



# *peace* ON EARTH





**PRESIDENT  
JOSHUA B. CARSON**

**“Allow me to remind each person who might take the time to read this article: as you focus on gifts this season, don’t lose focus on the most important Gift of all.”**



## The Gift

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:38).

Thirty-three years later, I can admit that there wasn’t a heavenly light beaming on the perfectly wrapped present, beckoning me to open it. However, at only six years of age, it certainly felt that way to me. My siblings and I had received explicit instructions from my parents that there should be no tampering with the gifts. However, a plan had been forming in my childhood brain for days that seemed to be foolproof. With silent stealth (a skill that had been developed by sneaking cookies before dinner) I slipped into the living room, intently watching and listening for anyone to spoil my plan. When no one appeared, I quietly approached the large gift with my name on it and tore the edge of the wrapping paper from the back. There was not much of a rip needed for my investigating eyes to uncover the secret of the present there for me.

Unfortunately, I cannot even remember what the gift was– I only remember what it wasn’t. My mother, AKA “ole’ eagle eye,” noticed the rip later that day, and my pitiful plan unraveled, adding insult to injury. Truthfully, I’m glad it happened because it taught me two things that day: 1) fantasy and reality are not the same thing, and 2) be sure your sins will find you out (if my mom is involved).

Less than a year later, our church was in revival with an evangelist named Rev. McDonald. His name stuck in my head, thanks to happy meals and a song involving a farm. Nonetheless, what I remember most about him is the night he dipped his ministry bucket into the well of the Apostle’s Acts and preached that anyone in the building with desire could receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. The question I directed at my mother was small but genuine: “Does that mean I could have that gift tonight?”

My mother’s tearful response was inspiring but straightforward. “Absolutely,” she said. There was no devised plan, no sneaking to uncover wrapping, just a child’s faith in the preached Word of God. With my little arms lifted, warm tears streamed down my freshly repentant face, and the outside expression of a burning internal desire was unmistakable. Almost instantly, I received the gift of the Holy Ghost, having the same initial evidence of speaking another language as the apostle’s themselves. Much different than my gift experience only months before, this was the most significant gift experience of my life.

With multiple decades in between, there has still never been a gift to rival the Holy Ghost. Therefore, allow me to remind each person who might take the time to read this article– as you focus on gifts this season, don’t lose focus on the most important One ever.

*Joshua B. Carson*

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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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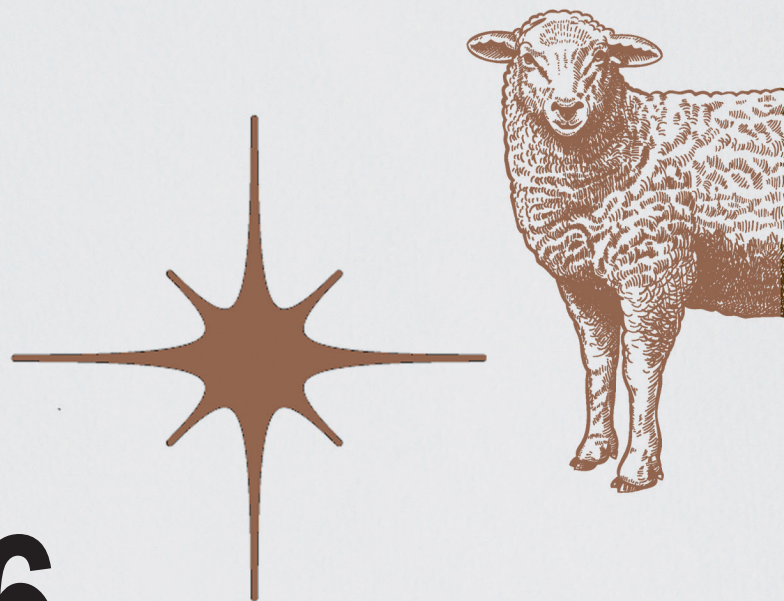
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# 06

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### Putting Wood Where the Fire Is

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# Mission Amazing:

## PROMOTING GLOBAL MISSIONS IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

Written By Annamarie Randall

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



**David Sanzo, Manassas, VA** - As their vision for missions increases, they will give more time, prayer, and money to missions endeavors. We give to Sheaves for Christ, Mother's Memorial, Christmas for Christ, and the other UPCI fundraisers. We are currently preparing for the Global Missions offering. Our people will give to missions throughout the year. We will often take up special offerings when a missionary comes to our church a couple times per year or other fundraising occasions. We are currently supporting five missionaries. We will pray specifically for missionaries during our all-church prayer meetings. I encourage our youth and Hyphen to go on AYC/Next Trips. We had two scheduled to go to AYC this year before it was cancelled (coronavirus).



**Roger Feiler, Alexandria, MN** - The saying is true: "You can't out-give God." With a God-given burden one will give sacrificially, whether it's time, prayer, or money. The way I promote this is by being an example by teaching Bible studies and giving sacrificially of my personal finances.

The first Sunday of every month is our missions giving. We schedule two or three missionaries every year that come through. I made a commitment to God that we would take on every missionary that we had come to our church, and so far we have been able to do this. We also have a time of prayer during our Sunday service specifically for our missionaries.

We support Sheaves for Christ, Christmas for Christ, Mother's Memorial, North American Missions, Global Missions, Children's Ministries, and Men's Ministries.



**Edward Sermon, Billings, MT** - For the last five years in a row we have had young people involved with AYC missions trips, and we support them as much as possible. We believe that exposure breeds a burden, and so we try to show the value of giving time, prayer, and money to the missions field by keeping the focus in front of our members. We currently support twelve missionaries. In addition to the missionaries supported by the church, we

encourage our members to sponsor missionaries personally as they feel led to do so. We also have framed additional copies of our PIM certificate, and have made them available for members to take home and use as a reference and reminder for their prayer and support. We take the third Wednesday each month to promote missions and have special prayer for missionaries. We use video updates from Bro. Howell or specific missionaries prior to taking up a missions offering. In years past, we averaged two missions services per year, but I AM GLOBAL has allowed numerous missionaries to return to the field before their scheduled date with us.



**Andrew Traub, Whitesboro, NY** - Our foreign missions program is to promote and help fund missionaries to contribute in part to fulfilling the Great Commission. Our belief is that we should help them in any way we can. In addition to supporting several missionaries with the PIM program, we also help missionaries by giving them a place to preach and rest, along with a love offering

that will at least help sustain them on their journey until their next stop. I lead by example by personally supporting two missionaries. Many pastors like myself also find it rewarding to maintain a secular income, at least part-time, so that the church will thrive financially. This in turn enables a church to have more funds available to help missionaries. A pastor who takes a kingdom-minded approach will find his own ministry and life blessed when he prioritizes the advancement of the gospel by supporting missionary work.



**Ben Smith, Richmond, IN** - I believe that when our church is exposed to individual needs of missionaries, then they will give. I try to create awareness by sharing testimonies and creating or promoting mission trips for our church as often as possible and encouraging our youth to go when they are old enough. We try to schedule two-four missionaries per year, and

usually only take up extra missions offerings when we have a missionary with us. While we support all the branches of ministry with the United Pentecostal Church International, Global Missions is a high priority for us. My personal goal for our church is to make our missions giving at least a tithe of our annual church income.



**Ward Rehbein, White Lake, WI** - In Wisconsin, if a church cannot take a missionary on, we have done what we could to support our missionaries as they travel through our state, to aid them in their deputation. We have done a faith promise service every year to help with the support of our missionaries. We can always do more, to be ever-reaching is the goal of the church. I will endeavor to include our missionaries that we support

in our weekly services, to take up specific offerings to aid in their support, and to make every effort to increase the pool of finances that we can draw from in order to give to missions when called upon. We pray continually for revival and have a weekly prayer meeting where we pray for those that are ministering at home and abroad.

# putting **WOOD** where the **FIRE** is

PASTOR DAVID M. REEVER // BALTIMORE, MD

*Written By Linda Schreckenber*



**Pastor & First Lady Reever**

"I've always advocated the point of putting wood where the fire is," said Pastor David M. Reever of Abundant Life Church in Baltimore, Maryland. "We want to work from the outside in, and I'm always for trying to push those on the fringes toward the core or the center of the fire. If the core is on fire, that fire will go forth and affect those who are on the fringes."

Pastor Reever believes his first priorities should be those of the apostles, found in Acts 6:2,4: "...It is not reason

that we should leave the Word of God and serve tables. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the Word." His next priority as pastor of Abundant Life Church is focused on casting vision and developing strong leaders.

Pastor David M. Reever and his wife, Christina, also a licensed UPCI minister, have two children: Brooke (25) and Ashton (17). Along with pastoring Abundant Life Church, Bro. Reever serves as District Secretary Treasurer of the Maryland/D.C. District, and as the Northeast Regional Director for North American Missions.

## **Principles of Growth**

"We often talk about principles of growth," said Pastor Reever, "But I prefer to refer to growth as being a healthy church, because healthy things organically grow. One can be a healthy, maturing child or teenager that may not have grown in inches, but their organs and their emotions, etc. can be growing. The three components of a church in terms of growth are: 1) Spiritual, 2) Numerical, and 3) Financial, and they feed off of each other. For example, when the church grows numerically, it also grows financially and spiritually."

## **Growth Ministries & Methods**

The church has monthly meetings to review names and where people are in the discipleship process. Pastor believes it's much more than just getting people through the doors or teaching a Bible study. They must have accountability to make sure they are moving through the process.

## **Organization & Management**

The Ministry Model of Abundant Life Church consists of thirty teams on the following five ministry leads: 1) The Administrative Team helps the other ministry teams fulfill their purpose by managing effective operations of church business and communications. 2) The Experience Ministry Team helps people make Jesus known in their lives by encouraging an atmosphere where they can experience God. This ministry's



**Smiling Faces Welcome Guests**

role is to facilitate a positive, spirit-impacting environment for all participants during ministry events. 3) The Grow Ministry Team helps people increase influence of the Word and people of God in their lives by facilitating Bible education and Apostolic fellowship. This ministry's role is to resource believers for a deeper knowledge of and commitment to the Word of God. 4) The Serve Ministry Team helps people give what God has blessed them with to someone else by creating giving opportunities and volunteer ministry. This ministry's role is to encourage believers to give time, talent, and treasure, and to connect/qualify a place of service to fill needs. 5) The Go Ministry Team helps people declare the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed by equipping them for eternity-impacting ministry. This ministry's role is to expand the reach of the Gospel and number of souls impacted by the ministry.

Pastor meets monthly with the volunteer ministry leaders and weekly with his vocational leaders. Ministry leads have leaders that answer to them. There is an annual vision planning weekend, while the monthly ministry lead meeting does the more immediate planning. During COVID, Zoom meetings were



**A Convert is Baptized**

used. And, most meetings are done onsite, since the facilities are already available there. Training consists of Purpose Institute and small groups. Pastor refers to those as on-the-job training. They're doing life together, and the curriculum varies. The church holds a bi-annual summit with in-house training open to those in the church that are interested in leadership training.

Ministerial Advance training is for those who are credentialed with the UPCI. There are nine credentialed ministers in this

training, along with others seeking to be credentialed ministers. Pastor Reever highly recommends Dr. David Bernard's book titled *Spiritual Leadership in the Twenty-First Century*, used in Purpose Institute for training those pursuing a call to the ministry.

Seventy-two percent of the people are involved in some form of ministry, and around forty percent are involved in evangelism, including an Evangelism Team and Bible study teachers. Pastor Reever promotes involvement through his preaching and by encouraging them to keep moving in the discipleship pathway. At Abundant Life Church, it doesn't just end with people being born again. Under their Serve component, they have a Ministry Guidance Team to recruit, interview and train people who want to be involved. The church does an annual Stewardship series that includes the topics of time, talent and treasure. "God asks for your time, talent and treasure," said Pastor Reever, "And we ask them to commit to tithing and offering, to ministries, etc., so we do seek a response."

The church now has an inner-city work in Baltimore city under the hands of Bro. Anthony and Sis. Erica Hanson from Portland, Oregon. They're having prayer walks and teaching Bible studies, and hope to rent a building by next spring.

## **Special Miracle**

Elder Bishop Ralph J. McIntyre (95), founding Superintendent of the Maryland/D.C. District, attends Abundant Life Church. In September of 2018, Pastor Reever was preaching when he noticed Bishop McIntyre had his head down. When Bro. Martin, sitting beside the Bishop, tried to wake him, he realized he was not asleep. Pastor immediately called for a doctor and no pulse or heartbeat was found. CPR was performed, and medics were called as the congregation prayed earnestly in the Spirit. Just before the medics performed a heart shock treatment, Dr. Daley felt a pulse. The medics later told the Bishop, "Those people in that church were really praying for you, but we couldn't understand a word they were saying." The doctor told Bishop McIntyre it was not his heart, but the reaction to a nitro tablet and

acid reflux had caused his heart to stop. He was discharged the next day and has never had a recurrence of the problem. Bishop McIntyre's book, *My Story*, is available by emailing [elder82@verizon.net](mailto:elder82@verizon.net).

### Personal Ministry

Pastor and Sis. Reeve's booklet, *Defining Biblical Leadership*, is given to leaders in the church. "We believe that right values reap abundant rewards," said Pastor Reeve. "The booklet covers the topics of relationship, example, attributes and priorities." Their philosophy of ministry is found in the statement that says, "We value relationships with Jesus and others."

Pastor Reeve enjoys preaching about hope, encouragement, and faith; a healing ministry for the many hurting people that have come in and found their healing in the past twenty-three years.

### The Facility

The church leases the current multi-campus property that includes a commercial/flex style building. Their landlord owns two buildings of approximately 20,000 square feet each. Half of one of his buildings, formerly a gym, is the Worship Center, which seats about 500. They renovated 8,000 square feet of that building as the sanctuary. Other rooms include a reception room for guests, a prayer room and restrooms. Across the parking lot is the Training Center, which includes all of the lower floor of that building. There are five offices, a student center, and a multi-purpose room where they have the Purpose Institute and Children's Ministry. It has a common area with tables for eating, a conference room that seats ten people, and a kitchen. There are ten classrooms that are used for Children's Ministry or as discipleship rooms. It's not uncommon to find five of those rooms filled with Growth Groups and people teaching Bible studies, etc. before the Sunday worship service at 11:00 a.m.

Purpose Institute, a UPCI-endorsed education program, was started in 2011. Four classes are offered twice a year, and students register online. They have had over one hundred students since that first year.

The church just signed a five-year lease. They have been in the current facility since around 2016 and have an option to buy in the lease, as God leads.

Last year, twenty received the Holy Ghost, and twenty-five were baptized. This year, thirteen have received the Holy Ghost and eight have been baptized. God is blessing their Hyphen Group in Campus Ministry at Harford College and Towson University. Pastor Reeve's daughter taught a Bible study outside a Starbucks, and the young woman received the Holy Ghost.

Average attendance is around 242. Even through COVID, they have around 75-100 who are still watching online, and they just had a peak of 163 on campus. Due to COVID, they are limited to 75% capacity.

### Personal History

Pastor Reeve grew up in St. Louis, received the Holy Ghost at eight and was raised in the Apostolic Pentecostal Church, founded by Rev. Harry Branding, later pastored by Rev. Winfred Black. Rev. Black was Bro. Reeve's pastor through age fourteen. He credits him and his son, Rev. Terry Black, Rev. Steve Williford, and Rev. Chester Wright as those who influenced his ministry.

He went to JCM in the fall of 1981. He served as intern for two years at the First Pentecostal Church of Jackson, Mississippi (Pastor Tommy Craft), assisting the Youth Pastor, Rev. Darrell Johns. Upon graduation, he served as Youth Pastor until 1991. He married Christina at 23 years old and began traveling and



Church Exterior

evangelizing from 1991-1997 when they came to Baltimore.

He first felt called to the ministry in the Christian school after giving a book report, and from there the Lord began to talk to him and told him he was going to use him. He told about his journey in the little book he wrote, *So You (May) Feel Your Call to Preach*, available through PPH and Amazon.

In Baltimore, Bro. Reeve became a dual pastor, pastoring Abundant Life Church and a young church near his home. A couple from Abundant Life later took that church, and it is still in operation.

### Church History

Abundant Life (named Dundalk United Pentecostal Church at that time) was started in 1983 in Dundalk, Maryland by Rev. Jim DeRamus, who now pastors in Pennsylvania. Rev. Chris Tharp pastored after him, purchasing the first building, previously a restaurant of 14,000 square feet at auction in 1995 for the taxes. But they didn't know there was \$40,000 in back taxes. Through God's grace and the people's generosity, they raised it in two days. Bro. Reeve became pastor in 1997. Through renovations, the church had a mortgage of \$215,000, and the Lord began to impress Bro. Reeve to get rid of that debt to be ready to move. They sold that property, rented a Baptist church for a year and moved in 2013.

Pastor's first message at Abundant Life was "The Making of a Miracle" on the story of the five loaves and two fish. He preached about the important preparations that led up to that specific miracle.

Disciple making, reaching for neighbors and friends, and small groups have basically been their methods of outreach.

### Human Interest

Pastor Reeve enjoys traveling, walking and quality family time of playing games, etc. He enjoys the ministry of the late Rev. Billy Cole, and the ministry of Rev. Mark Morgan and enjoys reading books written by Dr. David Bernard.



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## 'Tis the Season



**Chad A. Parker**  
Executive Vice President

There's just something about the holiday season that activates generosity in people. The idea of giving truly comes alive as careful consideration is given to selecting gifts that will bring joy to those we care about. We've all been there.

Standing in the aisle of the store surrounded by "unbeatable" deals, trying desperately to make a decision about what to buy. We want the gift to be meaningful. We want the gift to be practical. We just want our love and appreciation for that person to be displayed in the gift that we give.

As parents, we've probably all done some form of this coaching on the way to family gatherings: "What do you say when you get a gift?" "We never say 'that's not what I want' or 'I already have this,' but we always show thankfulness." Gift-giving can become so overwhelming, trying to get every detail right! A time when we should be able to simply celebrate can so easily get lost in the noise of commercialism. It is imperative that the importance of that first Christmas gift remains at the center of it all and not get crowded out by the hustle and bustle of the season!

What a gift it was when Christ was born! Not only was this Child going to change the world, but He was going to change the world for all time. This Christ was the gift that would keep on giving. There could not have been, nor will there ever be, a gift more perfect. He was exactly what we needed! The perfect gift of love!

At Tupelo Children's Mansion, some of our children arrive with minimal understanding of that precious gift. They often know about Jesus, but their lives have been so chaotic that they rarely have had the chance to actually know Him. Their experiences with people who "love" them often involve abandonment, addiction, abuse, and rejection, so this idea of the love of God may sound a little too good to be true.

However, after a few weeks on the campus experiencing consistent care and encouraging words from their houseparents, being challenged and motivated by their teachers, feeling the kindness and generosity from their sponsors, and encountering the powerful love of God in church services, they begin to realize that this gift is for them, too! There are few things more beautiful than watching these children surrender their lives to Christ when they have the revelation that they are truly loved by the King of Kings!

Thank you for making these encounters possible! It's because of your love and generous support that lives are changing! To learn about ways you can get involved at Tupelo Children's Mansion, visit [mansionkids.org](http://mansionkids.org). Merry Christmas!

## 6 COVID-19 Controversies in Churches Today

By Thom S. Rainer

They contact our team daily. They want to make the right decision, but it seems that any decision gets them in trouble. Pastors in churches around the world are, like all of us, navigating a new reality. It's not a new normal; it is truly a new reality. These pastors, of course, have never been confronted with these types of controversies. They love their church members, but the church members are not always loving them back. Here are the six most common controversies we are hearing from pastors as they contact Church Answers. The list, of course, is not exhaustive nor is it mutually exclusive.

1. *Mask vs. no mask.* This one is by far the most common. Members get mad if masks are required. Members get mad if masks aren't required. Masks or no masks for some members become a sign of political affiliation.

2. *Social distance vs. no social distance.* As an introvert, I have been practicing social distancing all my life. But some members don't like it. Yet, if you don't practice social distancing in the church, some members don't like that either.

3. *Change vs. no change.* Of course, this debate is not new. But the pace of change has been exacerbated by the pandemic. Some members don't understand why the church can't get back to the way it's always done it. Other members think it's time to move rapidly before the blank slate becomes cluttered.

4. *Same personnel vs. change in personnel.* One church discovered during the pandemic it really did not need a full-time receptionist. Relatively few people came in the church facilities pre-COVID, and the number dropped to almost zero from the quarantine to today. The leaders deleted the position. Some members are really mad.

5. *Zoom vs. no Zoom.* Just like a number of employees liked the digital opportunity to work from anywhere, so did many church members who connected with other church members through Zoom or some other video technology. This debate is particularly evident in the ministry of small groups. Some want to keep the ministry digital. Others want to meet in person. The pastor wants two ibuprofen.

6. *Regather vs. don't regather.* For many churches, this season of regathering is in its early transitional stage. As more members return and regather, a number of members are choosing to remain digital. We are now hearing about divisions of members between the regathered and the digital.

## Give the gift that lasts.

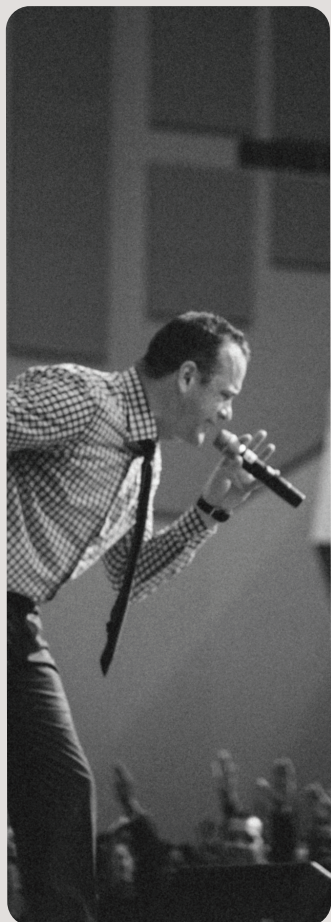
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# WHOLLY THINE



## JOSHUA 14:8-9

Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God. And Moses swore on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God.



## SPEAKERS

### Thursday Evening

Jerry Jones

### Friday

J. H. Osborne  
Indira Petoskey  
Victor Jackson

### Friday Evening

D. K. Bernard  
Josh Carson

### Saturday

Sammy Stewart  
Mark Morgan

# WINTERFIRE2021



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# let's be HONEST

## LIVING A LIFE OF RADICAL, BIBLICAL INTEGRITY

Written By Charlotte L. Pound



Jeremy Gove  
Blackshear, GA

**"Biblical honesty goes beyond simply telling the truth. It's a call to embody truth. This book explores the five primary concepts of honesty: brokenness, accuracy, steadfastness, integrity, and credibility."—Jeremy Gove**

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

I'm an ordained UPCI minister and the Student Pastor at Truth Tabernacle in Blackshear, Georgia, under the leadership of Pastor C.H. Jury. I also serve as the Section One Youth Director for Georgia District Youth Ministries (the GDYM). My ministry has always tended to focus on equipping upcoming leaders and applying the Bible's truths and concepts to everyday life.

I have a B.S. in Management Information Systems from the University of Delaware with a minor in Jewish Studies. I've worked in several capacities in both the public and private sector, including time at three of the world's largest Fortune 500 companies. I also own and operate FoxFire Media, a web design, graphic design, and marketing business.

**Why is the topic of integrity important within apostolic Pentecost and, more specifically, within apostolic ministry?**

Simply put, because we're people of the Book. We seek to emulate the practices and beliefs of the early church and of Scripture overall. It's impossible to intentionally walk in the footsteps of Jesus and not discover a life of integrity. Integrity is central to the Christian experience because it denotes that our behavior matches our belief; that our heart has undergone a transformation and goodness flows from that change. At its core, it should be no surprise that Biblical honesty simply comes down to doing the right thing, no matter the cost or circumstances. It is loving and living truth. After all, Jesus referred to both Himself and His Word as truth. So, as followers and imitators of Jesus, we're called to pursue it—not just truth in doctrine, but in doing, as well.

**We are in the midst of a presidential election. How might this topic be important for both candidates? Does America have a fundamental problem with honesty and integrity?**

We live in a Photoshop culture with a Photoshop mindset when it comes to truth. No matter how prominent that principle becomes, we have to remember that we are called to be in this Photoshop culture, but not of it. In reality, yes, it applies to America, but it applies to all of humanity as well. That was the central premise of Satan's lies in the Garden; that man could be his own god, empower his own self, and set his own moral boundaries.

**Explain how the Hebrew word for "honest" provides insight into what true integrity is all about - what you call the BASIC aspects of honesty.**

There's no ancient Hebrew word for honesty. The word translated and understood as "honest," is simply *emet*, the Hebrew word for "truth." *Emet* is an interesting word because it's made up of the first, middle, and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet. Jewish scholars incorporated the very placement of those letters into their definition on truth. In order for something to be true, it must be true from the beginning to the middle to the end. In order for something to be true, it must be totally true. According to the Biblical concept, if we're endeavoring to be honest, then truth should be incorporated into everything we do, everything we say, everything we think, and everything we are. Throughout the book, we explore five aspects—the BASIC's—of living a life of truth. The acronym stands for:

- Brokenness (Humility)
- Accuracy
- Steadfastness (Faithfulness)
- Integrity
- Credibility

**Why is brokenness important to honesty?**

Brokenness finds its basis in humility.

Humility is the acceptance that we are not the ones in control. God is God and we are not. He sets the rules, He is in control, and, ultimately, His way is always better. Brokenness is submitting our will to His will and being willing to walk according to His wisdom, His precepts, and His laws, not our own feelings and opinions. Brokenness follows blessing and precedes service. We fall on His greatness, and lean into His goodness, believing His intentions toward us are good and following Him in faith.

**Why is accuracy important for apostolics?**

Truth requires accuracy and accuracy requires a standard. The standard we follow is the Everlasting Word and eternal character of God. Scripture tells us over and over again, that our heart is deceitful and that following it alone can lead us in a dangerous direction. We also have a tendency as human beings to overly justify ourselves. If we're in control, the lines are blurred and always moving.

**What role does steadfastness play in biblical integrity?**

Steadfastness, or faithfulness, is a key part of biblical honesty. We explore each of the BASIC concepts in the book, but faithfulness is covered extensively. Our understanding of God's faithfulness to us affects our faithfulness to others, which also expresses our faithfulness to God.

It's a cycle. Our belief affects our behavior and our behavior exhibits our belief. Faithfulness is a fruit of the Spirit. When God's Spirit flows freely in our lives, faithfulness is one of the aspects that shines through. Furthermore, our dedication to truth is faithfully expressed in 3 major areas of our life: our work, our wealth, and our word.

**Finally, explain how integrity and credibility are closely related and so very needful.**

We go in-depth with this concept in the book, but integrity and credibility are both measured in the short-run and long-run. A good way to think of it, is that integrity is the object and credibility is the result. Integrity is where we stand with God in relationship; it's where our heart rests. Credibility is the result of that standing in witness; it's where our hand works. In most true tests of character, we and God are typically the only witnesses. But, yet, somehow, that same character resonates with those around us. Our world, for all of its depravity, is looking for something to believe in. To the people we interact with, if we can be trusted, Jesus can be trusted. Our credibility points our world to Christ.

**What motivated you to write this book?**

This book started out as a Wednesday Night Bible Study I taught originally about a decade ago. It was then converted into a youth curriculum and I've taught portions of it at different events. Every time I taught it, I always had people asking for more. And as it usually goes, the more I taught it the more raw material I had. So, I took everything together, compiled it, edited it, added some elements, took some things out, etc. And the result was this book.

I also tried to structure it intentionally as a short, easy read. I wanted it to be the kind of book that someone could easily read through quickly, but that someone could also go through slowly and savor each concept. I also started each chapter the same way I tend to start messages when I preach, with a strong opening story or example, something that (hopefully) grips the reader and sticks with them. The book also includes a Small Group Discussion Guide that makes this book perfect for a small group or book club setting.

**How to order, the cost, contact info, etc.**

*Let's Be Honest: Living a Life of Radical, Biblical Integrity* is available primarily on Amazon. It's available in paperback, Kindle, and audiobook. You can also receive discounts for any bulk book purchases over ten copies. To order books in bulk, or even just to ask questions or give feedback, send an email to [jeremy.gove@foxfiremedia.org](mailto:jeremy.gove@foxfiremedia.org).

For information about these events, call the event coordinator. If you would like your event on this list, call (317)-781-7712 IBC Perspectives does not endorse any seminar or conference listed. This page is provided simply as a service to the greater Apostolic community.

# apostolicalendar 2020

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	SPEAKERS / NOTES	CONTACT / INFO
DEC 20	<b>NAM Christmas for Christ Offering Date</b> Christmas for Christ is an annual offering received during the Christmas season that supports church planters in North America. Our goal is to raise \$5 million dollars.	Every church should set a special day to bring their best offering to Jesus.	Every pastor should promote this to their congregation at least three weeks before the offering date.	Visit <a href="http://www.christmas-forchrist.faith/#home">www.christmas-forchrist.faith/#home</a> for more information.
DEC 28-29	<b>IN District Holiday Youth Convention ONLINE</b> Join us for an online-only worship and preaching experience for HYC.	Services will be streamed on Facebook, Youtube, and the IN Youth website.	Speakers for this event will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit <a href="https://www.youth.inupci.org/">https://www.youth.inupci.org/</a> for more information.
JAN 29 2021	<b>Indiana Bible College LIVE RECORDING</b> A night of worship with Indiana Bible College under the direction of Dr. Lindel M. Anderson.	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46203	Lindel Anderson, IBC Choir, IBC Chorale, IBC Praise, others	For more information: <a href="http://www.indianabiblecollege.org/ibclive">www.indianabiblecollege.org/ibclive</a> or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 554-8069
FEB 2021	<b>Systems &amp; Strategies Conference</b> A conference for pastors, volunteer leaders & staff examining systems & strategies for apostolic churches to help prepare us for the harvest.	Church of Pentecost 8709 Hogan Rd Jacksonville, FL 32216	Speakers for this event will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit <a href="http://www.churchofpentecost.org">www.churchofpentecost.org</a> for more information.
FEB 8-9 2021	<b>Indiana Bible College Book Trip</b> IBC students, staff, and guests travel to Baker Book House in Grand Rapids, MI to shop for books, converse, and fellowship.	2768 E Paris Ave S E Grand Rapids, MI 49546	Many IBC staff members will have the opportunity to address the students.	Visit <a href="http://www.indianabiblecollege.org">www.indianabiblecollege.org</a> for more details.
FEB 25-27 2021	<b>Winterfire Conference 2021</b> WinterFire is where action is birthed from revelation. Every leadership team will leave renewed and empowered! It is the place where those who pour out every week in ministry are poured into. Be a part of WinterFire 2020 to be challenged, encouraged, and instructed by the Word of God.	The First Cathedral 1151 Blue Hills Avenue Bloomfield, CT 06002	Jerry Jones, J.H. Osborne, Indira Petoskey, Victor Jackson, D.K. Bernard, Josh Carson, Sammy Stewart, Mark Morgan	Visit <a href="http://www.winterfire.org">www.winterfire.org</a> for more information, or call (860) 528-9834.
FEB 25-27 2021	<b>Indiana Bible College CONNECT</b> Designed for high school juniors and seniors who feel a call to ministry. Students will be a part of an in-depth look at what it means to be called into ministry and how Indiana Bible College can help educate, train and instruct those called.	Indiana Bible College 1502 E Sumner Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46227	Many IBC staff members will have the opportunity to address the prospective students.	Visit <a href="https://indianabiblecollege.org/connect/">https://indianabiblecollege.org/connect/</a> for more information.
MAR 5-6 2021	<b>Chase Marshall Memorial Bible Quizzing Tournament</b> Bible quizzers gather for a power-packed tournament and fellowship.	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46203	Speakers for this event will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit <a href="http://www.indianabiblecollege.org">www.indianabiblecollege.org</a> for more details.
MAR 30 2021	<b>Indiana Bible College Pastor's Day</b> Honoring the special role that pastors play in the lives of IBC students. The pastor and spouses of all students are encouraged to attend classes and chapel service with their students. In the evening they are also invited to participate in the Pastors' Day Banquet.	Indiana Bible College 1502 E Sumner Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46227	Many IBC staff members will have the opportunity to address the prospective students.	Visit <a href="http://www.indianabiblecollege.org/pastors-day">www.indianabiblecollege.org/pastors-day</a> for more information.
APR 6-8 2021	<b>Indiana Bible College Theology Conference</b> The students of the Theology Club host a powerful conference with guest speakers, night sessions, and more.	Indiana Bible College 1502 E Sumner Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46227	Speakers for this conference will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit <a href="http://www.indianabiblecollege.org">www.indianabiblecollege.org</a> for more details.
MAY 7 2021	<b>Indiana Bible College Commencement Exercises</b> Honoring the graduating class of 2021.	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46203	The commencement speaker will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit <a href="http://www.indianabiblecollege.org">www.indianabiblecollege.org</a> for more details.
JULY 28-30 2021	<b>North American Youth Congress</b> The world's largest apostolic youth event, filled with dynamic preaching, singing, and fellowship.	Lucas Oil Stadium 500 S Capitol Ave Indianapolis, IN 46225	Speakers for this conference will be announced closer to the event date.	For more information: <a href="http://www.northamericanyouthcongress.com">www.northamericanyouthcongress.com</a>
SEPT 2021	<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 46203	Speakers for this conference will be announced closer to the event date.	<a href="mailto:ibc@apostolic.edu">ibc@apostolic.edu</a> <a href="http://indianabiblecollege.org">indianabiblecollege.org</a> or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 514-8069
OCT 5-8 2021	<b>UPCI General Conference 2021</b> Don't miss this incredible gathering of apostolic ministers and acquaintances worldwide.	Indianapolis, IN	Speakers for this conference will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit <a href="http://www.upcigc.net">www.upcigc.net</a> for more information.
OCT 2021	<b>The Apostolic North Conference</b> A conference designed for the North American missionary and church planter.	To be announced	Speakers for this conference will be announced closer to the event date.	Online registration: <a href="http://www.parkwaychurch.net">www.parkwaychurch.net</a> (601) 853-2607

# Theology: Calvinism Is Not in Scripture



Jason Gallion

## ■ Church Today

[jasongallion@gmail.com](mailto:jasongallion@gmail.com)

September 11th started as a normal day. I was living in Alaska and going about my morning routine. I began receiving calls and texts from friends about what was happening on the East Coast. I rushed to a nearby book store where I stood to watch a CNN broadcast replay the planes hitting the towers.

The shocking visual is one nobody who watched it can forget.

That morning Ben Sliney, the head of the FAA, ordered the unprecedented grounding of all flights in the United States. His order prompted 4,200 flights to converge on the nearest airports waiting for clearance to land. You can imagine the feeling passengers felt, circling high above, with little clarity and mounting fear. It is easy to remember the visual of planes hitting the towers on that day, but it is more difficult to remember the confusion of life put on hold in the middle of chaos.

What we have experienced in 2020 feels like a drawn-out holding pattern. What we had hoped to be a short-lived shutdown has for many churches been an extended period of adjustment and restriction. While we seek to get back to normal, it seems as if forces outside of our control are pushing against the church. Congregations, pastors, and young people feel the emotional effects of a world that has been put on hold in many respects. If we are not careful, I believe we will adopt a holding pattern mentality into our spiritual lives as well. The greatest danger to the church may not be our external situation, but the temptation allows our spiritual progress to turn into waiting.

Churches have a right and responsibility to defend their religious freedom under the law. Thank God for those brave enough to push back against unjust laws that would unfairly discriminate against churches. The church should not only defend itself legally, but we acknowledge that our battle is also against principalities and powers. The devil would like nothing more than to have God's people believe lies about our current situation in the midst of chaos. The current climate of our country is reality, but what the devil is speaking about our current situation is a lie. We cannot believe the lie that the devil is winning and circumstances need to change for God's will to be done. The devil has not accomplished anything that the sovereignty of God has not allowed. Now is not the time to pray for deliverance from this moment, but to pray for what God has intended at this moment.

God may have you at this moment because it is in darkness and chaos where you will access new dimensions of prayer, faith, and anointing. Don't become so preoccupied with what God can do that you miss what God is doing. God has you exactly where you need. We must not allow our prayers to revolve around deliverance out of the darkness. Instead, we must pray for our light to shine in the darkness. Our worship cannot only be about getting out, but it must about worshipping at the moment. What the enemy has meant for evil, God can turn into the greatest hour of your life.



Bobby Killmon

## ■ Theology

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**How can I show someone that Calvinism isn't in the Scripture?**

This is a wonderful question that I may break into two or three articles. The inherent ideas or basic tenants of Calvinism is what you need to show are not biblical. Then the choice becomes simply do we follow Scripture or Calvinism's teaching?

Calvinism teaches the total inability, or the total depravity, of humanity. This means, according to Calvinism, humanity cannot choose "good," but can only choose "bad." However, Scripture teaches that God created humanity with the ability to reason, choose between good and bad, and receive truth. Even after the fall, and the subsequent depravity of man, humanity did not lose the capacity for choice. We can still choose to act in faith, believe, repent, and obey the Gospel.

The capacity for faith that every human has comes from God alone. Each man is given the capacity or measure of faith (Rom. 12:3). Further, not only do we have the capacity from God, but we also have the opportunity through the shed blood of Christ made available to all the world (1 Jn. 2:2). However, even though there is both capacity for all and opportunity for all, not all are saved. Why? 2 Pet. 3:9 shows God is not willing that any would be lost or "perish". So the question begs to be asked, where is the weakness of will? It can only be in humanity choosing not to exercise choose or willingness to accept salvation by faith.

Many statements in God's Word show this explicitly. In Eph. 2:8 it shows we are saved through faith. God does not need faith; He is the object of faith. Humanity is the party that must choose to exercise faith. Is that a work? Of course. Does that add to provision or capacity of the possibility of salvation? Of course not. We deserved hell. When we choose forgiveness we neither add anything in terms of demanding or deserving, nor delivering or providing, to our salvation.

Our ability to choose or act in faith (through willingness to repent, be baptized, or believing to receive God's Spirit) is simply the means by which we thankfully accept what God has freely supplied. We must be the ones who choose to "lay apart" and "receive with meekness" that which can save our souls (Jam. 1:21). The Lord says in Is. 1:18 that we must "reason together" to get to the point of sins being washed. It's not what God must do because I'm totally depraved and can only choose bad. It involves both God's provision and my willingness to accept.

Scripture tells people to "choose life" (Deut. 30:19; Josh. 24:15). There's no "inability" of choosing good in Scripture. The Psalmist emphatically declares that "I have chosen the way of truth" and "Thy testimonies have I taken" and further "I have chosen thy precepts" (Ps. 119:30, 111, 173). The apostle John says those who choose Christ become sons (Jn. 1:12). Paul's choice to believe enables him to be equally sure Christ will keep him (2 Tim. 1:12).

These passages are clear. We have the ability to choose. We are not so "totally depraved" that God must choose the good for us. Next time we will deal with the other ideas of Calvinism. However, if this first point fails, all the rest of Calvinism does as well.



T. W. Massengale

## ■ Church Growth

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Numbers 27:19: "And he set him before ... all the congregation and gave him a charge in their sight..." God calls each of us to engage in active ministry. Growing churches will challenge their members to

become actively involved in ministry and then make every effort to get everyone involved somewhere, doing something.

To this end, consider taking the time to train people to minister in a particular aspect of ministry, and then, once the training is completed, bring them before the congregation and commission them into the harvest field. Who might benefit from a Sunday morning commissioning ceremony?

Sunday School Teachers. Hold a Saturday training seminar for all your current Sunday school teachers as well as those who would like to become involved in the Sunday School ministry. Place an emphasis on the importance of evangelizing your Sunday School class by visiting the homes, talking to each student that has yet to receive the Holy Ghost, reaching out to the unsaved parents of class members, having occasional altar calls after the Sunday school lesson, encouraging students to bring guests, and more evangelistically oriented activities. Then, all who complete the training are commissioned to use what they have learned to see students saved during the coming months.

Home Bible Study Teachers. A Saturday workshop on how to teach a home Bible study (HBS) should be offered at least once a year, if not more. But people are reluctant to teach them when they don't know how. People also

struggle with how to get home Bible studies. A 3-5 hour workshop can teach them how easy and successful the HBS ministry can be and also how to talk to people to get studies. Every HBS teacher that completes the training should be commissioned to go forth and teach and win souls.

Constant Contact Consciousness (CCC). The CCC ministry has been highly successful in encouraging people to witness and invite people to church. Those involved in the CCC ministry commit to being constantly conscious of the need to contact people for Christ. Churches that have a strong CCC ministry have more visitors and Bible studies than ever. Take a Saturday and train the CCC team in the art of soul-winning and how CCC works.

Many more: youth workers, visitor follow-up workers, door knockers, bus workers, and prayer warriors. Train and publically commission. It will revolutionize your church.

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR 2019 RECORD-BREAKING OFFERING OF ——\$5,524,579.91—— BECAUSE YOU GAVE, ALL APPROVED CFC APPLICATIONS ARE BEING FUNDED!

## TOP 20 DISTRICTS

Alaska-Yukon	\$415,178.58
Louisiana	\$387,325.00
British Columbia	\$307,206.79
Indiana	\$258,301.40
Florida	\$242,597.99
Mississippi	\$234,098.35
Texico	\$220,340.11
Illinois	\$165,110.77
Texas	\$155,473.93
Arkansas	\$154,239.14
South Carolina	\$150,000.00
Michigan	\$148,428.69
Oregon	\$147,020.68
Missouri	\$143,111.52
Pennsylvania	\$142,725.42
Georgia	\$141,337.32
Ontario	\$140,004.60
Wisconsin	\$125,262.42
Tennessee	\$122,050.00
Ohio	\$120,707.89

**THE  
8<sup>TH</sup> YEAR  
—— FOR A ——  
RECORD-BREAKING  
OFFERING**

## TOP 20 CHURCHES

Life Church Anchorage, AK   Jim Blackshear	\$153,000.00
United Pentecostal Church Gainesville, FL   Jimmy Toney	\$68,000.00
Greater Faith Church New Albany, IN   J Todd Nichols	\$65,100.00
The Pentecostals of Fort St. John Fort St. John, BC   Jason McLaughlin	\$65,000.00
The Pentecostals of Bossier City Bossier City, LA   Jerry Dean	\$62,567.22
First Pentecostal Church Whitehorse, YT   Roger Yadon	\$61,505.00
Pentecostals of Alexandria Alexandria, LA   Anthony Mangun	\$55,000.00
Atlanta West Pentecostal Church Lithia Springs, GA   Darrell Johns	\$53,500.00
Life Challenge United Pentecostal Church Odessa, TX   Daniel Smelser	\$50,020.20
First United Pentecostal Church Odessa, TX   Terry Pugh	\$45,000.00
The Sanctuary Fairbanks, AK   Gordon Parrish	\$41,310.00
Life Tabernacle Langley, BC   Phil Lemke	\$32,000.00
Oregon City United Pentecostal Church Oregon City, OR   Gary Gleason	\$31,502.38
Vancouver West Church Vancouver, BC   Anthony Ens	\$30,221.00
Bethel United Pentecostal Church Old Westbury, NY   D D Davis, Sr, Doug Davis, Jr	\$30,000.00
Apostolic Worship Center Portland, OR   P. Ted Graves	\$25,000.00
River of Life Church Kiana, AK   Arnol Farmer, Jr	\$24,000.00
Calvary Gospel Church Madison, WI   Roy Grant	\$24,000.00
New Life UPC Austin, TX   Rodney Shaw	\$22,250.00
New Life Fellowship Terre Haute, IN   Jeffrey Harpole	\$22,000.00
Saint Laurent UPC Saint Laurent, QC   Paul Graham	\$22,000.00



# CHRISTMAS FOR CHRIST

THIS YEAR'S OFFERING DATE  
**DECEMBER 20, 2020**

Christmas for Christ is an annual offering for North American Missionaries.

This special offering is received during the Christmas season and is used to enlist, train, and financially support missionaries who are called to establish churches in un-evangelized areas in North America.

**CHRISTMASFORCHRIST.FAITH**





Carol Clemans

## Spiritual Growth

[carol@carolclemans.org](mailto:carol@carolclemans.org)

### Integrity With God Begins With Integrity of the Heart

Man looks on the outward appearance, but God looks on the heart. One thing that has troubled my heart in my 28 years of counseling is that some ministry leaders allow themselves to be swayed by the outward appearance and public actions of a fellow minister. They refuse to believe that a person who acts god-like in public could possibly be abusive in private with family.

Out of countless abuse cases that have come to my counseling ministry for help, all have proven true. God says, "Be sure your sins will find you out." When Paul found out about sexual sins in the church at Corinth, he was not afraid to confront the sin. God does not approve of the church covering up sin.

In many cases of abuse, porn addiction is the root of the problem. Jesus is coming for a Bride without spot or wrinkle or any such thing! Porn addiction is pervasive in the church today. It is the sin done in secret. It causes physical brain damage (medically proven). It is a stronghold that leads the user down the road to the most caustic evil behavior that others cannot imagine. The abusive behavior is hidden from the world, but revealed in the home – physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, lying, anger, explosive episodes, blaming others, etc.

Church leaders must not coverup or deny abusive behavior. Porn use is done in secret. All abuse is done in secret. Many times the victims are told by the abuser, "No one will believe you because of who I am." Where is integrity of the heart with God? I know that not many are willing to talk about porn addiction or its devilish fallout. (Does anyone notice that evil is 4/5th's of the word devil?)

Light and darkness are the same to God. Everything done in secret will be revealed openly. Church leaders must listen to the person who reports any type of abuse. All abuse is sin in God's sight. We all will answer to God for how we handle what is presented to us. I want a heart of integrity with God. God's truth always prevails.

[www.carolclemans.org](http://www.carolclemans.org) – Bible Teacher 60 yrs./Certified Pastoral Counselor (nationwide (636) 448-0121). Certified Sexual Addiction Recovery Facilitator. Mins. Ref: Pastor Daniel Batchelor, Duplo, IL. Join teaching ministry: [www.patreon.com/carolclemans](http://www.patreon.com/carolclemans).



Delano Sherley

## Accounting & Tax

### Budgeting for 2021

This is the time of year when we strongly recommend that you prepare a budget for next year. Without exception, organizations that have a budget are better off financially and find themselves better able to weather a crisis (ie: 2020's pandemic) than those who don't. As a result of better managing their spending, they also typically have more cash reserves.



Vickie Hodges

## Identity and Scripture

[VickieHodgesSharingLife@gmail.com](mailto:VickieHodgesSharingLife@gmail.com)

### What is Spiritual Order?

There is a birth which takes place in the life of every born-again believer of Jesus Christ. It is a birth that is so much bigger than our natural birth. It is the birthing of our 'spiritual being.' How does our 'spiritual birth' come into fruition?

First, we must recognize and acknowledge the emptiness within our own life.

Everything we have done within our own power has left us with a life of emptiness, void, and complete dissatisfaction. Our very own self-reliance has left us longing for more.

Our self-sufficiency has not given us the satisfaction we thought it would bring. Surely, there is something in this universe that is 'bigger than our birth.'

Next, we must desire with everything within our being to want more than what our own self-sufficiency has given us in this life. It is our self-sufficiency that has created within us a stubborn independence that in return has caused us to have a determination to deal with our own wants, needs, and desires in our own way.

Finally, we must admit that there is a Creator who designed us to live in total dependency on Him. Yes, this mindset goes against the very grain of our humanistic thinking. But if we take the time to stop and think a little deeper, we will clearly see that it has been within our own self-sufficiency that we continue to narrow our very own existence to an uncomfortably restricted dimension.

So, how does our 'spiritual birth' come into fruition? We must recognize and acknowledge a need; we must desire and want change; and we must admit that we have a Creator who designed us to be totally dependent on Him. We must deplete ourselves of ourselves so there will be room for our 'Spiritual Birth' which is so much bigger than our mere natural birth!

Vickie Hodges is a UPCI licensed minister with 35 years experience in Early Childhood Education and Brain Development Research. She is the author of LIFE (Living In Freedom EVERYDAY) Recovery Series. Vickie is a trainer and a speaker at seminars, retreats, conferences and universities. She can be reached at [VickieHodgesSharingLife@gmail.com](mailto:VickieHodgesSharingLife@gmail.com) or (281) 489-0055.

While many think that a budget will "restrict" them or be used as a way to dictate how money is spent, in reality, it gives you more freedom to make financial decisions and allows you to better follow a plan – your plan – which is based on your priorities.

As our clients have begun to work on their 2021 budget, they have encountered challenges. Usually, you would start by looking at 2020 expenses. However, this year has been anything but normal. Most churches have reduced expenses in many expense categories as a result of not meeting in person, while costs for cleaning, media, IT, and benevolence are higher than a normal



Daniel Sirstad

## Relationships 201

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

### Learn to Listen

I may have just lost the majority of my massive reading audience using the word "learn." Compound that with the word "Listen," and maybe I should stop right here.

I'm not sure which is more distasteful to folks: learning or listening—probably learning. However, listening is a more formidable challenge for many.

Any healthy relationship is predicated upon healthy communication. And, as we have learned previously, communication requires listening by each member of the association. To further complicate this, there is a difference between listening and hearing.

It is easier to hear than listen. It is easier to talk than listen. Most times, I suspect, people are formulating what they want to say in their mind while the other person in the relationship is speaking. We hear them talking but are we listening? Certainly not if our thoughts are somewhere else.

In counseling individuals and couples, invariably, the subject of personal devotion comes up. I get a variety of responses when I inquire about a time of daily devotion. What is generally consistent is most people don't listen. They spend time reading and talking to God. But, listening? That is a lot tougher, I hear.

Likely you know somebody who dominates conversations. Maybe that somebody is you, although probably not if you have read this far.

It's impossible to have a healthy relationship with unhealthy communication. Do you ever wonder if God enjoys listening all the time while never getting to speak? How exciting is it when this happens with people? Not very. As patient as God is towards us, I suspect there are times He would like to interject a sentence or two.

Let me encourage you today and going forward. Learn to listen. Clear your mind of clutter and focus on what God is saying to you. It's not easy. When I assign 5 minutes of silence, clearing the mind, and proactively listening, the task is initially rarely achieved.

But, with diligent effort, it becomes a life changer. I dare you to try it with God. Then with people. Call me if I can help. I promise to listen.

Dr. Daniel Sirstad is a UPCI ordained minister and has a PhD in Clinical Pastoral Counseling. As the Executive Director of DayStar Ministries, Dr. Sirstad travels extensively teaching and preaching on relational subjects. He counsels for many congregations throughout North America using HIPAA-compliant video technology. [dsirstad@dsministries.com](mailto:dsirstad@dsministries.com)

year. How do we know how to plan for 2021? How do we project donations as we enter a second year of restricted gatherings?

While it may take more time to work through these questions, the effort will be worth it. Just remember to review actual results to the budget each month. When you start to see areas that are not going as planned, you can react and adjust sooner rather than later – and avoid a crisis down the road.

Delano Sherley is a CPA and president of Delano Sherley & Associates, Inc. He can be reached at 513-737-1314. Delano Sherley & Associates, Inc., 8366 Princeton-Glendale Rd., Suite B5, West Chester, OH 45069. Email: [Delano@dsacpainsc.com](mailto:Delano@dsacpainsc.com) Website: [www.dsacpainsc.com](http://www.dsacpainsc.com)

**THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS****LA Church Fined \$1,000 After 11 People Pray in 500-Seat Building**

Los Angeles County fined a Catholic church \$1,000 after the congregation allowed 11 individuals — including five women in prayer veils — to pray and worship inside the sanctuary on a Thursday in violation of COVID-19 health restrictions.

The citation against Lady of Angels Catholic Church in Arcadia was issued on the same day that county inspectors say they conducted an investigation and witnessed “approximately 11 parishioners exiting the church facility at roughly 8:45 am to 8:55 am out the back door of the facility into the parking lot,” according to the inspection report. Some of them were women “wearing prayer veils,” the report said. The large sanctuary can seat around 500 people and holds mass each morning. The county fined the church \$500 for failing to follow health restrictions governing indoor worship and \$500 for blocking an inspector from entering the facility.

Thomas More Society, which is representing the church, says it is considering challenging the actions. Thomas More previously sued the county on behalf of the church's prior, Farther Trevor Burfitt, who is challenging the state's restrictions on churches. The suit was filed in September.

“There are dozens of churches in Arcadia — and hundreds in Los Angeles County — yet the parish of Father Burfitt, who is suing Los Angeles County, happens to be a church that these county workers choose to spy on and harass,” said Thomas More Society special counsel Paul Jonna. “Heaping this harassment on Father Burfitt at the same time that he is asking the California Superior Court to uphold his religious rights and prevent the county from continuing to violate them is unacceptable. The right to petition for grievances includes the right to file a lawsuit, without retaliation or targeting.”

**44% of U.S. Christians Believe Bible to Be Ambiguous on Abortion**

The eleventh report of the annual American Worldview Inventory 2020 by the Cultural Research Center of Arizona Christian University found that over four in ten American Christians hold to the belief that the Bible is ‘ambiguous’ on the hot button topic of abortion.

According to The Christian Post, the new study noted that Christians in America are experiencing a “post-Christian Reformation,” as believers are embracing secularism instead of a traditional biblical worldview.

When it comes to the much debated topic of abortion, the CRC found that 44 percent of believers believe that the Bible “is ambiguous in its teaching about abortion,” while 34 percent affirm that “abortion is morally acceptable if it spares the mother from financial or emotional discomfort or hardship.” Additionally, 40 percent do not believe that “human life is sacred.” The CRC report also found that 42 percent of professing Christians “seek moral guidance primarily from sources other than the Bible,” while 43 percent do not believe that God has a purpose for humanity in devoting one's life to Him.

**Americans Hold Day of Repentance and Prayer March in Nation's Capitol**

Two prayer and worship events emphasizing repentance and intercession for the nation brought tens of thousands to the National Mall, with many crying out to God for divine intervention. Under mostly cloudy skies, both The Return and the Washington Prayer March brought Christians from every part of the country to pray amid a tumultuous political season.

Kelly Hopwood of Virginia Beach, Virginia, spoke to The Christian Post in front of the Washington Monument and explained that she initially traveled to Washington to be a part of Franklin Graham's Prayer March, but arrived early enough to also take part in The Return. In recent days, she kept hearing the Scripture passage from 2 Chronicles 7:14 reverberate in her heart and felt compelled to pray in the nation's capital, she said. The Bible passage reads: “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

“We need to be doing that [praying] right now because things aren't going to get any better. I know God's in control ultimately, but we also need to be the people He's called us to be,” Hopwood, a mother and grandmother, said. Asked if she has hope for divine intervention, she replied, “Oh, absolutely. Without a doubt.”

For Renee and Steve Beckwith of Kalamazoo, Michigan, who traveled to Washington with three of their four children, the coronavirus pandemic changed everything for them in terms of how they saw the Church and its relationship to the government.

“All of COVID has been life-changing for our family,” Renee Beckwith told CP. Steve Beckwith added that he was stirred “being around so many believers, seeing that we're not alone in this fight.”

“This nation does need to turn back to God. And it's good to see that there are so many other people here standing with us because we don't get to see that on a daily basis.”

Many who showed up for The Return, which was held in front of the Washington Monument and near the Smithsonian, migrated down the Lincoln Memorial, where Franklin Graham began the Prayer March at noon. Graham's march was a 1.8-mile trek from the memorial to the Capitol building, making several stops along the way to pray specifically for the protection for our first responders, police, and U.S. service members; wisdom for government leaders; reconciling divisions, and for the return of the U.S. to its Judeo-Christian roots.

Rob Houghtlin, a marketing and sales professional from Marietta, Georgia, said he and his wife decided to pray at the National Mall at the encouragement of good friends from Michigan who joined them.

“We are in need of supernatural movement [of God] in this country right now,” he said.

As marchers made their way toward from the Lincoln Memorial to the World War II Memorial and then on to the Capitol, small groups spontaneously started singing hymns, including “Amazing Grace” and “Blessed Assurance” and the contemporary song “Days of Elijah.” Others broke off into small groups and could be seen praying fervently, crying out to God for mercy on America.

Kenny Xu, 23, Chinese-American and a Baptist from Princeton, New Jersey, who now works in fundraising in the Washington, D.C., metro area, went to the Lincoln Memorial to pray specifically for racial reconciliation. “I pray this nation can turn back to Jesus and that we can love each other and forgive each other. I think both supposed ‘sides’ have to have a spirit of forgiveness.”

**NEWS IN BRIEF**

■ A new report by a human rights watchdog details horrific violations of religious freedom within North Korea, including citizens brutally tortured for converting to Christianity and individuals publicly executed for only owning a Bible. The 98-page report by the London-based Korea Future Initiative was released this month and based on 117 interviews with survivors, witnesses and perpetrators of the abuses. All total, 273 victims were identified, including 215 involving Christians.

■ Kristi Stokes, an ordained Christian minister and the owner of the business Covenant Weddings, filed a federal lawsuit in July, claiming the law would force her to officiate weddings for same-sex couples in violation of her beliefs. The suit said Stokes “gladly works with people regardless of who they are, including LGBT individuals,” but “cannot officiate or bless every marital union.” On Oct. 23, the county agreed in a court judgment that Stokes would not be forced to perform same-sex weddings.

**LEGAL TRENDS****Pro-Traditional Marriage Christian Adoption Agency Can't Be Shut Down**

A federal court has concluded that a New York-based Christian adoption agency cannot be forced to close down because of its policy of only placing kids in married heterosexual families.

New Hope Family Services filed suit against state officials after it was told that its faith-based policy of only placing children in married heterosexual homes violated a 2013 state law.

United States District Court Judge Mae D'Agostino granted New Hope a preliminary injunction against New York Office of Children and Family Services' interpretation of the law.

In her decision, D'Agostino concluded that the OCFS interpretation of the state adoption law against New Hope “demonstrates some animosity towards particular religious beliefs.”

“While not all of the evidence discussed weighs in favor of a finding of hostility when viewed individually, the totality of the evidence indicates that section 421.3(d), as promulgated and enforced by OCFS, is not neutral and appears to be based on some hostility towards New Hope's religious beliefs,” wrote D'Agostino.

“In finding hostility, the Court relies on a number of factors ... Those factors include OCFS's implementation of the seemingly permissive language of New York Domestic Relations Law Section 110 as mandatory requirements in section 421.3(d), the severity of OCFS's actions and the lack of explanation as to the legal authority to engage in such action, and statements made by OCFS personnel which demonstrate their motivations in enforcing section 421.3(d).”

**SOCIAL TRENDS****Trump to Sign “Born-Alive” Executive Order Protecting Abortion Survivors**

During the National Catholic Prayer Breakfast President Trump announced that he will be signing the Born Alive Executive Order that will ensure medical treatment for infants who survive attempted abortions.

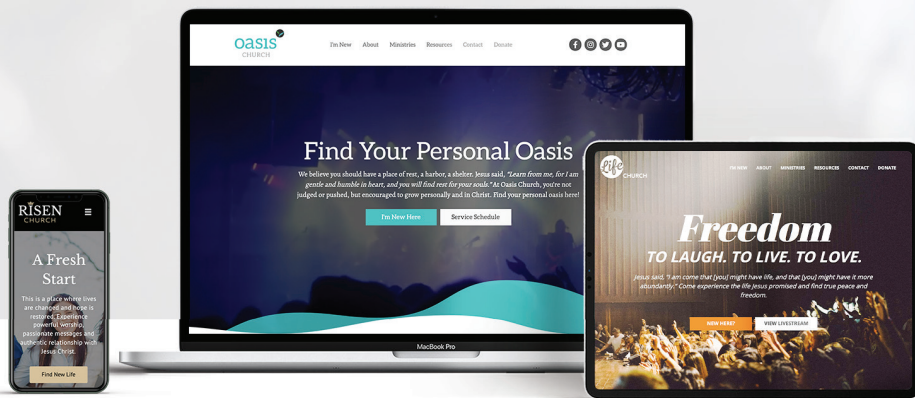
“Today, I am announcing that I will be signing the born alive executive order to assure that all precious babies born alive, no matter their circumstances, receive the medical care that they deserve. This is our sacrosanct moral duty,” Trump said in a pre-recorded video appearance at the event.

A bill bearing the same name had previously been introduced to Congress multiple times but has yet to pass through both houses. According to the Catholic News Agency, the proposed bill required that babies who survive failed abortions must be given medical care just as if they had been born prematurely under different conditions.

Following Trump's announcement, Jeanne Mancini, president of the pro-life March for Life, lauded the president for his actions. “President Trump once again has stepped up for life,” Mancini said. “His actions today provide necessary legal protections for... survivors of failed abortions.”

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# REV. QUINCEY JAMES LEE COFFEY

## MAY 04, 1999 - SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

"Pastor, I'm not looking for a title, I just want to serve." Quincey James Lee Coffey spoke those words to his Pastor, Rev. Larry Arrowood (The Tabernacle of Seymour, IN) shortly before his passing on September 27th, 2020.

Quincey Coffey made an indelible mark on everyone he met. His friends at Indiana Bible College, where Quincey was a Senior can attest to the impact he made on those around him. He had a way of encouraging and challenging. His zeal for life was unquenchable. He made friends wherever he went.

It is difficult for us to understand why God would take Quincey away early. Some have questioned, "Why would God take away a young man with such a promising calling?" It seems to make no sense. He was called to preach, did God make a mistake?

No answer is adequate on this side of heaven. However, Executive Vice-President of IBC Rev. Jason Gallion said it well at Quincey's home-going service, "Quincey wasn't just going to be a preacher, Quincey was a preacher."

Quincey had a long journey to Indiana Bible College and the fulfillment of his call. In 2015, Quincey was an avowed atheist who practiced his craft and persuaded others. Around that time, Quincey's father began pressing Quincey to come to church. Quincey refused to attend church until he accepted an invitation from his youth group at The Tabernacle church to attend IBC Music Fest 2016. During the song, "Jesus Said It," Quincey walked to the front of the church with friends, raised his hands, and received the Holy Ghost. He later said, "I walked into IBC Music Fest 2016 as an atheist, I walked out saved."

From that time Quincey was unashamed in sharing his testimony. He shared his testimony boldly at IBC LIVE preceding the song, "I Got Out." At the next IBC Music Fest in 2018 Quincey testified before "Jesus Said It," the song he was saved to.

This year, IBC plans to record "Living on the Edge of Heaven," a song that Quincey loved and felt IBC should record. The lyrics to the song are:

*For now, we may feel pain  
For now, we stand in faith  
For now, Your Spirit moves  
For now, we reach for You  
Here we are Living on the edge of Heaven  
Clinging to Your holy presence  
We're longing to be where You are*

Quincey's testimony reached tens of thousands when he testified before songs during IBC LIVE and IBC Music Fest. After his passing, Quincey's testimony has reached thousands more.

To be exact, 155,841 people were reached with his testimony on Facebook, it was viewed 31,119 times on Instagram, and it was listened to 1,251 times on the IBC Podcast. His example and influence prompted two young people to be baptized at The Tabernacle the week of Quincey's passing, and other friends started coming to church again.

Quincey was posthumously awarded both a Bachelors's degree from Indiana Bible College and a ministerial license from the United Pentecostal Church International. Rev. Quincey James Lee Coffey wasn't just going to be a preacher, he was a preacher, and his testimony continues to speak.

*Watch Rev. Quincey Coffey share his testimony in his own words at [go2ibc.com/quinceytestimony](https://go2ibc.com/quinceytestimony).*

*Honor the life of Rev. Quincey James Lee Coffey by supporting others like him through the Quincey Coffey Memorial Scholarship at [go2ibc.com/quinceymemorial](https://go2ibc.com/quinceymemorial).*

# *I want my* INHERITANCE *and my* HERITAGE

**Transcribed By Gregg Stone**

In the fifteenth chapter of Luke, we find the familiar story of the Prodigal Son. We read that the younger son came to his father and asked for his inheritance. The young man did not ask for his heritage, which was a mistake. He went out to start a new life with a new future.

Now this younger son was probably the kind of person that people liked to be around, a real “party animal” as they say today. But what he did not realize is that his inheritance could not attain what he had envisioned for his life. He had dreams and visions, and a lot of plans but an inheritance only could not attain for him what he had envisioned for his life.

As we read on down in the story, we see that one day, after he had wasted all his inheritance in riotous living, he found himself in a hog pen feeding the pigs. As he was munching on the corn husks that he had fed the pigs the Bible says, “He came to himself.” And he said, “How many servants in my father’s house are enjoying the heritage of my father, and have bread enough and to spare? I am going back to my father’s house.” He was not coming back for more inheritance, but he came back to his father in search of his heritage—what he had left behind.

## ***We Cannot Afford to Forget Our Heritage***

I want to say something to the apostolic church. I don’t ever want to see it change because there are some prodigals out there that are coming home, and when they come, I want them to come back to the heritage of Pentecost. When they walk through those doors I want them to see people shouting, running the aisles, speaking in tongues. I want them to see people lifting their hands and praying in the name of Jesus, and somebody saying, “We will not change our heritage.”

You see, the difference in a good family and a not-so-good family is that one word, “heritage.” The difference between a great nation and a not-so-great nation is heritage. “America, America God shed His grace on thee. And crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.”

The country that we live in tonight has political candidates, all the way up to the president, who have forgotten the heritage of America. They’re enjoying the inheritance, but not its great heritage. They’re enjoying the financial blessings, but what they have forgotten is that there is a heritage of America that started with a president named George Washington who said, “It is impossible to govern a nation without God and the Bible.” What they have forgotten is that people came to these shores for freedom to worship God after the dictates of their conscience. What they seem to have forgotten is this nation was born with the idea that God is the head of this nation. There was once a Congress that got on their knees and prayed, “We need the help of Almighty God.”

My, how far have we drifted from the true heritage of America? A nation that was born because people wanted the freedom to worship their God.

The difference between a good church and a not-so-good church is that with the inheritance of great buildings and financial blessings, even in apostolic churches, they have forgotten their heritage and where they came from. It is a heritage of prayer and people seeking God. I don’t know about you, but I don’t want to be “relevant.” I’m not looking for some “new thing.” I want to go back; back to the old paths, back to the heritage of Pentecost!

## ***Examples of Apostolic Heritage***

I’m so glad to have my father here tonight. He is 83 years old and sometimes when we are out together, someone will ask if he is my older brother. He loves that. My dad had a pastor named T.W. Barnes. A few years ago, Mom and Dad brought me a rock from an old stone altar that Bro. Barnes had built in the hills of the Ozarks where he used to pray. This rock is part of my heritage where a man of God prayed, and God answered his prayers. Then another time Mom and Dad came up and said, “We want to give you something else.” They had brought me a rock from my dad’s altar that he had built in that same area. That rock was a part of the heritage of prayer in my life.

Dad can take me to the hills of the Ozarks of Arkansas where he built a prayer altar. And I want to say right here, Dad. I don’t care if I ever get a penny of inheritance. This rock is enough heritage for me. Prayer is part of my heritage because prayer can take me through anything, any difficulty. We need a revival of prayer. It is part of our Apostolic heritage.

I have several men that have affected my life, and no one has affected my life more than my dad, who sits here tonight. Brother Jack Leamon has affected my life in such a wonderful way of giving. He taught me that if you give globally, God will bless you locally. And it works! Another man that has influenced me is Bro. J.C. Cole; he is Bro. Billy Cole’s father. He pastored in West Virginia and was a wonderful mentor to me.

Bro. Mangus, a man that went to Bro. Cole’s church, shared a story with me. He said that in World War II, Bro. Cole had started a church in Parkesburg, West Virginia. The church building was a little garage, really, and the women of the church would gather and pray for their sons who were overseas. They would pray and cry out to God for their sons. One day someone called the police and complained that the women were praying too loud, making too much noise. They demanded something be done about it. An officer came down to the little garage where the women prayed, and Bro. Cole was standing outside. The officer said that he had a report that the women were praying and crying too loud and he wanted Bro. Cole to ask them to quiet it down. Bro. Cole said, “Well I am their pastor and I can’t do that, but you’re welcome to go in and tell them to be quiet.”

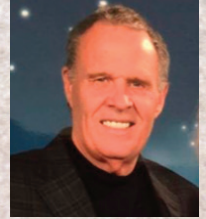
Bro. Cole opened the door and the officer walked in. Just as he entered the door, a lady near the back with hands lifted yelled loudly, “Oh God...save my son, Lord. Protect him.” All the ladies were crying out and praying loudly. The officer turned around walked back outside and said, “I can’t do anything about that,” and walked away. I am talking about our godly heritage, folks! Oh, young people, we’ve got to get a heritage of prayer. Prayer should be going on in your dorm rooms. I am talking about our heritage of prayer! But many have left their heritage and have also left their inheritance. What they don’t understand is that inheritance flows out of heritage.

The reason this church stands here tonight is that, somewhere, somebody prayed and fasted. Men of God have stood in this pulpit. A man of God still stands in this pulpit and says, “I refuse to back up. I refuse for the church not to be apostolic. We are going to keep preaching the Word of God. We preach that there is only one God and His name is Jesus!”

You may keep the inheritance for a while, but when you throw it away, the next generation will have neither inheritance nor heritage. When you give up the heritage, you lose what gave you the inheritance in the first place.

## ***Preserving Our Heritage Preserves the Church***

Some say, “Well, I don’t think all this stuff about holiness is that important. I think we’re getting a little carried away.” No, no, no. That is our heritage, folks! This is about what God is saying to the church. You see, when you walk



David Trammel  
Albion, MI

away from your heritage of holiness, the next step is One God, baptism in Jesus' name, and more apostolic truths.

There is a Christian comedian that someone went to see, and in her "show" she was making fun of her mother, who I guess dressed as a holiness person. She said, "My mother was 65 before I could get her to put on a pair of slacks, and she was 80 before I could convince her to get her ears pierced." Mocking that heritage. This comedian's husband died an alcoholic. I'm not making judgments, but is that what we want, to keep moving further and further away from our true heritage? I tell you, I want my inheritance, but I also want my heritage!

I had the privilege to be at the United Nations where God is doing a work and many have received the Holy Ghost. There is a young lady there that God healed of kidney disease before she ever knew about this church. She is a high-level secretary, right next to the Secretary-General and she said that after she received the Holy Ghost she felt that God had spoken to her and told her to stop cutting her hair. Her husband told her that he didn't like her hair so long and wanted her to cut it. She prayed before she went to sleep that night. Her hair was long and straight but, in the morning when she got up, her hair was curled. God had given her a beauty treatment while she slept. And I'm telling you, folks, if you don't want it, somewhere, someone does. If you don't want it, someone at the United Nations wants it. This is a heritage in our lives that will produce an inheritance.

Our heritage is not just our UPC heritage, but it goes way back. My Dad's mother, my Grandma, was a good Missionary-Baptist, and received the Holy Ghost back in the 1930s. I feel like God is saying here tonight, "It is not time to quit preaching about the Holy Ghost. It is not time to quit preaching holiness. It is not time to quit preaching that there is only one God." We cannot back up because the battle is not over, the battle is on and God is with us!

Too many people want a life for themselves based on their inheritance to the exclusion of their heritage. The prodigal son sought the father's love but not the father's heart. He sought the father's goods without the passion for the goods. Heritage is what we are. It's how we value holiness and the presence of God that brought us to where we are today. Heritage speaks of promises yet to be fulfilled.

Preserving our heritage is vital to securing the church in a day when people are trying to redefine what the church really represents. Jude admonishes us to "earnestly contend for the faith... For there are certain men crept in... ungodly men..." I'm telling you that there are men who have crept into our apostolic pulpits, and have begun to systematically strip out the apostolic heritage of a church that was born in the blaze of God's glory, destroying its foundations.

Some things are not up for sale. The anointing, this power that we're feeling in the house tonight, is not for sale. Old-time preaching is not for sale. Holiness is not for sale. Victory is not for sale. Shouting is not for sale.

### Some Things Are Not Negotiable

I'll wrap up by naming five things that are not negotiable. That means we will not compromise on these things. They are person; passion; prophetic; power; plans.

The church is centered on a Person. Colossians 1:16-18 says that all things were created by Him. I am unapologetically Jesus-Christ-centered. I am unapologetically apostolic. We believe that there is only one Name, as said in Acts 4:12. Yet the world cannot accept that. They make allowances for other religions. They ask, "Why do you always have to come back to the Name and the blood?" I say, because it was Jesus who shed His blood that saved me. Jesus is the One Who healed me, the One Who gives me hope.

Not only is there a Person that we center around, but the greatest commandment is to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength." That is our heritage of passion. Before I was born, my mother was

preaching. She worked as a secretary and she'd do her secretary stuff during the week, and on Saturdays, she'd be out on the town square preaching. Her boss finally told her, "You do a great job in here, but that preaching..." But you know, my mother had passion. Young men, you can preach if you want to preach. I started preaching at nine years old, at a nursing home. God is not calling us to like Him, but to love Him. Our heritage is passionate. I love our music and make no apologies for our exuberance in worship. That is non-negotiable. That kind of passion motivates us to live for God and reach the nations. This heritage will get ahold of you and help you to touch people.

Passionate people will produce a prophetic people. When I say prophetic, I mean that everything they do points to Jesus Christ, because Revelation 19:10 says that the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. I preached in one of our churches, and afterward, the pastor told me a story. He said a lady from Saudi Arabia had visited the church while I preached. She then asked the pastor the following week, "The man that preached last week, how did he learn Arabic?" The pastor said, "I don't think knows Arabic." The lady said, "Well, when he was preaching he said in perfect Arabic, 'I testify that there is only one God, and His name is Jesus Christ, son of Mary.'" I got to speak to her later and she told me that she had just received the Holy Ghost and had asked God if speaking in tongues was real. In that service, she had heard me say in perfect Arabic, that there was only one God and His name is Jesus Christ of Nazareth, son of Mary.

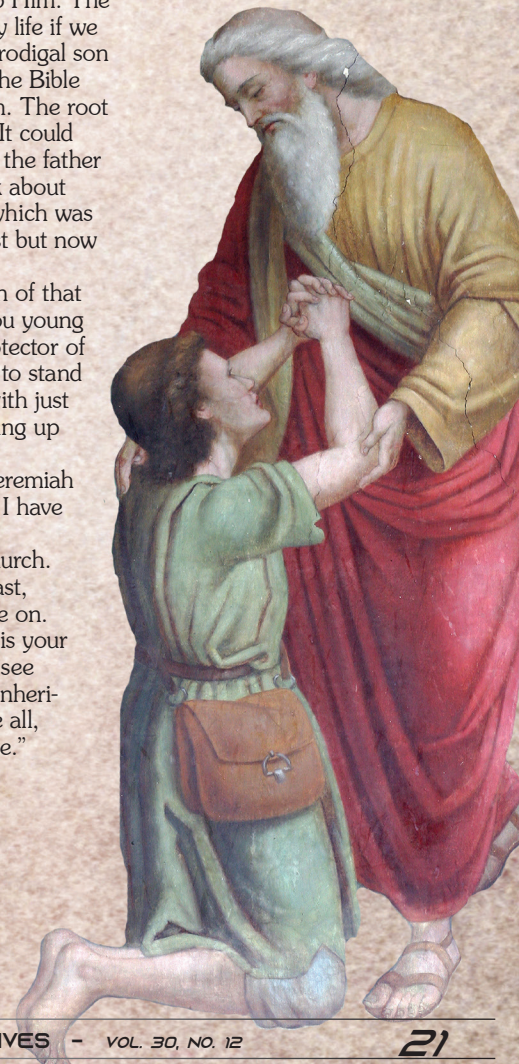
I feel like God is getting ready to lay a prophetic mantle on His church, His people. It's not all in the running and shouting, but the prophetic mantle will settle us down and people will feel God's presence and their sins will be revealed, and the Holy Ghost will talk to them.

I feel that God is getting ready to do some prophetic thing, but we must be open to Him. The power of God can change any life if we will move in the Spirit. The prodigal son came back to the father and the Bible says that the father kissed him. The root of that word means "legion." It could have been up to 6,000 kisses the father bestowed on his boy. You talk about erasing a memory. "My son which was dead is alive again, he was lost but now is found."

We need some protection of that heritage. We need some of you young men to stand up and be a protector of the heritage. Someone needs to stand up and say, "I'm not happy with just my inheritance, but I'm standing up for my heritage."

And finally, we read in Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you..."

God has plans for His church. I can hear echoes from the past, voices of those that have gone on. They're saying, 'Be strong. It is your heritage. Be faithful. You will see the end-time. Stand for your inheritance of Pentecost, and above all, protect your Apostolic heritage.'



# Missing? Something



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# Apostolic Educators Unite

By Rachel E. Smith



Dr. Robbie Crawford  
St. Louis, MO

"We are better together, we are stronger together, and we are going to have a greater impact on the world if we come together," said Dr. Robbie Crawford of the International Association of Apostolic Educators (IAAE) in St.

Louis, Missouri. "IAAE's mission is to minister to our Apostolic teachers, administrators, superintendents and school personnel no matter what setting they work in. They are not only essential; they are on the front lines of the battle for our kids' hearts and minds. We want to be a to support them in any way we can," said Crawford.

Dr. Robbie Crawford has worked in education for more than thirty years, as both a teacher and administrator. She has taught at every level, preschool-college, directed early childhood centers, conducted seminars, published books and articles in the field of education, and is the president of IAAE.

IAAE is a non-profit (501c3) unincorporated association and was endorsed by the UPCI at General Conference in 2019. The purpose of IAAE is to elevate the call of teaching, highlight the importance of teaching,

and enhance the craft of teaching.

"After presenting this organization to the UPCI's Ladies' Division, a board member grabbed my hand, and said, 'Robbie, please tell me you're going to include our public school teachers in this organization.' I nodded that yes, we were. She replied, 'Oh, thank God! It's getting harder and harder for our teachers who are out there. They need the support of other Apostolic educators so badly,'" said Crawford.

The vision for IAAE includes a membership portal stocked with resources for Apostolic educators, an honor society and scholars guild for Apostolic students and scholars, a consultant guild, certification programs and trainings for teachers, and business sponsorship to fund education initiatives in the future. "Right now, it is a place to gather Apostolic educators to make sure we have a voice in education," said Crawford.

"A heartbeat of mine is making sure that education has an important place in our churches," said Crawford. "We had a teenager come to the altar in our church. He was failing in school and dealing with depression, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts. As he lifted his arms to heaven, his sleeve slipped down his arm revealing the word 'Loser' in red jagged letters that he had

scrawled into his skin, but in an instant, God changed his name. This highlighted to me that our teachers are not just dealing with the pressures of educating our kids, but they are warring with principalities, and powers, and spiritual rulers in high places. They are in a holy battle everyday. They are Spirit-filled and well-equipped to face the enemy, but we need to be there to minister to them when they get weary in the fight," said Crawford.

To become a member of IAAE, follow the steps on their website, <https://www.i-double-ae.com>. The student membership fee is \$25/year; educator membership is \$50/year; school membership is \$75/year; and business membership is \$100/year.



# Apostolic Chamber of Commerce

By Gregg Stone



John Darby  
Austin, TX

Grow your career, expand your network and get involved in a Christ-centered professional community. The Apostolic Chamber of Commerce is a membership-based non-profit organization made of Apostolic businesses and professionals.

It's led by a diverse Board of Directors, from small and large for-profit and non-profit organizations based all over North America. "The Apostolic Chamber of Commerce offers members the opportunity to share their product and services with other Apostolics," said Bro. John Darby. "The ministry also offers young professionals help in growing their career, expanding their network, and helps them get involved in a Christ-centered professional community. The ministry develops future Apostolic leaders by providing ambitious young professionals with the opportunity to build relationships, serve the Kingdom, and engage with civic, business, and church leaders."

The idea was birthed at the 2018 LifeSprings Summit as the brainchild of Stephen Drury (Director of the Stewardship Foundation), Randy Fluitt (President of the UPCI Foundation), and John Darby, a twenty-year

veteran of the Chamber industry. The ministry launched in the Spring of 2019 and became an endorsed ministry of the UPCI in September of the same year. "The Chamber is building a community of apostolics that have successful careers and are also responding to the Great Commission," explains Bro. Darby. "Apostolic young professionals often have recognized talent and work ethic and are driven to save the world! The ministry gives them an outlet to use their secular skills to build God's Kingdom. Businesses join the Chamber for fellowship and business growth opportunities. We believe that given the choice, businesses, churches and individuals would rather do business with people who believe what they believe. Unfortunately, there has not been a way to identify like-minded businesses. The Chamber Ministry is developing a robust business development platform that allows Apostolics to find other Apostolics who sell what they are buying. You can buy insurance from someone you saw on a billboard, or you can buy it from someone who sits on a pew."

The Chamber has connected apostolic professionals both virtually and in-person at networking events. Members have found new customers and like-minded professionals for fellowship. "We've developed a virtual networking event titled 'On Call,' explains Bro. Darby. "These events share the success

of apostolic professionals who have worked in a secular field and a ministry platform. The format features guest speakers, including Bro. David K. Bernard (UPCI Superintendent), Scott Graham (UPCI General Secretary-Treasurer), and Zim Ugochukwu, a successful entrepreneurship leader. Apostolics joining these virtual networking events have expressed how unique of an opportunity it is to hear from experienced professionals communicate their findings on business success in God's kingdom. At NAYC, the Chamber hosted a program highlighting Young Professionals and recognized 'Emerging Apostolic Leaders Under 30,' that is, people that have successful careers but continue to work for God. The event had 100+ people in attendance, including apostolic attorneys, accountants, engineers, finance professionals, and bankers, just to name a few professions, represented from our ranks."

The future is bright and the Chamber is looking forward to growth and new opportunities. "We are exploring partnerships with apostolic professional organizations," said Bro. Darby. "It's our mission to offer certified continuing education from an Apostolic viewpoint and pick up the mantle of continuing to develop pathways for professionals in God's work."



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# FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup> & 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2021

## CHURCH OF PENTECOST JACKSONVILLE, FL

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**Word To The Wise:**

Keep your face always toward the sunshine - and shadows will fall behind you.

After leaving the horse racing track, Joe bumped into his old friend Jon.

"Say," Jon said, "How's it going?"

"Going? You want to hear one of the most amazing things that ever happened? Tell me, what's today's date?"

"July seventh."

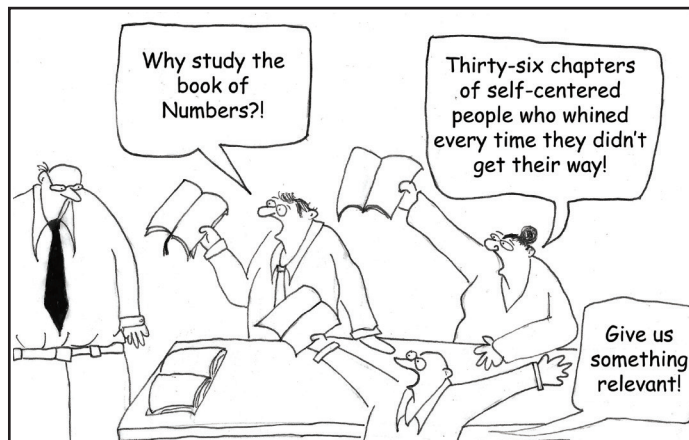
"Right. The seventh day of the seventh month. I go to the horse track at seven minutes past seven. My son is seven years old today, and we live at number seven, Seventh Avenue."

"Let me guess," Jon interrupted. "You bet all the money you had on the seventh horse in the seventh race."

"Right."

"And he won!" Jon exclaimed.

"No. He came in seventh."



\* \* \* \* \*

**SAYINGS YOU WILL NEVER SEE ON THOSE OFFICE INSPIRATIONAL POSTERS:**

- Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines, do they?
- Doing a job RIGHT the first time gets the job done. Doing the job WRONG fourteen times gives you job security.
- Rome did not create a great empire by having meetings...they did it by killing all those who opposed them.
- We put the "k" in "kwality."
- Never put off until tomorrow what you can avoid for the rest of your life.
- Teamwork means never having to take all the blame for problems yourself.
- The beatings will continue until morale improves.
- Hang in there. Retirement is only thirty years away!
- Aim low. Reach your goals. Avoid disappointment.
- You pretend to work, and we'll pretend to pay you.
- Work: It isn't just for sleeping anymore.



"You're not trying to earn any points on subtlety, are you?"

\* \* \* \* \*

**Latest COVID information:** The virus cannot travel beyond six feet and can live on all surfaces, except for anything from Amazon. It does not live in Walmart, Home Depot, Lowe's, or any grocery store. It is only deadly in small businesses, churches, restaurants and Trump rallies, but it can't harm you if you're protesting, rioting or looting. Any questions?

\* \* \* \* \*

A group of Americans were touring Holland by bus. They stopped at a cheese farm where a young guide led them through the process of making cheese from goat's milk. She showed the group a lovely hillside where many goats were grazing.

"These," she explained, "are the older goats put out to pasture when they no longer produce." She then asked, "What do you do in America with your old goats?"

A spry old gentleman answered: "Why, they send us on bus tours!"

\* \* \* \* \*



"I need to goeth to the bathroom."

Two men sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.

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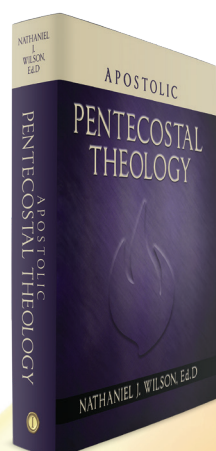
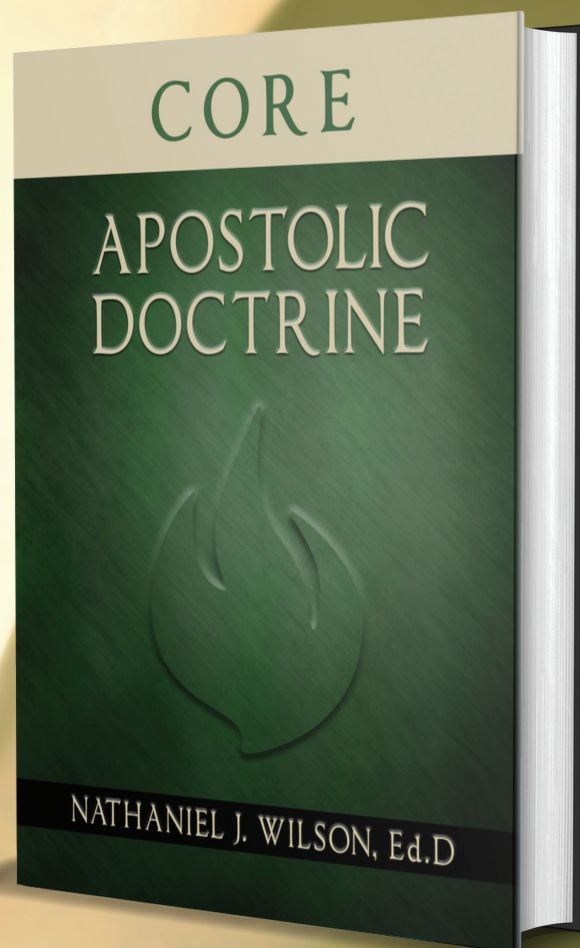
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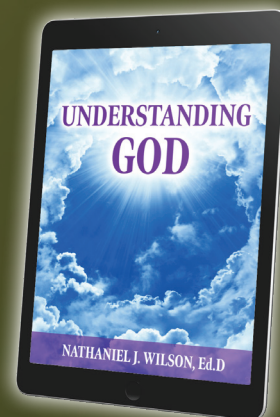
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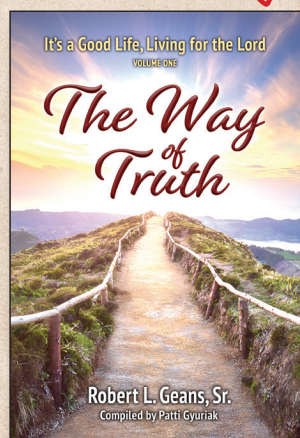
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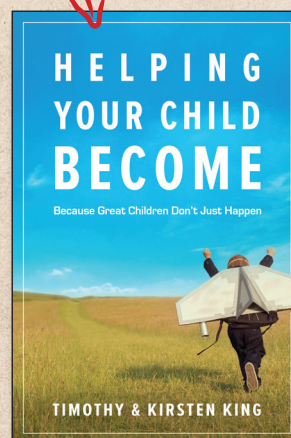
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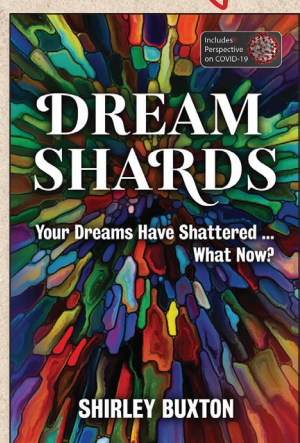
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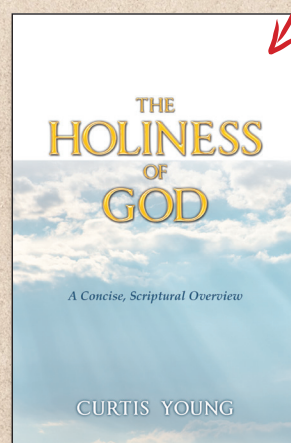
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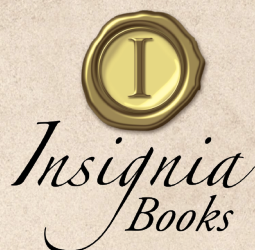


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