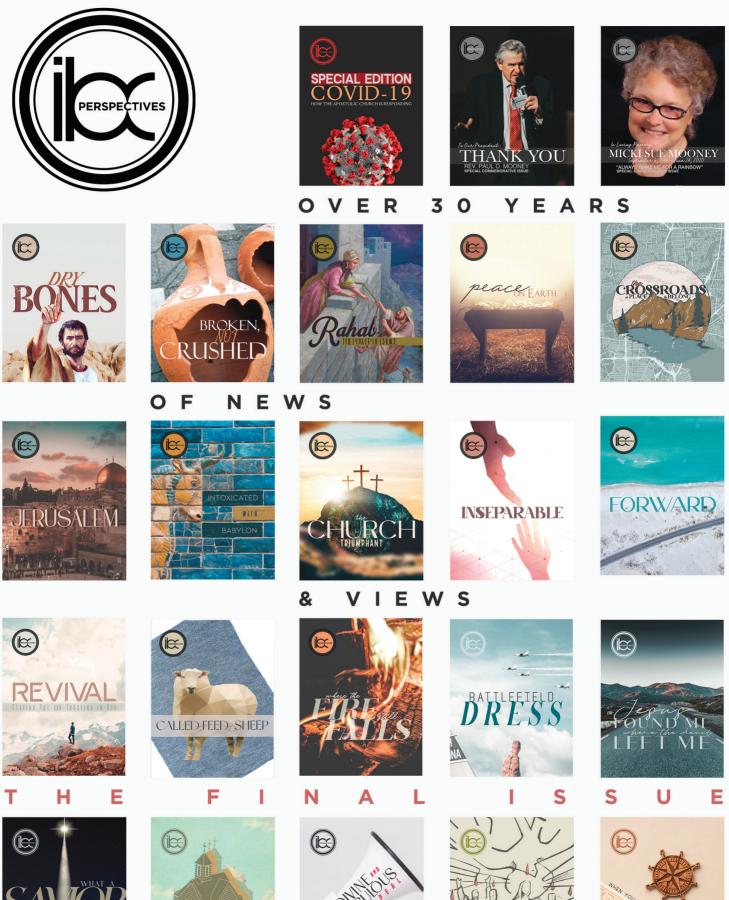
Vol. 32 No. 5 INDIANA BIBLE COLLEGE



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PRESIDENT JOSHUA B. CARSON

"Progress cannot be measured on the world's sinful scale of validation, but only by proper alignment with the Word of God."



There is a great contrast found between two men in the Bible, both of whom set sail for the gathering of gold. One of them was a wise man named Solomon, and the other was Jehoshaphat, the king of Judah. While Solomon's journey was highly successful, Jehoshaphat's ended with broken ships in the sea. However, the decisive difference (found between 1 Kings 9 for Solomon and 2 Chronicles 20 for Jehoshaphat) was based upon the respective proper and improper allegiances and training for long-term success (I Kings 9:26–28, 2 Chron. 20:35–37).

The Need for Commitment is Now

Leaders must wisely choose those with whom they make any allegiance–whether person or precept. How is it possible that in August of 2021, Harvard's Chaplain Organization voted in a proclaimed atheist to be their President? How is it possible that in March of 2022, Duke Divinity School could host a service in harmony with the Duke Pride Student Organization where they would actually pray to "the great queer one?" It seems plausible that it occurred one ungodly allegiance and one unbiblical allowance at a time.



Progress cannot be measured on the world's sinful scale of validation, but only by proper alignment with the Word of God. It is the opinion of the author that America has never more needed Bible Colleges to be committed to proper spiritual formation than right now. To effectively train their students, our Bible Colleges must utilize their resources to the very best of their ability. Indiana Bible College is committed to having the most robust and godly staff possible to ensure effective training for both our on-campus and online student body.

In order to accomplish this task, our printed magazine, *Perspectives*, is now retiring. This change will allow our staff to focus completely upon the student education and spiritual formation process for these future leaders we have been entrusted to educate. Moving forward, you, the reader, will be able to find the clear and biblically based perspectives of our team online in a multitude of easily accessible ways. (More information available in the Plainly Speaking article.)

In closing, please allow me to say thank you to Rev. Paul D. Mooney for his vision and to Rev. Tim Massengale for his diligent years of exceptional service in this ministry. To all of the *Perspectives* team, preachers, professors, and editors who have contributed greatly over

Joshua B. Carson

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FEATURE: Rev. Tim Massengale - IBC PERSPECTIVES: Over 30 Years of News & Views

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A BEAUTIFUL PLACE OF WORSHIP

"We held our first service in our beautiful new facility on Easter Sunday 2021! We are grateful to God for the doors that He opened to make this happen! We are thankful that He led us to the UPCI Loan Fund and with their help, made the dream of this new church building a reality! We are committed to fulfil the great commission of reaching our city with the Gospel. We now have a beautiful place of worship to bring in the lost and hurting of our community...a place where their lives can forever be changed by one encounter with Jesus Christ. To God Be The Glory!"

> – Robert Mahuron Life Tabernacle Barnwell, South Carolina



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FINAL THOUGHTS EXPRESSIONS FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

Compiled By Rev. Tim Massengale



David K. Bernard, Weldon Spring, MO - We appreciate the work of *IBC Perspectives* to inspire and inform Apostolic ministers over the past 32 years. We also appreciate the vision and support of Pastor and President Paul Mooney for this endeavor.

Perspectives has been a significant blessing to our movement.



Scott Graham, Weldon Spring, MO - Each month it would arrive. Each month I would consume it. Each month I'd be a little better for Him! The *Perspectives* magazine just had that effect. It would challenge my thinking to look forward while never forgetting those anchor points in our collective past which guide us. Thank you,

Brother Mooney, for having the vision to impact the church with a publication full of useful ideas, compelling content, and sure direction. For many of us it was a monthly signpost on the journey. For 32 years, your passion was infused on every page. For that, we are better servants and stewards. For that we are thankful!



Robert Stroup, Merrillville, IN - I have truly looked forward to receiving each issue of the *IBC Perspectives* down through the years. From the President's page at the beginning to the "Smiles and Humor" section towards the back, this magazine has always carried a wide variety of informative, interesting, and enjoyable

topics. I was so sorry to hear this would be its final issue! I want to express my deep appreciation to Bro. Paul Mooney, who possessed the initial dream and motivation to start publishing the *Perspectives*. And, its editor, Bro. Tim Massengale, is also deserving of our gratitude, as are all the other staff members and contributors to this effort. Thank you! We will miss the *Perspectives*!



Scott Sistrunk, Weldon Spring, MO - I don't think the vocabulary exists that could adequately portray the impact that Bro. Mooney has had on the Apostolic movement through Indiana Bible College and *IBC Perspectives* magazine. His life and ministry honor him far above any words that we could offer. I am deeply

appreciative of the impact IBC and *IBC Perspectives* have made on my own ministerial development. North American Missions is indebted to him for the many church planters who are establishing churches in North America because of his inspiration and influence. Over the years, *IBC Perspectives* highlighted many church planters' stories and inspired many to step out by faith and plant new churches. Many IBC graduates are serving in leadership positions in North American Missions and continue the legacy every day. We pray that God will continue to bless Bro. Mooney with many more fruitful years of ministry.



Bruce Howell, Weldon Spring, MO - My privilege and I repeat, privilege, to work with Paul Mooney has been a highlight of my ministry. I always admired him since my first time to be with him at his church in Michigan when I was traveling with the Bible College quartet. Wow, what a man! Then, when he became pastor of Calvary, my time with him was enhanced when I was a missionary to El Salvador. As regional director and now, for the last 20 years as the General Director, we worked closely

together. His anointed ministry, integrity, his commitment to the doctrine, his focus on forming young ministers at Indiana Bible College transforms until today the United Pentecostal Church International and the entire Oneness Movement worldwide. As a member of the Foreign/Global Missions board, I observed him closely. He is the only one I have ever known that could read a book and participate intelligently in the board meeting at the SAME TIME! A genius! I honor you, Bro. Mooney! I know the last few months have been hard without your sweet wife. But remember you are our hero, our prayers and thoughts are with you, and your legacy is alive and well in the world.



Stephen Drury, Weldon Spring, MO - Perspectives magazine has been a staple for marketing for The Stewardship Group since we started in 2002. We took advantage of the marketing opportunities because the magazine reached ministers, members of local churches and missionaries across many different Apostolic organizations. We can give credit to the vision, inspiration and finances that Bro. Paul Mooney provided for *Perspectives*. Also, we have always enjoyed the editorial written by Bro. Mooney and

the application to the work of the Kingdom. We will miss this important venue of promoting the Kingdom.



Daniel L. Butler, Weldon Spring, MO - Paul Mooney! The pastor of Calvary Tabernacle and the vision and voice of Indiana Bible College for decades! Paul Mooney shaped the culture of IBC and influenced the atmosphere of the United Pentecostal Church International as well as the Apostolic movement worldwide. What an amazing gift God gave us through this great man of God

Indeed, we appropriately honor Bro. Paul Mooney and avow and value his phenomenal contribution, especially in regard to

the *IBC Perspectives* magazine. This publication, as an extension of Bro. Mooney, has cast the long shadow of influence as it has reinforced Apostolic ideals and engendered a climate that cultivated growth and revival. The Apostolic movement has experienced strokes of strength, unity, and comradery through this magazine.

The Office of Education and Endorsement proudly stands along side the many who salute Brother Mooney for his sacrifice to fund and promote this magazine. With a worldwide impact that has blessed pastors, ministers, missionaries, families and churches around the globe, we thank God for Bro. Mooney and his investment into God's kingdom through *IBC Perspectives* magazine and Indiana Bible College.



Larry Arrowood, Seymour, IN - Wow! Where do you start when writing of Reverend Paul Mooney? Friend of preachers. Connoisseur of books. Avid reader. Pulpiteer extraordinaire. And each month he challenged me with his article in *IBC Perspectives*. Through the years I read each article with keen interest. I knew there would be a strong defense for the Apostolic message, there would generally be an interesting anecdote from someone he'd met on one of his adventures, or he would offer some insightful

quote from someone of significance whom I generally had not heard about. He seemed always a step ahead. I marvel at how he came across such interesting material. And what a storyteller! Whether speaking, writing, or doing lunch, he always challenged me.

IBC PERSPECTIVES - VOL. 32. NO. 5

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IBC PERSPECTIVES: OVER 30 YEARS OF NEWS & VIEWS

REV. TIM MASSENGALE | INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Written By Zack Ross

For over thirty years, the

Indiana Bible College Perspectives

magazine has been a staple of

read by thousands and circulated

across several organizations of the

Apostolic church. But our readers

to begin this publication, and what

caused it to expand to maintain its

audience and influence for multiple

Massengale, Sis. Jave Bannister, Sis.

Julia Reinking, and Rev. Zack Ross

decades. In our final Feature article, we interviewed Rev. Tim

to answer these questions.

may wonder what drove the initiative

the institution, a publication



Tim and Beth Massengale

A Burden for Online Ministry

To begin our story, we must travel back to a time before cell phones, Twitter, and Amazon. Though the Internet landscape of the day was much different in 1990 compared to today, Bro. Massengale felt compelled to provide an Apostolic service to aid pastors and ministers by means of the World Wide Web.

Bro. Massengale began, "What brought me to Indiana Bible College was the desire to establish an online database similar to America Online. At the time, this was the largest online resource for both information and discussions—called 'discussion boards' and I strongly felt directed to do this for Apostolics. After over eight years on the evangelistic field, I felt burdened to create an online resource database which Apostolic ministers could utilize to build their church departments and grow their churches."

For Bro. Massengale to accomplish what he felt God was calling him to do in building this database, it would need to operate under the umbrella of a college, per a Congressional law regarding information distribution. Bro. Massengale approached a couple of Bible colleges with the offer to build Apostolic Information Service (AIS) on their campuses, but was turned down. He then approached Rev. Paul D. Mooney and met with him at General Conference.

Bro. Massengale remembers, "I was sitting across from Bro. Mooney and explaining to him what I felt the Spirit was leading me to do with AIS, and he nodded the whole time. At the end, he said, 'Massengale, I think we can do this.'"

The original agreement was that Bro. Massengale had permission to build AIS at Indiana Bible College as long as it didn't cost the college any money. With Bro. Massengale's personal funds and Bro. Mooney's permission, AIS was born. The *Perspectives* magazine was originally a promotional tool for this new online database, highlighting new files that could be accessed with each paid subscription.

Developing The Right Layout

"Although we utilized the magazine to promote AIS, we wanted this to be a magazine that people would read. If all we produced was a catalogue of available files, we knew that it wouldn't generate much interest," Bro. Massengale explained.

The general content for each *Perspectives* magazine has remained the same for over three decades. Each issue contains an Opinions piece with insights from several pastors regarding key ministry topics, a Feature article highlighting a growing church in the movement, a Plainly Speaking article interviewing a minister on their "niche" in ministry, and a Guest Pulpit article containing a minister's transcribed sermon. Other highlights include Apostolic Ministry, World News, and Smiles & Humor.

The first *Perspectives* was sixteen pages in length and published in black and white print, with only three issues being released in the first year. By the third year, Indiana Bible College was publishing twelve magazines per year—once each month—and in time, it grew to a twenty-eight-page, full-color publication. The first color publication of the *Perspectives* was released in May 2000 (Vol. 10, No. 5).

Transitioning to Press Forward

Initially, the magazine came free with a subscription to AIS. Though AIS had many subscribers, and several paid advertisers were regularly contracted, eventually, the funds dissipated to continue printing the *Perspectives* magazine. It was at this point that Bro. Massengale submitted a letter of resignation to Bro. Mooney, deciding that shutting down the magazine was the only viable option.

When Bro. Mooney read the letter, he contacted Bro. Massengale and said, "I think we can work something out." He had received positive feedback from many people while travelling and preaching and was very enthusiastic about maintaining its

presence. It was also considered a promotional tool of the college moving forward. With this transition, the *AIS Perspectives* transitioned to the *IBC Perspectives* magazine.

Curating Relevant Content Through the Years

For Bro. Massengale, the primary means of content generation for the magazine was through the UPCI General Conference. "I would work the booths," he explained. "If there was anything new or exciting, it

became something we would be able to feature in the *Perspectives*. There was also an element of keeping your ear to the ground and listening for news in the movement, but mostly, we worked through the General Conference to obtain potential content."

Through the years, the *Perspectives* has acquired a team of faithful staff writers, named in the Table of Contents of each issue (you can also find their comments on page 23 of this final issue). Speaking to how the *Perspectives* managed to obtain so many writers, Bro. Massengale noted, "We advertised to writers



Sis. Carleen Rogers (1927-2017)

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in the magazine to come and write for our publication. Once they contacted us, we asked them to send a sample of their writing."

Upon approval, Bro. Massengale would begin sending them assignments. "It needs to be noted that this magazine was started with a journalistic intention in mind," Bro. Massengale explained. "It was to be an Apostolic news magazine. I would send the assignments, and it was the writers' responsibility to contact the pastors, ministers, and groups that were highlighted in each issue. For the small amount that we could pay them, they put in hours of work for this Kingdom-minded ministry." Bro. Massengale also mentioned that the *Perspectives* was the first Apostolic publication that paid its writers.

Building the Right Team

There have been many staff and students that have come and gone through the doors of the *IBC Perspectives* office through the years—sadly, too many to name them all. But Bro. Massengale is emphatic when he says, "This magazine could never have worked without a good, strong team that worked together and were responsible in their positions. These have been the greatest group of people that I could ever work with."

Sis. Jaye Bannister joined the team in July of 1996. She was approached by Sis. Carleen Rogers, a faithful AIS/*Perspectives* staff member, who informed her that the secretary position for the office had become open.



Sis. Jaye Bannister & Sis. Julia Reinking

the job the same day as her interview. Sis. Bannister was an essential part of the AIS/ *Perspectives* team, helping in organization and taking care of the needs of subscribers and advertisers. After attempting to retire several times over the years, she always found herself coming back to the office when help was needed.

She applied and was offered

"I ultimately felt that this was more than a job. It was my ministry," Sis. Bannister

explained. "Every time I left the job, I felt that I was losing the ministry that God had called me to. I felt like I was needed in that position, working with the students, almost like a mother is needed by her kids." Indeed, many students have commented through the years that Sis. Bannister was more like a mother to them than a manager. This is a testimony to how truly impactful Sis. Bannister's ministry has been, and the legacy that she will leave behind.

Sis. Julia Reinking joined the *IBC Perspectives* staff in November 2007. Having been newly hired to teach English Composition at Indiana Bible College, Sis. Reinking was asked by Bro. Massengale if she'd be interested to be the Assistant Editor for *IBC Perspectives* as well. Her earlier years working in journalism helped to prepare her for the different aspects of the role, including interviewing, writing, editing, and layout.

"Working as Assistant Editor at *Perspectives* magazine was lifechanging in so many ways," Sis. Reinking informed. "I was given the extraordinary opportunity to edit hundreds of articles submitted by Apostolic authors from all over the country. It was a daunting task at times to try to keep the content fresh and timely, but it was our goal to stay relevant in an ever-changing culture. I will forever be grateful for the relationships formed during my twelve years on the *Perspectives* team.

"It was a blessing to work side-by-side with such a talented group of adults and students," Sis. Reinking continued. "In particular, our long-time office manager, Sis. Jaye Bannister, was a wonderful blessing and asset in the office. She and Bro. Massengale should be commended for their many years of dedication and commitment to the cause. Personally, my greatest joy came from the opportunity to work with and mentor so many incredible students from Indiana Bible College. These young people were insightful, creative, spiritual, fun, hard-working, energetic, and talented. The relationships that were formed during those years

Editor-in-Chief Rev. Tim Massengale

mean the world to me. Every meaningful conversation, every smile, every hug, every learning experience, and every special moment – I will cherish them all."

Rev. Zack Ross has served as the Assistant Editor for *IBC Perspectives* from February 2020 until this final issue's publication. He feels privileged to have participated in such a historic operation of Indiana Bible College, especially being a graduate of IBC (2017) and former work scholarship student with the *Perspectives* staff. He plans to remain on staff with Indiana Bible College and, while regretting the closing of the magazine, is excited to transition to the role of Events Marketing Manager within the Promotions department under the leadership of Rev. Kevin Burzynski. Bro. Ross is also looking forward to continue serving in the classroom as an adjunct instructor.

A Witness to History

Readers will be interested to know - or rather, to reminisce! - that the *IBC Perspectives* has witnessed and reported on several major historical events.

Of course, the first event that stands out in several of our executive staff's minds is September 11, 2001. In the October 2001 issue of *Perspectives* (Vol. 11, No. 10), the center headline for the World News section reads: "Apostolics Survive Terrorist Attack!" Citing information from the UPCI World Network of Prayer, the article lists seven accounts of Apostolic saints who were supposed to have been affected by the terrorist attack due to job commitments or other circumstances, but were miraculously prevented from encountering the attacks.

Another standout piece was featured in the October 2005 issue of *Perspectives*, entitled "Katrina's Impact on Apostolics," referring to the infamous hurricane which devastated coastal areas of Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi, and how the churches in these regions were affected.

The most recent *Perspectives* issue highlighting historical events, of course, was published in May 2020 regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Other special issues include the commemorative issues for Rev. Paul D. Mooney upon his retirement as President of Indiana Bible College and pastorally from Calvary Tabernacle in Indianapolis (June 2020), as well as the issue honoring beloved Sis. Micki Mooney's life and legacy (August 2020).

A Ministry in Writing

Bro. Massengale concludes, "I began teaching at IBC in the Fall of 1990 and soon after, the first issue of *Perspectives* was published. God has choosen me to remain at IBC and to make Bible college instruction my life's calling. But I also feel that this publication has been a part of my ministry. It has touched so many lives and the letters we have received over the years from readers have been inspiring. There is a ministry in writing. I am confident that the *IBC Perspectives* has ministered to many throughout our fellowship and I feel honored to have been a part of what God has done. Thank you, Pastor Mooney,

for making this possible." The *IBC Perspectives* has

endured as a leading publication in the Apostolic movement. This is in no small part due to the vision, dedication, and sacrifice of many people in God's kingdom. But, of course, our greatest reason for thriving has been our readers. The IBC Perspectives staff, past and present, would like to give special thanks to our faithful readers for partnering with us over three decades of Apostolic news and views. It has been our joy and privilege to report the latest trends in the movement and worldwide during this time. We honor you!



First Issue of Perspectives

IBC PERSPECTIVES - VOL. 32, NO. 5



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The Dream Continues



On December 29, 1952, Rev. T. C. Montgomery, along with Rev. Buford Miller and Rev. R. B. Boyd, filed Article of Incorporation for Tupelo Children's Mansion. It all started with Rev. Montgomery's dream to give hope and love to children in need. After many nights spent

Executive Vice President

sleeping in his car, driving across the country to share his dream, he was taking the first step in making it official. Just a short four months later, on April 21, 1953, this infant organization established its first Board of Directors:

- Rev. M. J. Wolff, Chairman
- Rev. M. H. Hansford, Vice Chairman
- Rev. George L. Glass, Secretary
- Rev. C. G. Weeks
- Rev. L. G. Housch
- Rev. Buford Miller
- Rev. T. C. Montgomery

No doubt these great men of God believed in Rev. Montgomery's dream. No doubt they supported the mission of Tupelo Children's Mansion. I can only imagine the fulfillment and joy they must have felt when the construction of the home was complete. I can only imagine their gratitude for this dream when that first sibling group arrived to live in "the Mansion." It all began with the dream of one man.

Almost seventy years later, the dream continues. Many days, walking through the 40acre campus, among the 27 buildings, I think about Rev. Montgomery. Could he have even imagined the magnitude of his dream? Seventy years...and 4,000 children later...could he really conceptualize just how far-reaching his dream would become? How is it that this dream continues to thrive after all of these years?

Primarily, the blessings of Jesus Christ keep the dream alive. Few things are closer to the heart of Jesus than children. There's not enough space in this column (or even this publication) to list the miracles that have been performed for Tupelo Children's Mansion. God is invested and involved in what's happening at 1801 East Main Street in Tupelo, Mississippi.

The dream continues because of you, too! Yes, you read that right. YOU! Because of supporters and sponsors, this dream unfolded seventy years ago and continues today. Rather one-time donations or continued monthly support, your generosity and prayers have kept this ministry alive. Thank you for loving Tupelo Children's Mansion.

To learn more about Tupelo Children's Mansion, or to get involved with this ministry, please visit www.MansionKids.org.

P.S. - Tupelo Children's Mansion would like to give a heartfelt THANK YOU to the staff at IBC Perspectives for allowing us to share our heart each month. Also, thank you for compiling such timely, inspiring, and applicable content for the readership. This publication will be missed. God bless you all!

Jonathan & Monica Parker - Missionaries to eSwatini

Interviewed By William Turner



Jonathan and Monica Parker were married during the summer before their final year at Indiana Bible College. Both felt a calling to global missions but still did not have a clear sense of direction for their future ministry when they returned to Oklahoma to assist in Jonathan's home church at the end of their time at IBC in 2009.

"We were experiencing the 'what do I do now?' that so many people feel during a period of transition," he said. The answer began to come into focus in early 2010 at the dinner table with Brother Parker's parents and a visiting missionary couple. "What do you want to do now that you are no longer at IBC?" the missionary asked. Jonathan explained that he saw the importance

The Parker Family

of overseas Bible colleges during a missions trip to Liberia in 2004, but still had no clear direction for their own involvement.

"The missionary told me that we should go to the Philippines and work under Missionaries John and Nory Cogan, helping them with the Apostolic Institute of Ministries in Davao City."

The Parkers were grateful for the advice but still felt no clear direction. "About two weeks later," he said, "we were invited to go to dinner with my parents and a different missionary family that we were also close to. They asked the same question, and I gave the same answer." The response from the missionaries was curiously the same: "You should go work with the Cogans in the Philippines."

This time, he followed up and emailed Brother Cogan. "I later found out that he had written a letter to Brother Mooney (former pastor of Calvary Tabernacle and president of IBC) requesting a recent IBC couple who would be willing to help out in his Bible school in the Philippines. We arrived as AIMers (Associates in Missions) in March of that same year."

What important lessons pertaining to missionary life did they learn on AIM?

"There is so much that we learned as AIMers," Brother Parker said. "Each culture provides new and different challenges. You have to be flexible and patient. We've never worked in a country as fast-paced as America, and you must adapt.

"We also learned to soak up as much time as we could with elders who have walked the roads before us. We were blessed to be able to work closely with Missionaries John and Nory Cogan, David and Donna Flowers (Philippines, retired), and Gary and Sharon Abernathy (Africa, retired). You cannot compile a list of greater people to work hand-in-hand with. They not only poured their lives into their fields of labor but also into Monica and me."

After more AIM assignments to the Philippines and a period of additional ministry in Oklahoma, the Parkers were appointed as missionaries to eSwatini near the southeastern tip of the African continent.

Describe your ministry in the African nation of eSwatini?

"eSwatini is an extremely diverse country despite its small size," he said. "It is only about 120 miles from north to south and 80 miles from west to east but contains forests, large mountain ranges, African bush, waterfalls, rivers, and plains. Throughout the country, we have 22 UPC churches with over 2,000 members.

"Although we do not have a full-time Bible school as of yet, the eSwatini Apostolic Bible Institute is currently offering the Certificate Level course from GATS (Global Association of Theological Studies.)"

What is their greatest ministry challenge in eSwatini?

The greatest challenge, Brother Parker said, is the one facing every field. "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few." Bible college training is imperative, he said.

"Our church is all first-generation," he noted, "and we are in desperate need of spiritual growth that can only come from knowing the truth that sets us free — God's Word. Not only are we trying to help future ministers in developing their knowledge of God's Word, but even our current pastors, who themselves are newer converts."

What is life like in eSwatini?

"The people are some of the friendliest people we've ever met," he said, and the way of life isn't extremely far from the culture in the U.S. due to their Judaeo-Christian values." Their life there, he said, "is very laid-back" in such a small country. "Very few places are open after 6:00 pm," he said.

Why the peculiar spelling for eSwatini?

Brother Parker explained, "eSwatini is the last remaining monarchy in Africa. On April 20, 2018, King Mswati III announced the 'Kingdom of Swaziland' would be renamed the 'Kingdom of eSwatini.'" The small "e," in the siSwati language, he said, is equivalent to the English "the," which, as in "the United States of America," is not capitalized.

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WHERE TO FROM HERE?



What is your take on the transition in media from print to online generally?

We see it happening across every industry, not just newspapers and magazines. Even the consumption of books today is changing: eBooks

Joshua B. Carson Indianapolis, IN

and audiobooks are

growing rapidly. I just read a stat that said that from 2020 to 2027 the rate of audiobook consumption is set to grow 24% per year. It tells you something about the way people are wanting to consume content.

What are the benefits of moving marketing and content creation to digital mediums?

There are a few advantages digital has over print. One major advantage is scalability. Once content is produced, it costs very little to reach one or one million—a privilege print cannot afford.

Another advantage of digital media is the social aspect. With social media you have the opportunity for community engagement and necessary feedback in a timely manner.

Digital media is amazingly flexible and interactive. You can deliver content in a wide variety whether it be in text, audio, or video format.

What is IBC's vision for the future with regard to the transition to digital media?

We need to be creating content for the mediums and platforms people are using to consume information; that reality needs to guide our transition.

If the demographics are shifting to podcasts over print, we need to be there. If people are consuming video, we need to be creating video. The message cannot change, but we need to be producing content where people prefer to consume it.

Today, people are doing more knowledge consumption with headphones while they mow the lawn, do dishes, etc., than at any time before. We need to make the information that is true and edifying easily accessible.

Are you hesitant to embrace digital media platforms that often limit you to character count or time limits?

Certainly not every social media platform is advantageous to achieve all outcomes.

It's tough to disciple through 240 characters on Twitter. It is difficult to communicate a doctrinal position with 15-second videos on Instagram stories.

There are limitations within certain platforms to be sure, but digital media provides ample opportunity to do both short-form and long-form work. Podcasting is one example where it is long-form enough to dive deep into a topic if it's necessary. People still want longer form and word-based content.

What excites you about the potential for the future with what IBC may be doing?

There are so many opportunities. We have an amazing staff at Indiana Bible College who are great resources. We have the advantage of being a part of Calvary Tabernacle which has many guest speakers in for conferences and events throughout the year. It is an amazing opportunity to share those resources with others in new and dynamic ways.

IBC has maintained a podcast and social media presence for some time now. What else or what other platforms does IBC anticipate to promote?

The podcast and even social media platforms are a part of what we do. We hope to always be communicating the message, whatever the platform.

What that looks like today is IBC music on Spotify, Apple Music, and in other formats. It looks like IBC chapel sermons live-streamed on Facebook with thousands of weekly viewers. It looks like the panel discussions from a Theology Conference on the topic of The Rise and Fall of Mars Hill. It looks like students being involved in conventions and camps. It looks like preachers and singers ministering in local churches each weekend as a part of Ministerial Student Association. It looks like continually updating our website and the launch of a new IBC online store that makes getting multi-tracks or song charts a seamless experience.

Platforms may change, but we are committed to creating valuable content and serving our audience.

What content can we expect to be published from IBC moving forward?

We will consistently be monitoring and exploring new formats and ways to share information. That may be in the form of podcasts, videos, posted articles, etc.

We continue to move forward with online conferences. We have a new online conference that is in the planning stage right now. Events like these create valuable exposure for our college and excellent value for those who are a part.

As we continue to grow and develop in digital media content creation, we will keep everyone informed through all of our digital media channels including social media, the IBC Podcast, website, email newsletter, and our live weekly chapel services.











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Theology: Why IBC Perspectives at All?



Church Today jgallion@go2ibc.com

Elements of Godly Leadership

I had the privilege of teaching a session on successful leadership at this year's IBC Music Fest. I would like to share some insights from this session in my final column.

Jason Gallion

The first thing that helps leaders to be

successful is to always check their spirit. I've always felt that, as a leader, it can be easy to fall into a narcissistic ideology, trapped by the lie that "it's all about me." 1 Sam. 18:7 gives us a picture of how quickly we can enter into this temptation and the disastrous results that occur when we are not prepared. The women were singing that Saul had slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands. This drove Saul to madness - so that he not only disobeyed God; he also sought to kill his competition.

The second element that builds successful leaders is not to be bound by leaving a legacy. The idea of a legacy can be dangerous because it can be about what we have achieved and put into motion. The question must not be, "What have I achieved?" but rather, "How have I contributed to the Kingdom of God?" A legacy is what has been left behind. The greatest legacy that a leader can leave behind is not assets, buildings, or programs, but people. Not only numbers, but mature saints who know who they are, know God, and love Him with all their hearts.

The third area to address for successful leadership is insecurity. An insecure leader will rearrange everything that they see and hear based on this. Pastor Mooney always used to teach us that we cannot live our lives on the praises of the people we pastor. This is because the moment they stop praising us, we will fail. If we're intoxicated with people's praises, we won't lead them effectively.

The next fact on successful leadership is that the Kingdom of God is based upon seed, not speed. When Jesus talked about the kingdom of God in parables, He often referenced it in terms of agriculture. The implication, of course, is connected to the seasons of life and the time it takes for seeds to be planted and grown. Great leaders pace themselves, not only to avoid burnout, but also because they understand that the substance of what God is working often goes slowly, in His perfect timing.

The final element of successful leadership is to take complex ideas and make them simple and understandable. In an era of competitive creativity, some believe that they must impress their listeners with deeply intellectual sayings to prove that they are "cut above." But this breeds confusion. The leader's job is to bring clarity and understanding to the things of God.

While I have not been able to write for a lengthy time in the *IBC Perspectives*, I am grateful to have been able to share these thoughts for almost two years. I extend many thanks to Rev. Tim Massengale and the team, and to Rev. Paul Mooney for his vision to make this publication the success that it has been.



Theology

<u>bkillmon@go2ibc.com</u>

Why IBC Perspecftives at All?

Many years ago, when the Apostolic movement in recent history was facing some of its most complex times, a vision was cast and a

Bobby Killmon ministry was born. Along with Steadfast Conference, this little magazine entitled "Perspectives" was birthed out of a desire and passion to speak to that divisive moment. It was a magazine intentionally filled with courageous words, apostolic words, that were meant to impact, encourage, enable, and yes, even exhort God's people to deal with powerful forces that were tempting some ministers and ministries to either become or remain tongue-tied and paralyzed when truth-speaking was the prescription needed the most.

Its exhortation and tone, it must be stressed, came not from an adversarial relationship, but from that of a friend, a family member; someone deeply invest in the movement's future. It was a gift born of gratitude for Apostolic heritage, and full of faith for its future. But without the courage of this little work to speak to those times, to the real pertinent issues, things may have arguably continued to remain the same, even when change was needed and necessary. God often sends a prophet, even one of ink and paper, to underline the weaknesses in His people's lives both individually and collectively when these weaknesses are a danger to His purposes being fulfilled in their lives. But I cannot think of one prophet in Scripture that was not a true friend, often misunderstood as an adversary.

That's why courage was needed to create this magazine and to speak. Because without the boldness or courage of a movement to speak to their times, then no other virtue can be practiced for long. For that same courage to speak is the virtue that motivates, that shapes the will, that impacts the heart, to fight against all that is wrong and easy. But further, it enables us to stand for all that is right and hard. As a movement and individuals, we must confess that wrong is usually easy and right is usually hard. Why don't people in Western society see this? They do not know they are at war, a spiritual war. Thus the preacher. Thus the platforms, the callings that belong to the body of Christ, which strengthen Apostolic voices around the world. Thus this little magazine that has strengthened so many. They won the day. We are enriched by this investment and offer our gratitude to those who sacrificed.

We know that times change. We are in a technological revolution and the digital world is a reality both of challenges and opportunities. But here at IBC, we make the promise and commitment that while the venue or method will change, our heart for Apostolic truth and the enabling of courageous voices will remain the same. We anticipate the future because our Apostolic stand is the same. I reflect personally with gratitude and humility on the tremendous opportunity to write this little column for over a decade. But I also anticipate the rich opportunities coming soon in our future that God is now unfolding.



T. W. Massengale

for his willingness to invest in this project

also wish to thank the many excellent staff

members through the years, but especially

Reinking and Zack Ross, my two excellent

Rona Bannister, our office manager, and two

individuals I could not have done without: Julia

and for providing leadership support. I

Church Growth

tmassengale@apostolic.edu

While I am saddened that this is the last issue of the *IBC Perspectives* magazine, I am also greatly honored to have played a part in it's publication for the past 32 years. I especially want to thank Pastor Paul D. Mooney assistant editors. We had many writers and contributors through the years, but my special thanks to our staff writers: Gregg Stone, Linda Schreckenberg, Charlotte Pound, Rev. John Fonzer, Susan Thomas, Christina Li, Maranatha Wright, and Angela Repetto, who contributed their writing gifts to make this publication possible. Also to our staff columnists who appeared on this page with me each month: Jason Gallion, IBC Vicepresident, and Bobby Killmon, IBC Dean of Theology. Many others, too many to name, contributed in a variety of areas, too broad to list. Publishing a monthly magazine is a daunting endeavor. But the response we have received from our readers through the years has made this a worthwhile ministry for the Kingdom of God.

I finally wish to thank the many readers

of this column. Church growth has long been my passion and calling. I have been honored to see many churches grow and become more effective in the greatest of our commissions - carrying the Gospel message far and wide. I hope my monthly columns have been thought provoking and heart stirring. We live in the closing hours of the last days before the rapture trumpet. The church will soon be called to their heavenly home. Those remaining will face the horrors of the coming tribulation and Antichrist. But we still have time left. There is still time to reach one more. One more revival, one more Bible study, one more tract, one more door knocked, one more invitation to a lost soul to come to church and find New Birth salvation. "Work while it is day, for the night cometh, when no man can work." (John 9:4)

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Columnist Forum



Carol Clemans

Spiritual Growth

Look Up, Our Redemption Draweth Nigh!

We are living in the end of the end times! Jesus is coming! There is so much turmoil in the

world. We must keep our eyes on Jesus. I received an email from IBC when this article was due saying this would be the last issue. It saddened my heart because I have been a columnist for the *Perspectives* Magazine since 2004.

I write God's truth about healing the hurting heart even after salvation. When we are saved (Acts 2:38), it is the devil's delight to twist the truth. He began in the Garden of Eden. The father of all lies twisted God's truth in the beginning. We can be saved but hurting. I always ask, "What is God's truth?"

In June 2022, I will celebrate being a Certified Pastoral Counselor for 30 years. The Lord opened doors for counseling nationwide (also to other countries) by phone, Facetime, Skype, etc. It is my delight to share God's truth to hurting hearts. Remember, if your thoughts are negative, they do not come from God.

When we know God's truth, we filter our thoughts through God's truth first. Then, our feelings and actions will be Godlike. God essentially says in His Word, "When you know the truth, the truth shall make you free!" Making is a process. We must replace Satan's lies with God's truth. Satan does not want you to walk in God's love, truth, and total forgiveness.

Just because some people fail, God never fails. Keep your eyes on God and in His Word, not on people. Looking unto Jesus, who is the author and finisher of our faith! Jesus said in Matthew 28:18 – "I have all power in heaven and the earth." That means the devil has no power!

Satan plants evil thoughts in the mind. He has no power. We must decide who we will follow.

I choose to live for God for His glory! "Come quickly, Lord Jesus!"

<u>www.carolclemans.org</u> – Bible counseling nationwide – (636) 448-0121. <u>www.youtube.com/c/carolclemans</u> - watch teaching. Ref. Mins. Pastor Daniel Batchelor, Dupo, IL



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Accounting &

Changes to Your Credit Score

A low credit score can have significant consequences. It

determines the interest rates on your credit cards and loans, how much you pay for insurance and can also impact your ability to open a bank account. You should review your credit report several times per year to make sure that there no errors that could have a negative impact on your score.



Identity and Scripture VickieHodgesSharingLife@gmail.com

Keeping Ourselves In Alianment - Parts 3&4

Who calls the shots in our lives? Is it our spirit, soul, or body that is in control?

Vickie Hodges

Last month we took a look at our spirit which must be ignited by the Holy Ghost. This month we will take a look at and combine the other two parts (soul and body) of our three-part being.

Our soul is assuredly one of God's most beautiful creations. Our soul gives us the capacity to think, reason, and express our emotions/feelings. And yes, God could have programmed us to do and be whatever He wanted, but He chose to give us the ability to reason, think, and express ourselves as we wanted to. Choice is a beautiful blessing! And we will live with the consequences of our choices. Therefore, we must choose wisely. Proverbs 2:10 reads, "When wisdom enters into our heart, and knowledge is pleasant to the soul, discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee." A good question to ask ourselves is, "Are my thoughts driven by emotion?" Hopefully we are taking captive every thought that enters our mind and examining it to see if it lines up with the Word of God.

Our body is quite unique in that it acts as a temporary house or shell that contains our soul and spirit. I Corinthians 6:19 says that our bodies are the temple of the living God. We must make sure that we do not destroy or damage the temple of God. This temple (body) is designed to carry out the plans God has for us on this earth. Our bodies are made up of appetites, both good and bad, and we must be careful that we do not give into the body getting anything and everything it wants. When we give into our bodily cravings repeatedly—we will soon break the power of the Holy Spirit. We must make sure that our actions are not driven by our cravings.

Let us make the best choice and choose to stay in the correct spiritual alignment as we journey on into the victorious and abundant life that is given to us so freely!

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 <u>VickieHodgesSharingLIFE@gmail.com</u> or (281) 489-0055. Ministry Leadership—Pastor Mark Hughes and Dr. James Hughes of Greater Life Church in Webster, Texas.

This is also a good time to review for any potential fraud, such as someone who opened up a new account using your social security number.

Often, financial hardship is the result of unexpected medical bills. One in five households have medical related debt. One result of late medical bill payments is a lower credit score. Beginning in July 2022, the 3 major reporting agencies are making changes to the way they calculate credit scores. These changes include removing approximately 70% of medical debt and increasing the grace period on medical debt from six months to twelve months.



Relationships 201

Devoted to Destruction

For Christmas 2021, I bought myself 3 Bibles. One of them is an ESV Readers Bible. It has six volumes and has no verse or chapter divisions.

I have been reading it this year and am thoroughly enjoying it. In Deuteronomy, Moses gave a history lesson to the people of Israel of their progression from Egypt to the door of the promised land. In 3:6, referencing their enemies, Moses states, "We devoted them to destruction." I found that phrase intriguing.

Later, at the end of chapter 7, Moses says, "And you shall not bring an abominable thing into your house and become devoted to destruction like it. You shall utterly detest and abhor it. for it is devoted to destruction." This message is consistent throughout the Bible. This message is still relevant today. What I find interesting is the phrase, "Devoted to Destruction." It is a good practice to periodically (at least once or twice a year) do an inventory of our life and home. Is anything present, as innocent or innocuous as it may seem, that has come between God and us? Is there anything in our life that is devoted to our destruction? We need to be proactive and devote ourselves to its destruction if there is.

Even more interesting with the phrase, "Devoted to Destruction," is both 'Devoted' and 'Destruction' having the same Hebrew root word. The word refers to worship. When we devote ourselves to the destruction of idols (things between God and us), we do so as worship to our God. It is essential to recognize those idols are devoted to our destruction as a form of worship to their god. Selah!

DayStar Ministries is a 501c3 Counseling Center for Apostolics. Please go to dsministries. com and sign up for our monthly article. Pastors, please check out our 'Partners in Counseling' program. Apostolic Moral Purity (apostolicmoralpurity.com) is a developing group helping Apostolics overcome pornography and moral impurity. Please follow us on Facebook and YouTube.

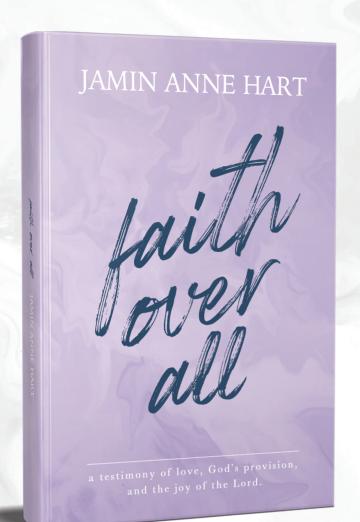
Thank you, Bro. Massengale and IBC Perspectives for over thirty years of service to the Apostolic world. God bless you, readers! It has been an honor.

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. <u>dsirstad@dsministries.</u> <u>com</u>

Beginning in 2023, they will no longer report on any past due medical bills that are under \$500.

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: <u>Delano@dsacpainc.com</u> Website: <u>www.dsacpainc.com</u>

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66 Now, the words I had spoken in testimony on dozens of platforms around the United States echoed in my mind: "It isn't the travel and adventures that fill my heart with joy, it is Jesus alone!" How many times had I said those words with sincere emotion flooding my face, yet now I struggled to live them out. It is easy to shout faith-filled claims on the mountaintop when sacrifice was the furthest thing from my mind, but now all I could see was the sacrifice of change that we were being forced to make. Why do we let our circumstances choose the approach we take? Why do we let the uncertainties of life determine whether we live in faltering fear or freeing faith? Fear is belittling. Fear is haunting. What we fail to remember is that fear contradicts everything we know to be true. It then dawned on me. "faith is a choice!" Knowing that the enemy thrives in disillusion and confusion, I began to combat every lie with truth. Every Scripture and promise of God that I hurled into the atmosphere of our home brought down each stronghold that fear had established. The dark cloud lifted in my mind as I intentionally decided to choose faith over all. ??





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INVESTING IN REVIEW WITH PAUL D. MOONEY



Editorial note: Paul D. Mooney, as pastor of Calvary Tabernacle and President of Indiana Bible College, was instrumental in making the IBC Perspectives magazine possible. We interviewed him for this final issue and asked him why he invested so much time and money into a publication that was mostly about ministry and only a little about the college. Readers will quickly see that the magazine was an expression of his passion for the work of God and for spreading the Apostolic message. It was also a wise investment that helped grow a tiny college into the tremendous institution that today is Indiana Bible College.

Why did you invest so much into the IBC Perspectives magazine?

The *IBC Perspectives* has been a tremendous magazine. Everywhere I go people want and like this publication. It provided a way to communicate with our fellowship. I felt like it was important that we communicated with people about IBC, whether it was with a magazine or another promotional instrument. Pastors needed to know what was happening. We cannot let communication die.

The most read part of the magazine was your monthly column. Please talk about this.

A lot of people still ask about my monthly columns in the magazine. My inspiration for columns came from simply paying attention to what's going on in the world and in our organization. I read a lot, including the *Wall Street Journal* and many other publications. When you read you get a sense of what's happening in the world. Spiritual people know that what holds America together is their faith in God – the solid religious underpinnings of society. That, of course, is crumbling. Also my inspiration came from what I was hearing as I traveled throughout our movement – both good and bad. I tried to address issues that I felt needed to be highlighted in order for Apostolic Pentecost to be more like Christ and less like the world. These mostly were the trends and attitudes that were affecting us.

What trends today most disturb you?

I like listening to people, talking to people. There are many that are disturbed about what is happening to this country. The rapid influence of socialism, the secularism of society, and the liberal agenda is scary.

For two years now I have been on the road preaching and teaching. So I talk with a lot of pastors and leaders. We still have problems and needs



Rev. Paul D. & Micki Mooney

within our movement. We are starting to see a slide into what I call "religious theater." Pentecost is becoming more "theatrical" and that is not good. In our quest for professionalism we cannot slide into performance culture – void of Apostolic anointing. It is impossible for us to compete with Hollywood. Our revival will come by being more Apostolic Pentecostal, not less.

What can you remember about how the magazine started?

The magazine started in 1990. Bro. Massengale, back then I knew of you. I had met you in Michigan and felt good about you coming on board at IBC. People need to understand that this publication was your vision. Along with the Apostolic Information Service, you brought your vision for this magazine and an online ministry to help churches and pastors. I simply embraced your vision. So IBC became a platform to build this ministry and I, for one, am grateful. We cannot talk about the IBC Perspectives without talking about you - in truth, I had very little to do with the day-to-day running of this ministry. But I trusted you and you ran all the articles and names past me for my approval. Occasionally I provided ideas and direction, but you ran with it. Tell people we did this together. I am pleased with how God has used the magazine to bless our movement.

What was your vision for this magazine?

As you know, Indiana Bible College began with Bro. Dennis Croucher in Seymour, Indiana in 1981. When the educational committee approached me in 1988 with the idea of transferring the college to Indianapolis, we started with 48 students. Miraculously, God provided a campus just months before opening. We had no idea if our brethren would respond positively to the move. You came the next year as an instructor and you also started the magazine. In fact, all the teaching staff we had back then were men and women of vision and all had a great passion for the work of God. So the magazine fit IBC well.

I looked at the magazine as a way to connect to our pastors and leaders. Missionaries too – we sent a monthly box to the Global Missions Division so a magazine could be included with every mail packet. It contained content that was of interest to pastors – growing churches and contemporary challenges of ministry – but it also promoted the school. So every month, pastors and readers were exposed to what IBC was doing and how the school was making a difference. The school did music conferences, missions trips, recording sessions, choir tours, book buying trips, summer evangelism teams – the school was active and constantly doing something. The magazine allowed us to showcase IBC in a positive way long before there was an Internet, podcasts, and other online media. So I believe this publication was



Rev. Paul D. Mooney



Rev. Mooney Reading 'The Post'

I think pastors trusted me and the ministry of Calvary Tabernacle. I was District Superintendent of Michigan. Later the brethren voted me into the same position in Indiana. So I think they had confidence that IBC had a solid foundation in doctrine and stood for holiness.

I am confident the magazine played a role in our growth. We placed this publication on the desks of pastors of a half-dozen Oneness organizations every month. This was not cheap – publishing a monthly magazine is an expensive endeavor. But the reminder every month of IBC and what the college was doing had an impact on our growth and also fostered revival within our movement.

What made the IBC Perspectives different from the many other Apostolic publications in print?

I traveled a lot. Everywhere I went, people would come up to me and talk about the magazine. It was fresh, exciting, and a bit edgy. It was a different format than other Apostolic publications. It was a news magazine. It told about people, about churches, and about ministries. It shared insights and ideas. While other magazines were mostly devotional, the *IBC Perspectives* was about people, news, views, and what was happening in Pentecost and in the religious world in general. It also had great jokes!

The magazine was a powerful way to communicate. Yes, we did invest a lot of money, but looking back, it was worth it. When you read it, you quickly saw it was not all about IBC. It was about ministry and being a success in ministry. That was a strong key to its success. We committed ourselves to providing a resource that people wanted to read. And in the course of their reading, they also learned about IBC. It was a subtle but powerful tool of marketing. People wanted it, they enjoyed it, they knew it was a product of IBC and by association, they believed that attending IBC would also be a great place to learn and grow in ministry. But the *IBC Perspectives* was an investment into Apostolic Pentecost in general. The message was clear and consistent: Revival is breaking out all over. People are



Rev. Paul D. Mooney and Rev. O.C. Marler

instrumental to IBC growing to be the school it is today.

How did the IBC Perspectives affect the growth of IBC?

We grew from perhaps the smallest school in our movement to the largest Apostolic Bible College today. I think our location in the Midwest was helpful. But also having success in God's Kingdom, and we are facing challenges and difficulties with an overcoming attitude of faith.

What do you want people to remember about the IBC Perspectives? When you read the *IBC*

Perspectives over a period of time, you will see a number of reoccurring themes. First, we always looked for ways to promote the Pentecostal revival that was spreading around the world. The message of Pentecost, and specifically



Paul D. Mooney Indianapolis, IN

Apostolic Pentecost, needs to be trumpeted. There is a wonderful end-time revival that is catching fire and we need to keep people aware that this is happening. Second, we tried to make our readers aware of the changes that were taking place in society that the church would have to deal with. We did not shy away from controversial topics. Our page each month on World News shocked a lot of people in that they were not completely aware of how perverse our society was getting. Third, we tried to promote new ideas and creative insights into issues that pastors and leaders are facing daily. So our Opinions covered everything from holiness issues to evangelism ideas to political changes that would affect us. The Plainly Speaking page tended to take a deep dive into special topics that were relevant to pastoral leadership. Our columnists also addressed these subjects. Finally, we promoted new ministries, books, and programs that would help the local church be more effective in their mission of spreading the Gospel.

Any final comments?

I want to say thank you to you, Bro. Massengale, and the wonderful staff of the *IBC Perspectives*, for your labor of love to make this vision possible these past 32 years. I also want to thank every reader for your support and encouragement throughout the years. Perhaps I'll see you on the road – in the next adventure!



Rev. Paul D. Mooney With IBC Staff

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John L. Fonzer - I have been privileged to write for Perspectives for more than ten years. More than a writing experience, the notoriety and acceptance I've gained, or the compensation, the greatest thing to come from my time at *Perspectives* is fellowship. That, I believe, is why the Lord allowed me, a P.A.W. pastor and novice writer, to be hired and to eventually write Opinions, the page where the most interviews

would be conducted. It has been my privilege to interview many, many men and women of God from coast to coast and outside the country of various Apostolic affiliations. Moving among those brethren has allowed me to "bring us closer together." Personally, it has made me and some of my interviewees more than brothers. We are friends.



Charlotte L. Pound - Having been a writer of drama scripts, teaching curriculum, and inspirational thoughts for most of my life, it was a privilege to have found another outlet for my desire to write through *Perspectives* magazine. I am very thankful to have been on the writing staff for more than fifteen years. I loved having had a tiny part in furthering the kingdom by transmitting Apostolic news, transcribing

sermons, and sharing the progress of thriving Apostolic churches around the country. What a privilege to have worked with so many of God's people—helping to relay their contributions to our readers. It was also an honor to have worked with Bro. Tim Massengale. He always had such a kind way of encouraging me as a writer. I always felt rather proud to be a part of something so worthwhile and informative. May God bless all the leadership and staff of this wonderful source of Apostolic endeavors.



Gregg Stone - It has been an honor and a privilege to write for the *IBC Perspectives* for the past fifteen-plus years. Bro. Massengale and his staff have always been exceptional to work with and I have enjoyed being a small part of this wonderful team that wrote for them. I want to give a big thanks to everyone that allowed me to interview them and write about their respective churches or ministries. The connections I have

made have impacted my life and my walk with God. I truly loved the magazine and will miss reading it as well as contributing to it. Thank you, Bro. Massengale, for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. I bless you and your staff in Jesus' name.



Christina Li - Writing for *IBC Perspectives* magazine for the last seventeen years has been both an honor and a blessing. Bro Tim Massengale is the best boss I've ever had. Thank you for this opportunity. Thank you also to the many men and women of God who gave hours of their precious time, sharing their hearts, minds, and experiences. To grow a church is no easy thing, yet these men and women

have joyfully answered God's call and willingly shared in an effort to help others do the same. You are my heroes. One of my favorite questions has been, "Can you tell us some of the miracles you and your church have experienced?" The response is nearly always the same. At first, there is a moment of quiet, then, "There have been so many miracles; I'm not sure where to start." Indeed, "Look what the Lord has done!"



Linda Schreckenberg – I have been writing for *IBC Perspectives* for over twenty-five wonderful years. Interviewing our precious anointed pastors and others in ministry has been a golden opportunity and one of the most beautiful blessings in my life. Interviews were often filled with an awesome presence of God to the point of tears and prayer, and that presence lingered in my home office for some time afterward. We are greatly

blessed with so many humble and honorable men and women of God. I give much honor to everyone on the *Perspectives* staff and especially to Bro. Tim Massengale for being such a wonderful and kind editor to me. I will miss writing for Perspectives more than words can express.



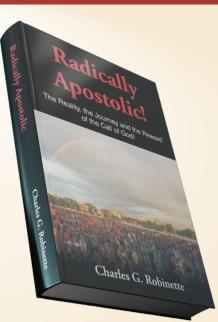
Maranatha Wright – The unique opportunity and honor of writing for *IBC Perspectives* has truly been life-enriching. Interviewing and writing for pastors, church planters, home and rrban missionaries, song writers, and pillars of the faith within the Pentecostal movement has been a joy and priceless experience. Allowing these heroes of the faith to share their stories, as well as their burden and passion for God and

ministry has both encouraged and challenged me. Regardless of age, location or background, each individual has emulated a love for God and work of the Kingdom. Writing for *IBC Perspectives* has broadened my perspective, along with countless others, to the magnitude of The Kingdom in action across the nation. I am forever grateful.

Editor's note: Many thanks to our faithful writers, Susan Thomas and Angela Repetto, who were not able to contribute to this article.

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Smiles & Humor

Word To The Wise:

"Friends are those rare people who ask how we are and then wait to hear the answer." - Unknown

A mother was scolding her little boy. 'How often must I tell you to keep your eyes closed when your father is asking the blessing at the table?"

"Yes, ma'am," the boy replied. "But how do you know that I don't?" $% \mathcal{I}_{\mathrm{s}}$

* * * * * * *

A young man had asked his employer off work, giving the excuse that he wanted to attend his grandfather's funeral.

"My boy," asked the boss later, "do you believe in life after death?" The boy responded, "Yes, sir."

"Then that makes everything fine," the employer said softly. "About an hour after you left for your grandfather's funeral, he came to see you."



Glenn Hills Pentecostal Church staff make history by electing their new Outreach Director via dodgeball.

* * * * * * *

A woman who wanted to sing in the upcoming Easter program asked the director to give her an audition. He played her accompaniment and listened for a few minutes. She sang so badly off key that he finally gave up. He stopped playing and just shook his head sadly.

"What's the matter?" asked the woman. "Don't you like my singing?"

"The trouble, Sister," said the director, "is that whether I play on the white keys or the black ones, you sing all the time in the cracks!"

* * * * * * *

The church was having trouble with its sound system and decided to install a more modern stereo system on an experimental basis. The pastor asked for comments and as an elderly lady departed the sanctuary that Sunday, she confronted him with her usual salty tone: "I don't like it. If I wanted to hear what you have to say, I would have moved closer to the front!"



Pastor Nozley's discovery of direct-download Internet coffee was heaven-sent.

* * * * * * *

"*Did you behave* in church this morning?" asked Junior's mother after Sunday school.

"I sure did," Junior proudly responded. "You should have heard the lady sitting behind me say, 'I never saw a child behave like that before in all my life!"

* * * * * * *

I dreamed that the Lord took my Sunday offering and multiplied it by ten and this became my weekly income. In no time, we ran out of food and had to give up our car. We were wearing rags and couldn't make our house payment. After all, what can a fellow do on \$10 per week?!



"I don't believe it! Someone actually dialed 1-800-TELL-GOD since they didn't like your sermon from Sunday, and the call was transferred to us!"

25



...the church is moving forward and planning for harvest...

We are excited about the awesome things that God has done, is doing, and is going to do for Life Church of Rocky Mount, North Carolina... Currently (according to the plan and the will of God), the church is moving forward and planning for harvest. Thank you to the Church Loan Fund for making the funds available so we can move forward with Jesus for the cause of revival!

Pastor Mark Uzupan Life Church Rocky Mount, North Carolina



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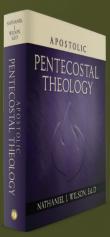
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