ever be solved,” the waiter sighed.

“Really?” I asked.

“It just gets worse. Why vote? Why do anything? Nobody cares,” he continued.

The young waiter’s lament had come at the end of a casual conversation about politics, the war in the Middle East, and globalism. He was bright, well educated and articulate, but his words revealed that his heart was gone, his spirit drained. Sadly, his emptiness is emblematic of today’s culture.

His sentence stuck in my head. “Nothing will ever be solved.” I wanted to reject this idea. Yet, if I’m honest I must admit that at certain moments I’m inclined to agree.

At least, I’m ready to argue that man’s cyclic brutalities of war, greed, racial conflict and the like will never lead to utopia. And, although many things are better, many things are worse. But this analysis of the world’s condition, this type of thinking is just that – brain thinking. The better assessment comes from examination of the heart. We must ask, not what are we thinking, but what are we feeling? What are we seeing with the spirit, the soul? (Proverbs 23:7) What do we see through the eyes of faith? This is the question of our time. This is thinking from our hearts... heart thinking.

I was in Yosemite National Park a few weeks ago. As I took in the magnificent scenery I recalled the words of famous photographer Ansel E. Adams, who dedicated his life to capturing the canyon valley on film. A few years ago, I had recorded in my journal this quote of Adams: “When I’m ready to make a photograph, I think, I quite obviously see in my mind’s eye something that is not literally there, in the true sense of the word. I’m interested in expressing something which built up from within while it is not abstracted from without... it would be the equivalent of what I saw and felt.” When I saw the power and beauty of Yosemite I understood what Adams meant. There is more here than what one is privileged to see through the eye alone. It must be felt. It is emotional. Therefore, in his photos he attempted (and succeeded) to express not just what he saw but also what he felt.

I believe a similar depth of understanding is needed in the Church. What one knows intellectually or learns through human wisdom is one thing, but it falls extremely short of the understanding we can reach by accessing what we feel and sense in the realm of the Spirit. There is a deeper level of knowledge that comes through the power and work of the Holy Ghost that allows us the ability to “know that we know,” even when we cannot readily explain how we know. Mere book-knowledge and intellect fall short

of what is revealed to the Christian by the Holy Ghost. It is the duty of the Church to rely on the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Without this reliance we are left to our own devices and human wisdom; this will inevitably bring about colossal failure. Complete dependence upon the Holy Spirit will eclipse our personal expression and bring about an unspeakable relationship that transforms the mind and the spirit, creating union with Christ.

The opportunity to know God and to be empowered by God is connected solely with the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The world by human wisdom will never know God (1 Corinthians 1:21). The call to men by men who are merely regurgitating what they know through their own humanistic powers or what they imitate from religious traditions, without experiencing Holy Spirit revelation and comprehension, falls on deaf ears.

In a sense the young waiter was right in his opinion that “nothing will ever be solved.” Nothing will be solved until men cease from greed, corruption, sinfulness, hate, murder, fornications, and adultery. Nothing will be solved until fearless Spirit-baptized men and women proclaim what they know through the Holy Ghost, what they know by revelation and what they know through the experience of the new birth. The solution to man’s fallen condition will not come through academic acumen and mental astuteness. We were forewarned that the weaponry of the Spirit would not be carnal. The battle will not be won by might, by influence, by science, by philosophy, by politics, by statism, by works or by cool. It will be won by His Spirit. We must feel it. We must let it burn within us. Say it. Teach it. Preach it. Think it. Love it. Live it. Die for it.

Adams’ photographs are unparalleled because he gave expression to the spiritual power of the creator’s masterpiece - Yosemite Valley. We must do the same with our expression of the Pentecostal outpouring. It cannot be communicated in some flippant way, like a snapshot taken from the rolled down window of a tourist’s SUV. It will take time, time spent feeling after the Spirit. Time spent waiting for His anointing.

Dull, careless impressions of un-anointed church services will be forgotten. It is the masterpieces created by God through men whose souls are on fire with the passion of the Spirit that will be remembered forever.

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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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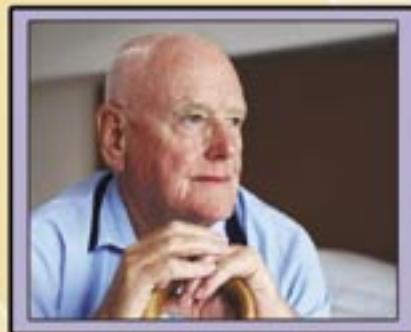
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and you have to preach Sunday!**

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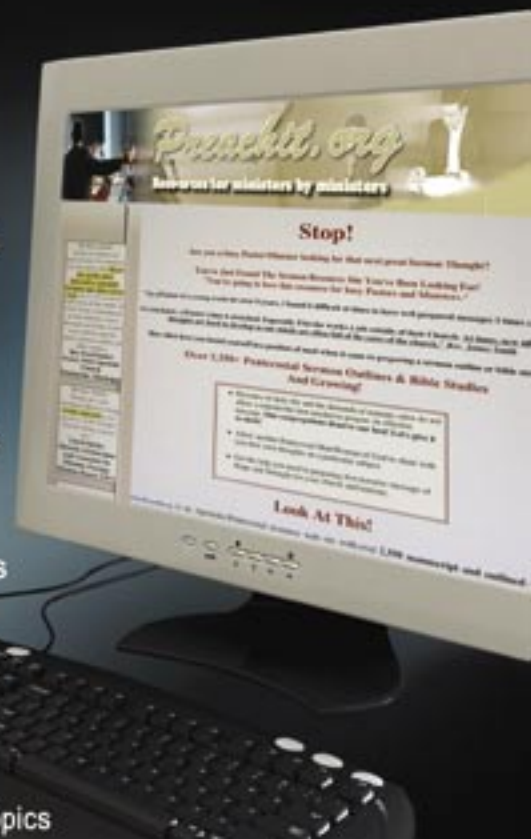
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Note: The opinions on this page are entirely those of the individual and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Indiana Bible College



John Dean, Bentonville, AR - Baptismal candidates should always express their desire and need to be baptized in Jesus name. We rehearse what repentance is, the acknowledgement of sins and the desire to turn away from their life of sin. Even if they have repented, at baptism we ask them to pray for forgiveness again, and join with them in that prayer. If a new guest wants to be baptized, we give examples in Acts and Romans 6:1-6.

We have given certificates in the past and keep records if anyone requests one. Follow-up information is obtained for each candidate, and we ask them to commit to a Bible study after baptism. Before that, our retention rate was about 35 percent, and this year we are close to 85 percent. A follow-up study provides a personal connection of friendship for continued involvement and growth in the kingdom of God.



Ron Lichtle, Grand Rapids, MN - We make sure baptismal candidates have a basic understanding of baptism. Our goal is not just to baptize but for them to become full-fledged followers of Jesus Christ. They should commit to the Lord as they would to a marriage, as a lifelong relationship. Primarily, I use Mark 16 and Acts 2:38 to emphasize the name of

the Savior in baptism.

We give Baptismal Certificates and recognize baptisms in our Sunday Celebration Service. We have an aggressive follow-up system and have worked hard on the assimilation process. Our retention rate is about 50 percent. We use a simplistic, yet comprehensive approach with new converts to get the word in them and build strong relationships.



Ed Gann, Columbia, SC - Our approach to teaching on baptism is determined by where the person is in their religious experience. Our method of teaching is individually based. Before someone is baptized, he or she must understand the need for repentance. If they are hungry for God, see their need for baptism and repent, I baptize them. Afterward we do a study of scripture so they can better understand baptism in the name of Jesus. We use Baptismal Certificates

and follow up on every person. I work with our outreach team and personally call each person. Our goal is to build relationships and get them involved in a home fellowship small group ministry.



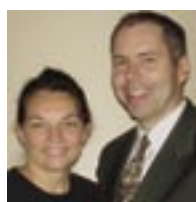
Rudy Trejo, Anaheim, CA - A baptismal candidate must repent with an understanding and the commitment for this to be beneficial to them. Without this knowledge, they may go right back into their sinful lifestyle. For example, if a couple is living together, I don't recommend they get baptized until they are married. If they are not willing to repent of a sinful lifestyle, they are not ready for baptism. I cover baptism in a short Bible study with

Acts 2, 8, 10, 19 and Matthew 28. We give Baptismal Certificates and follow-up on all of them. Immediately in the months following their baptism, we get them involved in a home Bible study and a discipleship class.



Tom A. Trimble, St. Charles, MO - An individual should express a desire to be baptized and must have a basic understanding of the purpose of baptism. They don't have to wait until they understand every nuance of justification, but I want them to know that what they are doing is scriptural. We give Baptismal Certificates, and we require parental consent for any candidate under 18 years of age. In counseling for baptism, I point to the baptism accounts in the 1st century church in Acts 2, 8,

10, 19 and Acts 4:12, indicating the importance of scripture as opposed to tradition. We provide counseling to every individual on the day they are baptized. We also obtain contact information and endeavor to place them in a Bible study and in our Life in Christ class. Our retention rate is about 70 percent.



David Reeve, Baltimore, MD - Faith and repentance are the requirements for baptism. It is up to the candidate to attest that they have both. We ask those under 18 for parental or legal guardian permission. We explain that baptism is not a ceremony, but it is for the remission of sins. It signifies the death, burial and resurrection via faith, repentance, baptism and the Spirit infilling, according to Romans 6:2-4 and Acts 2:38. We give Baptismal Certificates upon request and recognize those baptized in the next worship gathering. We get follow-up information on every person baptized, and our retention last year was approximately 40 percent. We offer a book about their new life after baptism, and follow up with assimilation classes, home Bible studies and small groups.



Scott Sistrunk, Dearborn, MI - Baptismal candidates must have repented and understand the scriptural concepts of baptism as they identify with forgiveness of sins and the born-again experience. If they are not involved in a Bible study, we ask why they want to be baptized and give a short Bible study. Our outreach director obtains follow-up information on all who are baptized, and we are setting up a system for Baptismal

Certificates. We ask each candidate to participate in three areas of discipleship after baptism: 1) Attend both Sunday services, 2) Participate in one of three options of midweek programs, 3) Go through all five modules of a discipleship program.



Emmett Smith, Tuscaloosa, AL - Repentance is necessary for a person to be baptized. I do not believe a person needs the Holy Ghost first, according to Acts 8:16, and I do my best to explain baptism to the candidate. Comprehension levels differ, but we all need to be baptized in the name of Jesus. I cover Acts 19:1-6.

We don't always give Baptismal Certificates, but I plan to do so beginning this month. We use the follow-up ministry designed by Bro. Massengale and encourage a 12-week Bible study, Discipleship Training and fellowship following baptism.

It's Personal

By Gregg Stone

Personal revival is a key to survival, and when a person's relationship with God is right, their relationship with others will be right as well. Pastor Jerry Holt and the New Life Apostolic Church of Lewiston, Idaho adopt a theme each year that they build upon in all of their teaching and preaching, that emphasizes strengthening their personal relationship with God. They have discovered that this approach has equipped them to better serve and to reach out in as many ways as possible to their community. This has proven effective by giving them a fresh approach to fulfilling their purpose and mission of evangelizing their local community.

New Life Apostolic Church is a warm and loving church and wants their community to feel comfortable and at liberty to call on them for anything they need. When you visit the church, you will find a caring congregation that will gladly welcome you, preaching and teaching that is centered on the Word of God, ministries to meet the spiritual needs of every age, and a corporate outlet for truth-filled and moving praise and worship.

As pastor of one of the oldest Apostolic churches in Idaho, Bro. Holt strives to both preach and teach the practical aspects of Christian living. "I also try to do the 'work of an evangelist,'" said Bro. Holt. "I reach out to those in the congregation who need to respond to the Gospel and the

leading of the Spirit of God. I try to close each message by bringing people past Calvary whenever possible."

Personal Ministry

With his father serving in the U.S. Air Force, Bro. Holt lived a very transient life, averaging a move every 18 months. "In 1954, my parents came into Pentecost in Carmichael, California," Bro. Holt explained. "Bro. Jesse Francis was our pastor at that time, and he baptized our entire family in Jesus name. We later moved to Japan, as a result of my father's military service, and I received the Holy Ghost there on Thanksgiving Day at the age of 11. I felt the call of God on my life from a very young age but was reluctant to answer that call."

Drafted into the Army fresh out of high school, Bro. Holt served a tour of duty in Vietnam and then returned to California where he met and later married his wife, Fayettea Hanscom, who was attending Bible College in Stockton, California where Bro. Holt himself would later enroll and graduate. "It doesn't take long to tell the story and might not be of much interest to others,"

explained Bro. Holt, "however, our life has been filled with divine intervention and provision numerous times through the years."

Bro. Holt was privileged to know and sit under the ministry of some great men of God, such as Bro. Clyde Haney, Bro. Kenneth Haney, Bro. Paul Price, Bro. J.T. Pugh, Bro. Walter Sturdivan, and Bro. B.J. Robison. "I learned so much from their ministries," he said. "I owe a great debt to those who gave me an opportunity to grow in the ministry." Bro. Holt has since served as a missionary to Hong Kong and China, member of the Idaho District Board, and currently serves as the District Superintendent of Idaho.

After evangelizing and pastoring in Antioch, California, the Holts felt the call to the mission field where they ministered in Hong Kong for 13 years. In 1996, they returned to the United States and accepted the pastorate in Lewiston. "We have learned to trust God," says Bro. Holt, "with our lives, our future, and that of our three daughters and their families as well. Through the years, we have faced tragedy, sickness and death, more times than I care to remember, but God has always been faithful. We have certainly lived by the statement that 'the God that brought you to it is the God that will bring you through it.'"

Principles of Growth and Revival

With an average attendance of around 135 each week, New Life Apostolic Church is excited about what is hap-



pening in Lewiston. Since the first of this year, they have begun to see some wonderful things God is doing in many lives, and they are expecting a great harvest to follow. "We try to invite people wherever we are, and we use special events and services throughout the year to boost attendance and expose people to the presence of God and His Word," said Bro. Holt. "However, it has been my experience that there is no quick fix that produces a growing revival church. There are principles that apply, of course, such as passion, vision, prayer, and discipling and equipping saints for ministry. There are, however, other factors that cannot be so easily transferred and duplicated by others, such as the spiritual maturity and giftedness of the man of God, the maturity and development of the congregation, and the dynamics of the circumstances in the community he is working in."

Bro. Holt uses the analogy of God calling and anointing David to be king, when there was a time of training, testing and proving of his character and relationship with God. "The men that first showed up at the cave of Adullam were disgruntled, in debt and disillusioned when David began to mentor them into the mighty men they later became," he explained. "David had seven years of being the king over Hebron before he finally became the king over the entire nation of Israel. Basically this speaks of the process of God developing the man, the people around the man and the circumstances around them all."

According to Bro. Holt, keeping prayer and worship vibrant is important to having "good church" and creates the atmosphere where God can move freely as He wills for each service. "Persistence and patience are paramount," he said. "We can fill the water pots but only Jesus can turn the water to wine. We can roll the stone away but only Jesus can raise Lazarus from the dead. We can plow, plant and water, but the Lord of the Harvest makes it grow and produces the increase."

Organization and Management

New Life Apostolic has a variety of dynamic ministries that includes Sunday school, Ladies Ministry, Men's Ministry, Youth, Home Fellowship Groups, Music Ministry, as well as a Bus Ministry and an Outreach Ministry.

To make sure everyone receives the personal care they need, the church has established care groups, and each person who attends is part of a care group. "Everyone who worships at New Life Apostolic should feel like they are a part of the family," said Bro. Holt. "Our care group leaders are available for prayer and support on a daily basis. If you have a family sickness or need, you are encouraged to contact your care group leader for prayer and support."

Home Fellowship Groups are also used as an outreach to the local community. For those who are intimidated by attending an actual church service, this is a great opportunity for them to hear the Word of God and fellowship with other believers, while in a relaxed environment.

New Life Apostolic has quarterly department meetings to keep all departments on track and to make adjustments as needed, as well as an annual planning session in the fall, which includes an overnight trip with the department leaders and staff. "This is the designated time when I cast the vision to our leadership team and set our goals and agenda for the new year," said Bro. Holt.

Special Miracles

Bro. and Sis. Holt witnessed many miracles of healing while missionaries in Asia. The blind and deaf were healed, as well as those with cancer and hepatitis, and they witnessed deliverance from demon possession as well. In the local church, there have been notable healings over the past 16 years. One in particular was when Sis. Holt, who suffered from macular degeneration, lost her sight in her left eye one morning and was that way for several weeks. "We were in a revival service with Bro. Joel Bean and had prayer for her," said Bro. Holt. "After we laid hands on her, she opened her eyes and all the distortion was gone. When she went back for a follow-up visit to the eye doctor, he said there was no sign of macular degeneration in either eye. God had completely healed her."

The Future of New Life Apostolic Church

There are no immediate plans to build, but New Life Apostolic does have the room to expand in the future. "We own five acres," said Bro. Holt, "and ten years ago we built our current facility of over 12,000 square feet, including a 250-seat auditorium, kitchen, fellowship hall, and classrooms. We positioned the building so that our future sanctuary would join it with a covered walkway. We have a three-acre playground behind us where our future gym and family center will be built."

Bro. Holt likes to encourage pastors who have struggled trying to see their congregations grow and retain everyone that comes through their doors. "As a missionary, I learned that the kingdom of God was much greater than the local church I founded and pastored," said Bro. Holt. "We trained and disciplined many that moved on to other parts of the world to do the work of God. We have seen the same thing happen here as young people have grown up, married, and then moved off to other places. Our vision and desire is to send forth laborers, and we thank God that He has allowed us to see this become a reality."



Jerry and Fayetta Holt
Lewiston, Idaho



Top clockwise: Bro. Holt speaks to his congregation; a couple prepares for baptism; exterior of New Life Apostolic Church; Pastor Holt performs a baptism at the church.



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Good Shepherd Church - Bay Harbor, Florida

Pastor DonDavid Hanscom

Attendance: 85

Language Groups: 10; Groups Represented: Canada, Italy, Germany, Ghana, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, El Salvador, Dominican, Pakistan, USA

Good Tabernacle - Winnipeg, Manitoba

Pastor Jesse Fortaleza

Total Attendance: 163

Language Groups: 12; Groups Represented: Filipino, Nepalese, Ukrainian, German, Liberian, American, Canadian, native American, Hispanic, Portuguese, French and African
2 Received the Holy Ghost

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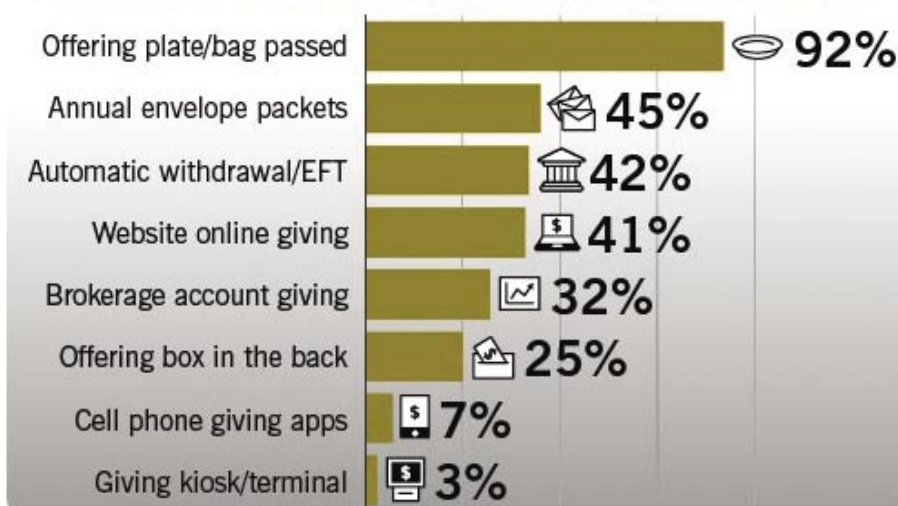
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TIMES ARE CHANGING: How Churches Collect Donations



The graphic above, which appears in the July edition of [Church Finance Today](#), shows the ways that people give to their churches, based on results from the [2012 State of the Plate](#) giving survey sponsored by *Christianity Today*, Maximum Generosity, and ECFA.

The offering plate tops the list, but electronic giving options, such as automatic withdrawal, online giving, and cell phone giving apps, are gaining ground. Enough so that Brian Kluth, founder of Maximum Generosity, predicts one or more e-giving options will surpass the envelope packet -- a mainstay for years at many churches -- this year.



You Can Become a Mansion Kid Sponsor!

By Stephen Judd, TCM President



Stephen Judd
www.mansionkids.org

Zanlee is a sweet little boy who is so lovable and friendly. He likes to talk...a lot!

When a tour group is visiting his resident hall, he is quick to introduce the other boys to the guests and explains in great detail how the home functions, their daily chores and activities. It is truly a delight to see him in action.

Zanlee had a great summer. He had so much fun riding his bike, swimming and playing ball with his friends.

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Zanlee

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



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The Need For Nursing Home Ministry

Interviewed by Linda Schreckenber

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

I am a preacher's daughter, and my father was Bro. Burrell Seal. I received the Holy Ghost in 1965 and have been married for 50 years to Whitt Blackwell. We have four children, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. I have served in various aspects of ministry, including youth ministry, choir director, organist and speaking engagements. I began to minister to nursing home residents in 1993 when my mother passed away. I would visit with someone and get to know others through those visits. One lady always sat and waited for me to come, and another lady asked if I was an angel. That is where I got the title for my book *Angels Without Wings*.

Many feel the days of nursing home ministry are over. How do you respond to this?

Nursing home residents are human beings who have a soul and feelings. The Bible admonishes us to reach out to the hurting and lost, regardless of age. When we show the love of God to those residents, we are obeying Jesus' words in Matthew 25:40: "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Those in nursing homes are included, regardless of their age.

To what degree can the gospel be presented to those in nursing homes? Have you seen souls repent, be baptized and receive the Holy Ghost?

We can present the gospel through ministering the Word, singing and music. I have seen several souls saved through nursing home ministry. I particularly remember three who were baptized, two coming back to the Lord, and one resident that received the Holy Ghost in ICU. I was concerned that Polly wasn't baptized at that point and later heard that she had passed away in New Orleans. I later became friends with another lady in a nursing home in Slidell, Louisiana. This lady just happened to be Ms. Polly's daughter. While cleaning the daughter's closet one day, I found a skirt that she told me was a keepsake of her mother's. I rejoiced when she told me that

Polly had been baptized many years ago in an Apostolic church. The daughter was elated and surprised that Polly had been my friend and had received the Holy Ghost.

Give a personal example or story that really stands out to you.

One nursing home resident, Lilly Ruth Morgan, had Lou Gehrig's disease. She had visited the Apostolic church once but didn't give her heart to God. About a year later, when I went to visit her at the nursing home, she had to write down everything she wanted to say. She began crying and wanted to give her heart to God. I asked her to nod her head in repentance. Then I laid hands on her, and she began laughing as she received the Holy Ghost. She has since been taken out of hospice care and is still alive in the nursing home.

Some report bringing individuals in nursing homes to the understanding of needing salvation, only to be stopped by nursing home staff or family from having the person baptized. How would you respond to this?

There is only so much we can do, and we must leave the rest to God. When we witness, and they accept it, the rest is up to God.

How do you effectively pray with people to receive the Holy Ghost in nursing homes?

A resident named Stella received the Holy Ghost as I was singing in the nursing home. I had given her a Bible Study, and she had been baptized. I looked over at her, and she had her hands up with tears flowing down her face. She was quietly speaking in tongues. II Peter 3:9: "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." This verse assures us that the ultimate promise of God is salvation, and it isn't His will for any to perish. There is no respect of persons with God, but salvation is for whosoever will believe and receive it. God alone can fill people with the Holy Ghost, but we can sense a hungry spirit and witness to them. It wasn't Jesus' great theological expositions that drew the crowd, but it was the love He demonstrated in ministering to the needs of the people. We cannot save or heal anyone, but we can minister the love of God.

If you sense a hunger for God in a nursing home resident, offer them a Bible study. I tell them if they have repented and have forgiven others, and they are willing to be baptized, I will pray for them to receive the Holy Ghost. You don't have to be loud or shake a person. If they have repented and they believe, the Lord will fulfill His promise.



Nelda Blackwell, author
Pearl River, LA

Do you ever try to get the person a ride to church services? Is this advisable?

It is advisable to first obtain permission from the family. I did pick Miss Morgan up a few times. One lady's husband gave permission for his wife to be baptized, and the nursing home provided the van to take her to church for her baptism.

What are the most important insights to a successful nursing home ministry?

You can begin a nursing home ministry through reaching out by your personal testimony. Always show the love of God to these precious people, and take them under your wings. Be dependable at all times, and be sure that the presence of God emanates from you. Always have a burden for this ministry. Offer to help the director with activities, and minister one on one. A card ministry to the sick or lonely is also a great tool.

Tell us about *Angels Without Wings* and why you wrote it. How can it be ordered?

Having done nursing home ministry for over 17 years, I felt impressed to write a book about ministering to the sick and hurting, including those in nursing homes. We can literally be angels without wings to people who have needs. Sometimes a nursing home takes in people who still drive but just want to be with others or come to get their personal medications. When I saw how lonely nursing home residents are and how much they look forward to a simple visit from someone who cares, my heart was touched. They are souls waiting to be reached.

Angels Without Wings can be ordered through PPH or by contacting Sis. Nelda Blackwell at nelseal@bellsouth.net. Her first book, *The Life Changing Power of the Supernatural*, and *Bible Study Inside View* are also available.

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.

apostolicalendar 2012

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	SPEAKERS	CONTACT / INFO
SEPT 6-7	Mid-America Renewal Conference (MARC) Indianapolis, IN. A power packed preaching conference in the heart of the Midwest.	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN Host: Paul D. Mooney	Jerry Dean, Jerry Jones, Scott Graham, David Bernard, Terry Black and Paul Mooney	For more info call: (317) 262-4030 or visit our web site at: www.calvarytabindy.org
SEPT 13-16	Times of Refreshing Conference - Katy, TX	Pentecostals of Katy 1941 Westborough St. Katy, TX 77491 Host Pastor: Rob McKee	Jimmy Toney, Jeff Arnold, Gordon Poe, Lloyd Squires and Billy Hale	For more information: visit www.gordonpoe.com/TOR/conference . (717) 755-7202
SEPT 21-23	Times of Refreshing Conference - Denver, CO Fellowship dinner Friday & Saturday for pastors, full-time evangelists, assistant pastors, missionaries and retired pastors.	Landmark Tabernacle 2727 S. Sheridan Blvd. Denver, CO 80227 Host: Billy Hale	Jeff Arnold, Mark Morgan and Gordon Poe	For more information: visit www.gordonpoe.com/TOR/conference . (717) 755-7202
SEPT 21-23	Higher Ground Conference 2012 - Terre Haute, IN A conference to encourage and equip believers to fulfill their God-given ministries and goals by Reaching Inward, Outward & Upward.	New Life Fellowship 7849 Wabash Terre Haute, IN 47803 Host: Jeffrey Harpole	Lee Stoneking, Terry Black, Traci Jaco, Doug Hughes and Jeffrey Harpole	For more information: visit highergroundconference.com (812) 877-9348
OCT 2-5	88th Annual UPCI General Conference Official conference of the UPCI. Don't miss it!	St. Louis, MO	Jerry Jones, Jeff Arnold, Raymond Woodward, Jimmy Toney, Aaron Soto, and David Bernard	For more information visit the UPCI web site at: www.upci.org
OCT 7-11	Open Bible Conference Visitors can expect anointed Bible preaching and teaching, singing, and worship. Complimentary meals served after each service.	Apostolic Tabernacle 1500 Miller Ave. Shelbyville, IN Pastor Robert W. Cavaness	Doug Turek, V.S. Pope, Rick Hensley, Ted Wade, John Coon, Brad Lambeth, Gary Blankenship, Terry Meade and Cleve Lambeth	For more information visit jordanssbarks@gmail.com or call 317-512-9810
OCT 25-27	Eagle's Summit Apostolic Conference - New Whiteland, IN A conference for saints, staff and leadership alike which focuses on equipping the minister and believer for Apostolic ministry.	Liberty Tabernacle 6177 N. 75W New Whiteland, IN 46184 Pastor Brian Lane	Terry Black, James Hughes and John Arcovio	For more information: (888) 776-0797 www.spiritled.org
OCT 25-28	DuBois Singles' Retreat - DuBois, IL Join us for rest, refreshment and friendship! Plus plenty of time for fellowship, fishing, volleyball, table tennis, hayrides, horseback riding.	DuBois Retreat Center 2651 Quarry Rd. Du Bois, IL 62831	Lynn Sizemore, Andrew Urshan, Doug Hughes, Tim Bizelli and Tony Clark	For more information: (636) 577-5101 "DuBois Singles Retreat" on Facebook
Nov 7-9	West Coast Conference - Fresno, CA 30th Annual Fresno Meeting	Fresno Convention Center 848 M St., Fresno, CA Host Pastor: Vaughn Morton	Don Meade, Sam Ham, Fred Jiminez, Stephen Mirafior, Dennis Mantooth and Dorian Myers	For more information call: (559) 225-1622 www.truthtabfresno.org
Nov 9-10	Chicagoland Men's Conference - Tinley Park, IL Providing some of the greatest speakers anywhere. No registration fee!	Host: Steeple Hill Christian Life Center at Family Harvest Church, 18500 S. 92nd Ave., Tinley Park, IL 60477	Paul Mooney, Scott Graham & Jason Beardsley. Music by Tom Trimble	For more information: visit www.chicagolandmensconference.com
FEB 1	Indiana Bible College LIVE RECORDING 2013 Under the direction of Lindel M. Anderson, Dean of Music	Indiana Bible College 1502 Sumner Ave Indianapolis, IN 46227 Host: P. D. Mooney	Paul Mooney, Rob Rodenbush, Lindel Anderson, IBC Choir, IBC Chorale, IBC Praise, others	ibc@apostolic.edu www.go2ibc.com or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069
FEB 21-22	Indiana Bible College CONNECT 2013 Your chance to visit the IBC campus and see what Bible college is all about. Watch our promo on YouTube: www.youtube.com/ibcpromo07 .	Indiana Bible College 1502 Sumner Ave Indianapolis, IN 46227 Host: P. D. Mooney	Paul Mooney, Rob Rodenbush, Jason Gallion, Bobby Killmon, Lindel Anderson, others.	ibc@apostolic.edu www.go2ibc.com or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069
APRIL 10-12	Indiana Bible College Music Fest 2013 Under the direction of Lindel M. Anderson, Dean of Music	Indiana Bible College 1502 Sumner Ave Indianapolis, IN 46227 Host: P. D. Mooney	Paul Mooney, Rob Rodenbush, Lindel Anderson, IBC Choir, IBC Chorale, IBC Praise, others	ibc@apostolic.edu www.go2ibc.com or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069
JULY 2013	IMPACT Family Conference 2013 Day sessions to meet the needs of your entire family unit (Married, Single, Parents, Teens & Children) and your church leadership.	Woodlawn Church Hwy 98 - Columbia, MS Host Pastor: James Carney	To be announced	For detailed schedule, visit www.woodlawnchurch.cc (601) 736-5128
JULY 2013	Mile High Conference: 2013 Rocky Mountain Region Meeting designed to strengthen the cause of Oneness, holiness-minded preachers, churches and families.	Calvary Apostolic Church 5900 E. Yale Ave. Denver, CO 80222 Host Pastor: D.E. Haymon	To be announced	(303) 758-5900 www.cacdenver.org DEH2@comcast.net
AUG 3-6	Arkansas Campmeeting - North Little Rock, AR A conference where Apostolic doctrine is not only preached but embraced. The message of Acts 2:38 remains the same!	First Pentecostal Church of North Little Rock, 1401 Calvary Road, North Little Rock, AR 72116	To be announced	For more information: visit www.arkansascampmeeting.com

Church Today: Actions, Not Professions, of Faith



Robert L. Rodenbush

■ Church Today

rrodenbush@earthlink.net

Actions, Not Professions, of Faith

Society today places little value on accountability. In today's culture there are no absolutes - nothing is right or wrong because everything depends on your perspective, your own personal value system. Further, it is "politically incorrect" to even suggest that any particular value system should be imposed on anyone. Tolerance is the buzzword of the day - except when it comes to absolutes.

The same is true of political candidates. Facing an election that cannot be won without the support of voters holding traditional Christian values, candidates are scrambling to recast themselves as "persons of faith" despite a voting and political track record that is directly opposed to Christian teachings on family, life and marriage. Such "faith candidates" have even gone so far as to label those who support life or traditional marriage as hate crime-promoting bigots and therefore the evil and sinful ones.

How is this possible? How is it that a candidate that is staunchly pro-abortion, pro-LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual and Transgender) and fervently working to strip every last vestige of Christianity and morality from our schools, courts and government can morph into a "person of faith," a "Christian," and be accepted as such and elected to office by those who claim to believe in traditional Christian values?

It is through the unquestioned acceptance of redefined terminology that this is accomplished - by giving traditional labels new definitions and meaning. Now, as long as a person has some faith in something they are accepted as a "person of faith" even as a "Christian" without question as to what moral values define such person's faith. To question such values is to question one's faith - a taboo in today's "politically correct" climate.

Faith must be accepted without inquiry into the moral foundations upon which it is based. Thus a self-proclaimed "candidate of faith" is accepted as such and any debate on morality or values quashed. As a result, a candidate can simply re-label or re-package herself as a "person of faith" and easily avoid the consequences of political positions on issues such as abortion and gay marriage.

The end result: if a candidate claims he is a Christian, then Christian voters are justified in and morally absolved from voting for him regardless of his positions on issues that fly in the face of Biblical teachings.

In this election we cannot afford to check our Christianity at the door of the voting booth. We cannot simply look the other way when a candidate supports abortion, gay marriage, anti-Christian hate crimes and has made clear that he/she will support the appointment of judges that do as well. If a candidate is truly a "person of faith" then their record must reflect it - political actions must reflect a profession of faith. There is too much at stake - the future of our religious freedoms, the future of our children, the future of our nation.



Bobby Killmon

■ Theology

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Did the men with Paul hear the voice of Christ when he spoke to Paul?

Defending inspiration is the task of the minister. Showing why the Bible is believable is part of being able to give an answer to every man that asks of the hope that lies within us. When we meet challenges, it can be unsettling.

Some questions are easy, but we have to work at others. That said, I have never found a text where there wasn't a good solution.

When facing a so-called "contradiction" in Scripture remember these principles: ask in what specific verse does this supposed error occur, then go investigate to find the answer. That means you need to put in the work to see if their claim is true.

There are a small number of texts where people claim contradictions, but these texts shouldn't be used to dispute inerrancy. There are reasonable solutions, and they've been known for centuries. These claims aren't new but at times only new to us or our people.

Let's look at the verses. Did the men with Paul hear a voice? Some say yes. Acts 9:7, "And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man." Some say no. Acts 22:9, "And they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they heard not the voice of him that spake to me." How do we reconcile these verses?

In Acts 22:9 the word *heard* [akouo] may be translated, "They didn't hear the sound." There's a range of meaning with "akouo." Not to be too technical but the verb "to hear" in the genitive case may mean "to hear a sound" and in the accusative case "to hear with understanding." So, the men with Saul heard the sound (9:7) but didn't understand what Christ said (22:9). So in Acts 9:7 it indicates "hearing a voice"; Acts 22:9 means they "didn't understand" the message of the voice.

Some might ask, is it a bad translation in the KJV? No. Remember, the definition of *hear* in English has a range of meaning too. I remember my parents saying when they wanted to emphasize something, "Son, do you hear me?" They weren't asking if I heard the sound of their voice. They wanted to know if I understood, with consequences should I fail.

The point is that often when addressing issues we worry first ... then look and see if there's a solution. Then we find out the truth and say, "Wow, this confirms my faith in the Word." You don't have to run from hardest challenges (Psalms 12:6-7; Prov. 30:5; 2 Tim. 3:16).



T. W. Massengale

■ Church Growth

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I'm having difficulty getting my ministry leaders to hand in their monthly reports at the monthly planning council. Any ideas?

Yes, I have encountered this before. Several suggestions to consider are:

1. Often times the report needs to be edited and updated. Meet with the leader briefly and condense the report to the bare essentials needed to ensure the ministry is functioning properly.
2. Email all leaders the day before the monthly council and stress the importance of the report, reminding them to bring it to the meeting.
3. It often helps if all leaders are asked

to turn in their reports as the meeting starts. The pastor then comments on the report (in a positive way if possible) as each department comes up on the monthly agenda. If no report has been turned in, the pastor makes a comment like - "No report this month? Could you email that to me by _____? Thanks!"

4. Take the report out of the hands of the department leader and turn it over to a department assistant or secretary - their job is to call or talk to the department head and fill out the report for them. Stress to the assistant/secretary that this is a critical duty.

5. The weekly tag-in's have worked well for collecting late reports. Asking them weekly for their report tends to stress its value.

6. Some churches collect reports a week before the monthly council. These are collected via email. Email the leader their

report in a simple 'fill in the blanks' format.

7. Ask the leader to complete the report on time - even if they have to 'guess-timate' the totals. Often procrastination is the result of not having the exact totals. But a good guess-timate is better than nothing.

8. Simplify the reports. Ask the department head to redesign the report in such a way that they can then be faithful in completing it.

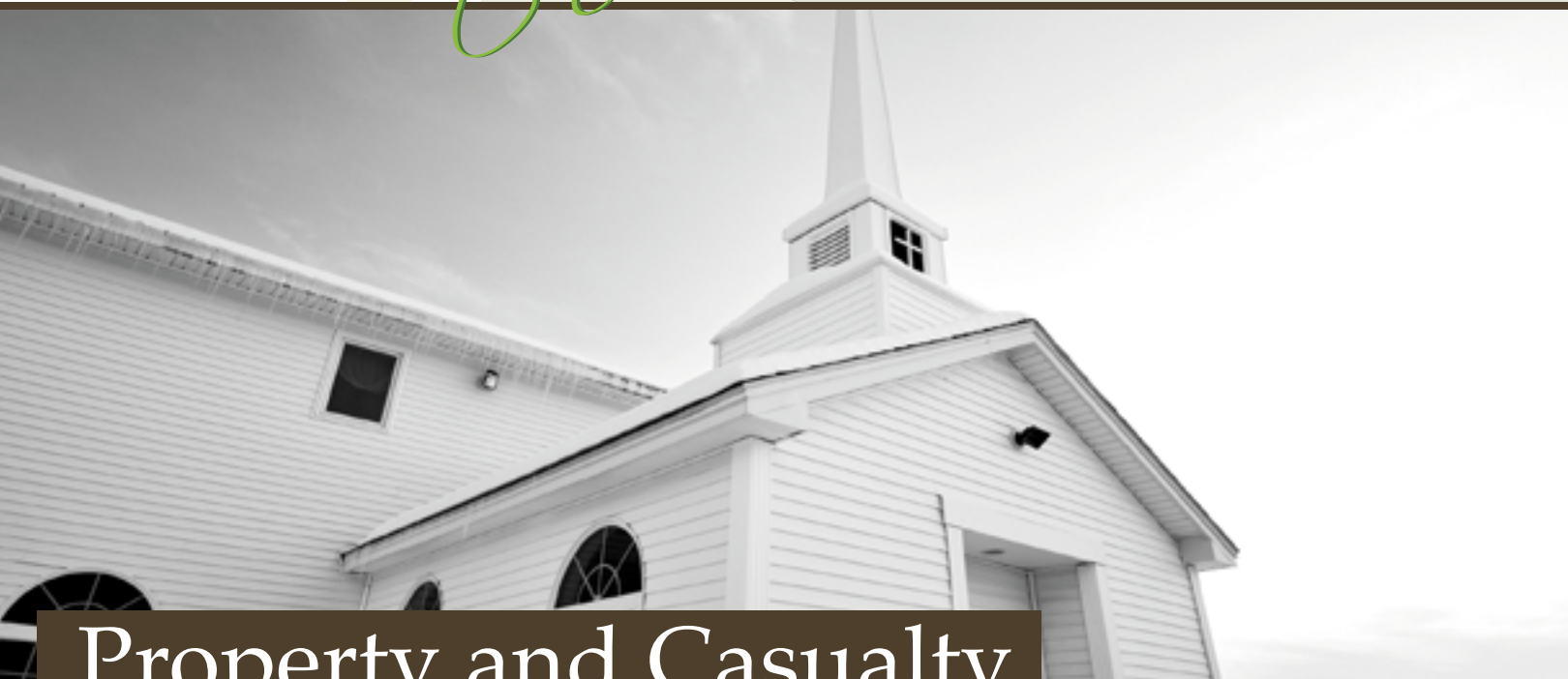
9. Ask the leader to stay after the monthly meeting to complete their report - and use 'guess-timates' if necessary.

10. Review with your leaders WHY we ask for reports. The reasons are outlined on page 3.4-7 of Total Church Growth. Have a group discussion on how the problem can be fixed.

If you would like a sample set of departmental reports for your departmental leaders call 1-800-800-0247. Cost is just \$5.⁰⁰.



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Spiritual Growth

carol@carolclemans.org

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Pastors, my unique ministry of providing confidential nationwide phone & web cam counseling can be a great blessing to your church. #1 - I have over 50 years experience in teaching the Word of God. #2 - God's Word is the foundation for my teaching, counseling and writing. #3 - My providing counseling for a pastor relieves him/her to pursue God's Word to minister to the church. #4 - I provided the ministry of pastoral counseling for Bishop Kenneth Haney for 10 years before he became Superintendent of UPCI. #5 - My 57 years of being Holy Ghost-filled, 42 years of marriage to Rev. Harold Clemans, 20 years as a certified pastoral counselor, being a mother/grandmother, my education and experience gives me unique insight and wisdom for my teaching and counseling ministry.

Pastors, call me (636) 448-0121. Interview me. Ask questions. Please check out my new website: www.carolclemans.org. Over 125 articles are posted. View the videos. Read my heartbeat and love for God's Word. At every conference and church where I teach, there is always a line of people who want some godly counsel because of my in-depth teaching giving hope to the hurting heart.

My heart's desire is to see our people sitting on our pews not only saved but healed spiritually, emotionally and relationally. Abuse in childhood, divorce, betrayal, etc. is not erased from our memories at the point of salvation. Our sins are removed and forgotten by God. The emotions and feelings from life's experiences are still with us. The devil takes these things and robs the joy of our salvation. Godly counseling always asks the question, "What is God's truth?"

Order my book GOD'S DESIGN FOR MARRIAGE from www.carolclemans.org - 'products.' Coming soon is my newly revised: GOD'S HEALING FOR HURTING PEOPLE.

Carol Clemans is a Certified Pastoral Counselor/Bible conference speaker/Christian Life Coach. Call (636) 448-0121 or email: carol@carolclemans.org to schedule teaching or counseling. Rev. Harold & Carol Clemans' pastor is Dieter Skowron of Johnstown, CO.



Revival Concepts

evangelistnorman@gmail.com

Prayer Revival

"Prayer projects faith on God, and God on the world" - E.M. Bounds

"Prayer revival." Those are the words that God gave to me, attached to a picture of churches full of saints kneeling and standing interceding before the throne of our Jesus. Let us be honest, where there is MUCH prayer there is MUCH power and where there is no prayer there is NO power.

Jesus could not have made it any more clear. He declared, "My house shall be called the house of prayer" (Matthew 21:13). Those words have no more ceased to be active and true to us today than the great commission itself. Prayer was a part of the experience every one of us had when we were born into the church, and it is a part of keeping each of us in the church and seeing others come to know our Lord.

Almost a year ago, Pastor Daniel Smelser had hosted a Harvest Conference in West Texas, with 200+ people trained in Biblically effective evangelism and 27 receiving the Holy Ghost. The last service had no music, not one song. Pre-service prayer in the prayer room spilled over into the auditorium and then into the first full hour of service, all the way up until I ministered. To my delight, Bro. Smelser recently shared how his church had gone to a completely other level in prayer since then. A good portion of his people were now gathering during the evening throughout the week...for prayer. Time and space simply will not allow me to write the impact this is having. Prayer works. This simple truth is both profound and eternal.

In his book on prayer, Joel Holmes states, "If I'm not leading you in prayer, I'm not leading you anywhere." Those words have stuck with me, and both birthed and re-awakened something in me as a minister. My hopes are the same flame will become a fire in us all. As leaders, we must first and foremost lead our people in prayer.

Brian Norman travels full-time proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Phone: 636-544-0627 Website: www.briannorman.org & www.harvestconference.org



Finance

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As pastor, I need to know to what extent am I accountable to the church and church board for finances?

First of all, as the pastor you are accountable to God. God desires everything to be done 'decently and in order' and I believe that includes all aspects of your leadership including finances. For that reason, as all our blessings come from God, we are accountable to Him for what we do in relationship to how we handle and control the church's funds.

Then we are accountable to the church. Whether or not you receive compensation from the church, you are accountable. There has always been that question as to how much you disclose and to whom do you disclose it. That will largely depend on the structure of your church.

If you have an active church board, then you can become accountable to the church through those individuals. You should report the finances of the church to the board annually. The church board is usually comprised of individuals who have been nominated by the pastor, so the pastor should feel comfortable in discussing the financial position with them. In addition, it is critical that the pastor have someone help him in managing the financial concerns of the church. The board can certainly be that group to whom the pastor should feel free to discuss those items that are important to the overall financial condition of the church.

There are some areas that the pastor has to be discrete. Contribution records of individual donors cannot be disclosed. These are records that should be kept private and only the pastor and the church secretary should have access to them. Also, there must be concern with disclosure of compensation of the church staff. The courts have rules that certain corporate records must be kept in private and there are special rules to follow when disclosing them.

The bottom line is the pastor should never be the only person who sees the financial information of the church. Too many problems have occurred between the pastor and the congregation because of withholding information that should be disclosed. Please consult professionals in this area as it is vital that the pastor and church board adhere to and follow all the necessary guidelines of accountability.

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



Stewardship

smdrury@upci.org

The Stewardship Group Exhibit Brings Resources Together For You -- 4 Newest iPhones and iPads Given Away At Booth This Year

We are looking forward to General Conference coming back to our home town, St. Louis. The Stewardship Group booth will be open Tuesday night through Friday night October 2-5. All of our "Strategic Partners" who provided resources for ministries will have representation at the booth area. We welcome you to come and visit with us.

Church Loans - America's Christian Credit Union has provided loans for many of our churches this last year, even with the downturn in our economy.

United Pentecostal Church Loan Fund - There are very few places for you to invest your church and personal savings and IRA's to get a better return right now than the UPC Loan Fund. It is a great stewardship decision also as these investments provide the

resources to back up the loans made by America's Christian Credit Union to our UPC churches.

Church Construction - T. L. Wallace and Zion Church Builders Construction are both in partnership with The Stewardship Group. Both are excellent church builders who have a proven past with UPCI churches and can provide everything from design to completion of your new church or renovation plans.

Capital Campaigns - Dickerson Baker and Associates and Foundations Consulting Group are our two Capital Campaign partners. Both have many references from our churches on Capital Campaigns they have directed. With the economy as it is, now more than ever is a great time to raise the money in advance for construction so you will not need to borrow as much money for your project. Or you can relieve your annual fund budget by reducing your debt through a Capital Campaign.

United Insurance Solutions - Property & Casualty Insurance - Representatives from Philadelphia Insurance Co. will be at the booth to help you review your church insurance needs. **Life Insurance** - **Open Enrollment** is available September 1, 2012 - October

31, 2012. This is open for all licensed ministers - including ministers age 70 and above. You may also enroll your spouse for up to \$5,000. Elected insurance amounts become effective January 1, 2013. DO NOT MISS THIS IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY.

FaithWorks - We introduce this year our newest partner, FaithWorks.

Seminars - During Conference we will have seminars in room 125: **Thursday 9:00-10:00 - Capital Campaigns** - Aaron Soto (Foundations Consulting Group) & Clark Dickerson (Dickerson, Baker & Associates), **Thursday 10:00-11:00 - Church Construction** - Jay Carney (Wallace Build) & Dale Dafae (Zion Church Builders), **Friday 9:00-10:00 - Property and Casualty Insurance** - Duane Pope (United Insurance Solutions), **Friday 10:00-11:00 - Church Loans and Investment** - Bob Graves (Americas Christian Credit Union) & Stephen Drury (United Pentecostal Church Loan Fund).

Stephen Drury is Director of Stewardship, President of the United Pentecostal Foundation, President of the United Pentecostal Loan Fund and Co-Founder of New Beginnings International Children's and Family Services. You may contact him at smdrury@upci.org or 314-837-7304 Ext 309.

THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS**New TV Show Encourages Viewers to "Lose Their Virginity"**

Young adulthood is a time for exploration. New relationships, fresh experiences ... now MTV is looking to frankly capture that journey in a new series called *My First...*



In a promo, viewers are told, "We're looking for adults who are ready to go all

the way. Let MTV come along on your journey... as you try to lose your virginity! If you are 18 years or older and are willing to candidly allow MTV to accompany you on the journey toward 'losing it,' please send us an email."

MTV can and undoubtedly will hide behind the fact that 18 year-olds are legal adults, but you can prey on adults just as easily as you can prey on children, especially young adults conditioned by pop culture outlets like MTV to believe celebrity and narcissism are virtues.

MEDIA TRENDS**Blasphemous Movie in the Works**

A conservative media watchdog is sounding the alarm about a film in the works that is based on the controversial book, *Jesus of Nazareth*. The author of the book, which came out in 2010, is Paul Verhoeven. And according to the Media Research Center (MRC), it is an unbiblical angle on the life of Jesus. Dan Gainor, vice president of business and culture for the MRC, expects more of the same in the upcoming film, as it is directed by Verhoeven.

"In this particular version, Jesus isn't divine," Gainor details. "He is not the Savior; He's not the Son of God - He's just a good guy whose mom happened to be raped by a Roman soldier."

He asserts that this remake of the story of Jesus is blasphemous. And since the film's script is still in the works that means there is time for Christians to make their voices heard. "This is not what we want; we don't want to see our Savior mocked," says Gainor. "They think they can take Jesus and just turn Him into who they want to turn Him into."

"Great Deal"/"Quite a Lot" of Confidence in the Church/Organized Religion

Now I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one -- a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little?

**Confidence in Organized Religion at Low Point**

Forty-four percent of Americans have a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in "the church or organized religion" today, just below the low points Gallup has found in recent years, including 45% in 2002 and 46% in 2007. This follows a long-term decline in Americans' confidence in religion since the 1970s.

In 1973, "the church or organized religion" was the most highly rated institution in Gallup's confidence in institutions measure, and it continued to rank first in most years through 1985, outranking the military and the U.S. Supreme Court. That began to change in the mid- to late 1980s as confidence in organized religion first fell below 60%, possibly resulting from scandals involving televangelist preachers Jim Bakker and Jimmy Swaggart. Confidence in religion returned to 60% in 2001, only to be rocked the following year by charges of child molestation by Catholic priests and cover-up by some in the church.

The latest results are from Gallup's June update of its annual "Confidence in Institutions" question. The same poll found Americans' confidence in public schools, banks, and television news at their all-time lowest, perhaps reflecting a broader souring of Americans' confidence in societal institutions in 2012.

Currently, 56% of Protestants express a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in the church/organized religion, compared with 46% of Catholics. This is in line with an average 12-percentage-point difference in the two groups' confidence, according to Gallup polling from 2002 through 2012, with Protestants consistently expressing higher confidence. There are too few respondents of other specific religions to analyze separately; however, confidence among all other Americans combined is 29%, far less than either Protestants' or Catholics'.

Catholics' confidence dipped to a record low in 2002 and again in 2007. The 2002 result most likely reflected a high-profile child sex abuse case against a Massachusetts priest at the time, as well as charges of a cover-up by Boston Cardinal Bernard Law, who ultimately resigned over the matter. The drop in 2007 may have been part of a broader trend that saw confidence in most U.S. institutions drop that year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

■ Adult kids find that there's no place like home when their finances are in a tailspin or their relationships fizzle. According to a new analysis, the number of young adults ages 20 to 34 who live with their parents has jumped from 17% in 1980 to 24% in 2007-09. The rise was sharpest among those under 25, but it increased largely across the board. Even among 30- to 34-year-olds, nearly one in 10 lived with parents. Many also return to their parents' homes when marriages end.

■ At their annual meeting in New Orleans last month, the Southern Baptist Convention adopted a resolution on Religious Liberty, publicly stating: "We stand with the bishops." Referring to the controversial Health and Human Services mandate that all insurance policies cover contraception, sterilization and abortion drugs, they supported the Catholic Church in its opposition of the new Obamacare law, saying, "It is a direct attack upon our religious freedoms."

RELIGIOUS TRENDS**Bishop Calls on All Christians to Leave Democratic Party**

Bishop E.W. Jackson is making a war cry: "Let God's people go!" Jackson, a Marine Corps veteran, graduate of Harvard Law School and adjunct professor of law, is echoing the words of Moses in a campaign to persuade Christians of all races that the time has come for a wholesale exodus of Christians from the Democrat Party.

**Bishop E.W. Jackson**

The former candidate for U.S. Senate in Virginia points to what he calls the Democrat party's "cult-like devotion" to abortion; the rejection of the traditional biblical model of family; the hostility hurled at those who express a Christian viewpoint such as Chick-fil-A President and Chief Operating Officer Dan Cathy; the actions of organizations such as the ACLU and the Foundation For Freedom From Religion in suing cities and towns for displaying crosses at memorials or mentioning the name of Jesus in prayer at official events.

Beyond all of this, Jackson says, Democrat operatives are also attacking Gabrielle Douglas, the 16-year old black American who won a 2012 gold medal in gymnastics.

"The accomplished young lady had the nerve to give glory to God for her win," Jackson says. "This apparently offended liberals."

MORAL TRENDS**Exposure to Sexual Content in Movies Predicts Sexual Behavior in Teens**

A new study links exposure to sexual content in movies to adolescents' sexual behavior. Over six years, psychological scientists examined whether or not seeing sex in fictional Hollywood style movies translates into sex in the real world for adolescents. Ross O'Hara, a lead researcher of the University of Missouri study, explained the findings, "Adolescents exposed to more sexual content in movies start having sex at younger ages, have more sexual partners, and are less likely to use condoms with casual sexual partners."

The wild hormonal surges of adolescence makes judicious thinking a bit more difficult, according to O'Hara.



IBC TODAY

Congratulations Class of 2012

Indiana Bible College held commencement exercises on Friday, May 4, 2012, where a graduating class of 33 students completed the bachelor's degree program and celebrated in a ceremony with family and friends. UPCI Board of Education Representative Rev. Robert Frake commended the graduates on their accomplishments. Rev. James Poitras, Director of Education/AIM for UPCI Global Missions and father of graduates Candra and Melinda, served as the commencement speaker.

The festivities also included a graduation banquet held at the Indiana State Museum on Friday, May 3. Alumnus Jason Percy, UPCI Tennessee District Youth Secretary, was the speaker. The evening concluded with remarks by IBC President Rev. Paul D. Mooney as he commissioned the graduates and presented each of them with a monogrammed handkerchief.

The Class of 2012 has been an outstanding group of individuals. Many have accepted positions as youth pastors, music ministers and as workers in other ministries. Several are pursuing continuing education, and some will be going into global missions as AIM workers. We look forward to seeing what God has for them in the future.



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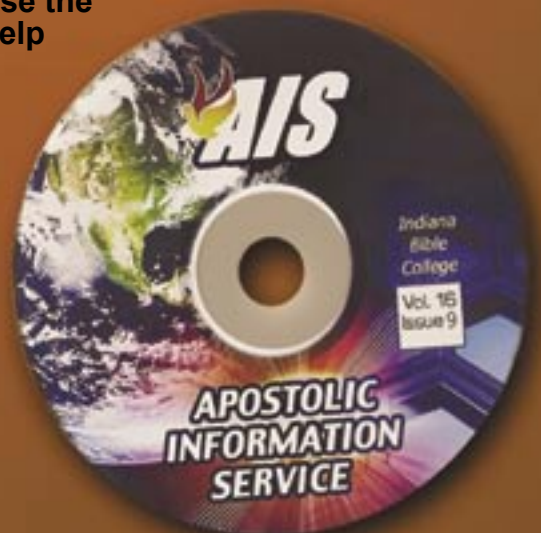
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God Has

Transcribed by Linda Schreckenber

Romans 13:1: "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God."

Isaiah 40:18 says, "To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him?" When you mention the color white, you think of its opposite as black. When you consider liquid, you think of its opposite as solid. When you think of good, you think of the opposite as evil.

God has no opposite or equal. Satan is not the opposite of God. He is only a weak and fallen sinful angel. It's his plan to somehow appear equal to God in the opposite way, as though he is some great power. The devil is not eternal. He's not omnipotent, omniscient or omnipresent. If Satan was equal or an opposite of God, he would have to be all these things. He would have to exist eternally with God, which he did not. Satan had a beginning, and someday in the lake of fire, he will have an ending. He only has power that God has allowed him to have. Unlike God, he cannot communicate with a million people at the same time, holding a separate conversation in a separate language with each one of them.

God is like no other. He's the only one who has not only creative power but all power. Satan was created by God as a beautiful angel, the anointed Cherubim as Ezekiel calls him, to lead the worship in heaven. He is a creature, but he is not a creator. God is not a creature, but God is the creator of all creatures, making them distinctly different from all of His creation.

Romans 13 tells us there is no power whatsoever but of God. An opposite of God would have to have his own power, unlike the devil who has no power of his own. The only power Satan has is on loan from God. At the Great White Judgment Throne, when he is cast into the lake of fire, that power will revert back to God who gave it. Psalms 62:11 states, "... power belongeth unto God." It confirms the fact that every power and authority is from God, because God is the only one who has power and authority. God not only has all power, but He is all life. No other has life. Every living thing, whether in plant life, human

life or angelic life, has no power of itself. God imputes life itself. God is totally independent of anything or anyone outside of Himself. He has always existed as life. Before anything existed, this eternal being was a very personal God, and we know Him today through His image, Jesus Christ.

God has the power to generate life, because He is life. He can generate power, because He is power. He doesn't need input from any other source. His name Jehovah means "self-existing." He gives life to billions of things, and yet it doesn't cause Him to lose any of His life whatsoever. If you have two houses, and you give one away, it leaves you with one. God could give the whole universe life for eternity but never lose one ounce of life. All is in Him, and He is in all and through all. When He spoke to Moses

out of the burning bush, He said, "I Am that I Am." What He was saying in essence was, "I am the self-existing one, which was and is and always will be. I have no beginning or ending."

All dimensions of life come from God. There's a dimension of sunlight that we see. There is a dimension or realm of the Spirit that the angels operate in. There is a dimension of plants and worms and snails, and a dimension of animals. There is a dimension of fish in the sea, of men and of angels, yet God lives in His own dimension, far above these. The realm of God is zillions of dimensions higher than that of the angels. There is not one living thing that comes close to the dimension that God lives in. That does not mean we cannot walk and talk with God. It only shows the dimensions of substance. All things are made of atoms. Angels are made of atoms, as is the air that we breathe, yet the atom has no life in itself and cannot give life. We must understand

when God decides to impute His dimension into anything, it brings life, healing and growth. The Apostle John tells us "God is a Spirit." In Ezekiel, God said, "I will put my Spirit within you." The Prophet Samuel spoke of "the Spirit of the Lord." All of these indicate that God is a Spirit.

You cannot have darkness and God in the same place. There is no night in the true Spirit realm, because God is continual light. Job, in chapter 38 verse 19, asks, "Where is the way where light

"An opposite of God would have to have his own power, unlike the devil who has no power of his own. The only power Satan has is on loan from God. At the Great White Judgment Throne, when he is cast into the lake of fire, that power will revert back to God who gave it."

No Opposite

dwelleth? and as for darkness, where is the place thereof?" Job had some very taxing experiences in his life, but through all he suffered, he was educated in the ways of God like he had never been before. In every dimension of Job's suffering, the dimension of eternal life was in the dimension of God Himself. We have problems and tribulations in this life, but compared to Job's experiences, they are minimal.

God is not some universal force of good. He's not the air, or the wind, or Mother Nature. Mother Nature is actually the laws of God in action. The four seasons -- rain, wind, snow and sunshine -- are not God but laws upon which earth exists. There is no mother earth, but only God the Father, who created the earth. The earth has no power of its own, because the word of God holds it suspended in space, along with the stars and other planets of the universe.

Men of great renown, like George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, are considered to be the Founding Fathers of this country, creators of America. So it is that God the Father is the father of all life, for He created everything. Deuteronomy 32:6 says, "Do ye thus requite the LORD, O foolish people and unwise? Is not he thy father that hath bought thee? Hath he not made thee and established thee?" He has bought us, made us and established us. We did not just evolve over hundreds of millions of years by the hand of Mother Nature. We were created by the hand of God, in a moment's time. Psalms 24:1 says, "The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." These categories that make up our habitation belong to God. This shows that Satan does not own one thing on this earth. Everything belongs to God, and the only access Satan can have is by the permission of the Lord Himself. Psalms 24:2 tells us why, "For he hath founded it . . . and established it." God is the founding Father of every living thing. What David was saying was that God had always existed without a beginning, and that He would always exist without an ending.

God is the Everlasting Father of everything. Olam, the Hebrew word for Everlasting, means "always continuous, eternal, without a beginning or end." God was before time existed, and He will be after time is no more. He is the Father of eternity as well. He existed in the dateless past, in a universe that was without time altogether. Time will start and end, and God will have really just begun. This Eternal God is our refuge. He is known as God Eternal forever. As human beings who have a time of birth and of death, we try to put God in our understanding. It is impossible to do so, because the Spirit of God has always existed and always will. Before there was anything, there was God. No devil or demon in hell can equate themselves with our God. Satan can only equate himself to an angel who has not fallen.

Nehemiah 9:6 says, "Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou

hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee." The Spirit we serve created everything. The earth we stand on is 93 million miles away from the sun. Pluto, the most distant planet, is 2.7 billion miles from the sun, and the sun is in the middle of our solar system. Life travels at a speed of 186,000 miles per second, and if you were to travel at this speed for 24 hours, you would travel over 16 billion miles. If you traveled from earth to the next nearest galaxy at the speed of 16 billion miles per day, you would reach it in 30,000 years. Scientists say there are millions of galaxies, many of which are larger than our Milky Way, in which our solar system is located. Some galaxies contain over one quadrillion stars each, and each star is larger than planet earth.

Now I ask you this question, "How big is God?" Jeremiah 23:24 says, "Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD." If you traveled one million miles through the galaxies at the speed of light, you would still be traveling through God's Spirit. And to think that some believe Satan is God's opposite!

Isaiah 66:1 says, "Thus saith the LORD, the heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool." We can begin to form a picture of how great God is when we realize He puts His feet on the earth. There's not a problem too big in your life that God cannot handle. There's not a sickness or a disease He cannot heal. There's not a demon of hell that can withstand the power and authority of God. He is the omnipresent Spirit who has all power in His being. God is the most magnificent Spirit. There is none like unto our God who created the universe. God has no opposite!

BIO: During 55 years of Apostolic ministry, the late Bishop Jonathan Urshan has pastored churches, preached on four continents, served in various district and national capacities, lectured students, and mentored ministers. He is a renowned speaker, writer and teacher of Eschatology. At his passing at the age of 83 in May 2012, he was pastoring Bishop of Bethel Pentecostal Church (alongside his son, Bro. Andrew Urshan) in St. Peters, MO, where he has served for 24 years.



The late Jonathan Urshan
Bishop of Bethel Pentecostal
Church in St. Peters, MO

Bethany Curton Memorial Scholarship Fund Concert



Please join us at The Apostolic Church
in Auburn Hills, MI for a very special evening of
praise and worship to support the Bethany Curton
Memorial Scholarship.

Saturday
November 17, 2012
6:00 PM

This will be an unforgettable
evening you will not want to miss.

You will be truly blessed.

This scholarship is to benefit a music student
attending Indiana Bible College. There will
be no charge for admission. A free will
offering to be received. A donation
would be greatly appreciated.

Featured singers will be:

IBC Praise

The Stairwells

Gena Vera

Reggie Nevitt

America Nevitt

Nina Tyner

Location:

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Auburn Hills, MI 48326

If you are unable to attend and would still like to contribute to this
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An Evening of Praise and Worship

Bethany Curton Memorial Scholarship Fund Concert

Saturday, Nov. 17 at 6 p.m., Apostolic Church of Auburn Hills, MI

By Charlotte L. Pound



Bethany Curton

Pastor Michael Curton and his wife, Annette, are hosting a Scholarship Fund concert in honor and memory of their beloved daughter, Bethany, whom they lost in a tragic accident in 2008.

"Bethany, our second child, always had her heart set on attending IBC from the time she was five years old. She never changed. Bethany graduated from high school, still planning to attend IBC. Tragically ten days after her graduation she was killed in an automobile accident," Pastor Curton said.

The scholarship is being established to help a music student at IBC in honor of Bethany's passion for music ministry and her life-long commitment to attend IBC. "It is our desire to help aid in the development of Apostolic ministry which in my view is what IBC is all about. Training and developing Apostolic ministers for the next generation is so important, and we want to help make that happen. The concert is the most

natural way to support this scholarship because it ties Bethany's passion and goal with the IBC mission," Bro. Curton said.

The couple has pastored the Apostolic Pentecostal Church of Goshen, Indiana since 2006. They have two other children: Lauren and Wesley. "Our daughter, Lauren, recently graduated from IBC. We feel that IBC was very good for her, and we will always be grateful. Our son, Wesley, is currently a sophomore at Anderson University in Anderson, Indiana," he said.

The concert will take place at the Apostolic Church of Auburn Hills on Nov. 17, beginning at 6 p.m. The capacity of the church of Auburn Hills is between three and four thousand. The concert will feature IBC Praise and will also include The Stairwells, Sis. Gena Vera, and others. The concert is free but an offering will be received, and donations would be greatly appreciated.

"This will be an annual event," Bro. Curton said. "Current plans are to alternate the venue between my home church, in Auburn Hills, and Indiana every other year. I do not have a dedicated website for the concert; however, I will be posting announcement information on the church

website shortly. That website is www.goshenapc.com. If someone needs additional information they can click on the contact tab and e-mail me," Pastor Curton said.

"For the first half of the concert I envision an atmosphere of worship and thanks to God. This will not be a concert where every song is new or unfamiliar to the audience. About half way we will make an appeal and provide an opportunity to support the scholarship. Then we will move forward with the evening and again present an opportunity to become involved with the development of Apostolic ministers at the end of the concert. We have just begun to promote the event but so far feedback has been very positive," he said.

Part of the overall plan for this scholarship is to have churches and individuals send offerings and donations if they cannot attend. For those around the country who are or wish to be friends of the IBC Music Department, funds can be sent to IBC c/o Lindel Anderson designated as BCMF (*Bethany Curton Memorial Fund*) scholarship donation. For more information, Pastor Curton can be reached at (574) 304-7211 or at curtons@netzero.com.

Fathers First -- Training Men For Fatherhood

By Darline Royer

Bedraggled and destitute, the homeless man stumbled into the meeting room. His unexpected entry diverted the group's attention from Dr. Joe's opening comments. To regain attention, Dr. Joe told the man to be seated and he would talk with him after the meeting. The man slumped into a chair, and Dr. Joe continued with his planned lesson for Fathers First.

That evening at Fathers First became the turning point in this destitute man's life. Robert heeded the words of Dr. Joe: "If you'll go to church, God can help you." Along with attending church, Robert enrolled in Fathers First. The preached Word and the Fathers First lessons indeed transformed Robert to a new man in Christ Jesus. After six years of faithful attendance to church and the program, Robert and his ex-wife, who also came into the church, remarried in 2010 in an impressive church ceremony. Together, they now provide a God-honoring home for their two children.

Fathers First was birthed from the compassionate heart of Dr. Joe Cassidy, member of Truth Tabernacle, Marysville,

CA, who serves as the Yuba County Health Officer. After one year of involvement with the ACTS program at Truth Tabernacle, Dr. Joe envisioned an expanded program to help men. He states that to change families, neighborhoods and communities, men must be changed. That change must be built on biblical principles of "change from the inside out." Sponsored as a Truth



(l-r) Pastor John Thomas, Dr. Joe Cassidy, Asst. Pastor John Floe

Tabernacle church outreach, Dr. Joe has impacted the greater Yuba County area with this program. Well known in the community for its success, various agencies and churches direct men to the program.

Fathers First classes have been conducted weekly since 1994 at the church with an extension study in the county jail. The program runs for six months with a graduation for the men who complete the course. However, men often choose to continue in the program after their graduation. Dr. Joe developed the curriculum and does much of the teaching, but he also uses other professionals to address special needs. Anyone desiring to implement a Fathers First program for their church or

community can feel free to contact Dr. Joe for curriculum helps or further details about the program via his email address listed below. If you would like to chat with him, you can provide a phone number where he could reach you at his convenience.

Dr. Joe would also be glad to share with you his insights about jail ministry. From January through September of 2011, he has baptized 42 men in the name of Jesus in the county jail. Dr. Joe emphasizes that building men builds families and families build churches. If the dad goes to church, children go. Statistics verify the significance of the father's role. Dr. Joe's success story as a father of six competent children supports his Fathers First teachings and the principles he has included in the Fathers First curriculum.

In an effort to see this proven program implemented in other churches and communities, Dr. Joe produced a professional quality DVD explaining the program. If you would like a free copy of the DVD, send a request to: Truth Tabernacle, P.O. Box 1904, Marysville, CA 95901 or an email to jsfloe@att.net. Also, you can view the FATHERS FIRST Video.wmv on U-Tube at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ta4f4WU80DU&feature=youtube_gdata_player.

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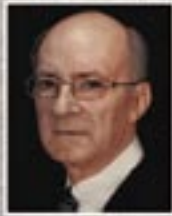
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Eld. Rick Hensley, 7:00 pm

Tuesday

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Eld. Jon Coon, 7:00 pm

Wednesday

Eld. Brad Lambeth, 12:00 pm
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Word To The Wise:

"Don't worry about old age -- it doesn't last long."

A Sunday school teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible -- Psalms 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task -- but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line.

On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalms 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, "The Lord is my shepherd, and that's all I need to know."

The minister of a well-attended, strong and enthusiastic church often showed he was ready and able to deal with any situation that might come up. One Sunday, just as the minister was reaching the peak of his sermon, his own young son entered the church, ran to the center aisle, started making loud beeps and vrrmms like a car without a muffler, then zoomed right toward him.

The minister stopped his sermon, pointed directly at his son, and commanded, "Jimmy, park the car immediately beside your mother on that bench, turn off the ignition and hand her the keys." The sermon continued undisturbed.

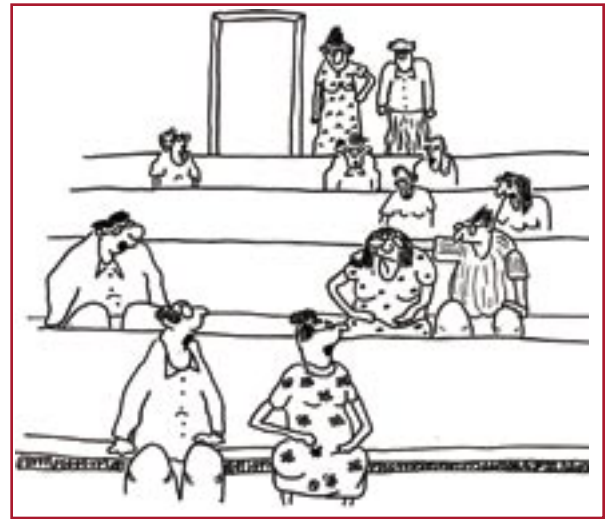


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Church Ladies with Typewriters (Bloopers in Church Bulletins)

- The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- The sermon this morning: *Jesus Walks on the Water*. The sermon tonight: *Searching for Jesus*.
- Ladies, don't forget the yard sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- Don't let worry kill you off -- let the Church help.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

The pastor was two hours away from Colorado Springs in a four-engine prop plane when there was a loud pop. The captain announced that one of the engines had blown and there would be a 30-minute delay in the flight, and there was no cause for concern. Five minutes later, there was another loud pop and the captain quickly announced there was no need to worry, but a second engine had blown. There would be an additional 30-minute delay. Then there was a third very loud pop. The plane jerked and everyone screamed. Quickly, the captain reassured everyone that even with one engine everything would be ok, but there would be an additional two-hour delay. The pastor looked at his traveling companions and muttered, "It appears that if we lose that last engine, we could be up here all night."



The whole church watched with nervous anticipation as the visitors sat where the Martins have sat for 42 years.

Things Learned With Time . . .

- Making a "living" is not the same thing as making a "life."
- Regardless of your relationship with your parents, you'll miss them when they're gone from your life.
- Even when I have pains, I don't have to be one.
- People will forget what you said . . . people will forget what you did . . . but people will never forget how you made them feel.
- You can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles three things: a rainy day, lost luggage and tangled Christmas tree lights.
- Life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.
- We should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for.
- Money doesn't buy class.
- Under someone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.
- The Lord didn't do it all in one day. What makes me think I can?
- To ignore the facts does not change the facts.
- The easiest way for me to grow as a person is to surround myself with people smarter than I am.
- No one is perfect until you fall in love with them.
- One should keep his words both soft and tender, because tomorrow he may have to eat them.
- A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.
- It is best to give advice in only two circumstances: when it is requested and when it is a life-threatening situation.



"... and jumping up and down when you preach doesn't count as aerobic exercise!"

Mid-America RENEWAL conference



JERRY DEAN

THURSDAY



JERRY JONES

THURSDAY



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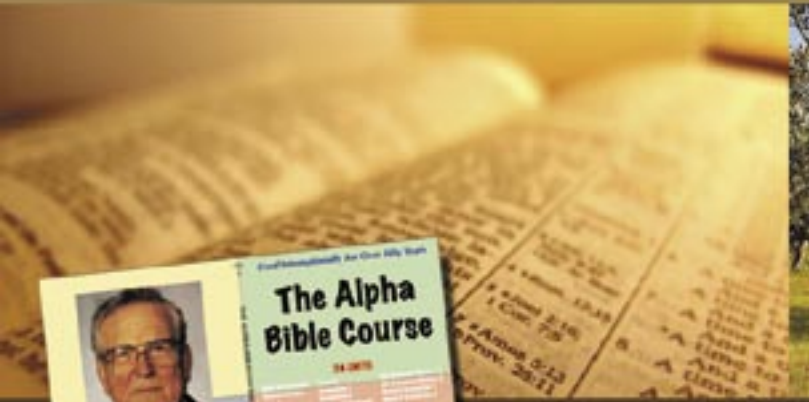
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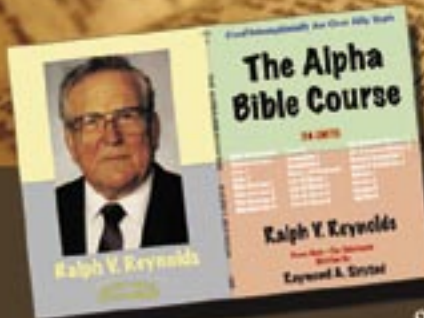
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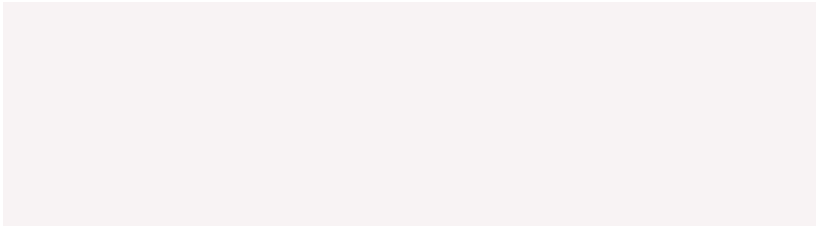
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