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November 7, 1974

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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I SHARE



BECAUSE I CARE ABOUT
ARKANSAS BAPTIST
HOME FOR CHILDREN

November 7, 1974

Arkansas Baptist
NEWSMAGAZINE



I must say it

Charles H. Ashcraft/Executive Secretary

Illicit cohabitation is not beautiful

In the long struggle of the centuries some noble concepts have been wrought. Among these are the values of chastity, the practice of monogomy, the institution of marriage, and respect for the dignity of every person.

The appalling threat of our generation is that the accumulation of all these centuries could be lost forever in our lifetime. Illicit cohabitation displays the greatest contempt for the Judeo-Christian concept of morals. Along with this comes key clubs, wife swapping, non-virgin societies, promiscuity, joint tenancy of students and working single adults, and communes.

The favorite reply of such a modern couple is, "Why should we destroy or spoil such a beautiful relationship by getting married?" These so-called beautiful relationships are often destroyed however by semester changes, the arrival of the new modern cars, or a new hair-do.

Many times the beautiful relationships are spoiled when the beautiful bearded bard leaves his beautiful companion and his beautiful kid for the beautiful public to support while he joins an even more beautiful girl who has a more beautiful apartment or a more beautiful sports car.

The former companion becomes less beautiful and less desirable to the equally despicable man who used her under less than beautiful circumstances. How beautiful this arrangement is should be appraised by the people who attempt to solve the unbeautiful problems of child abuse, desertion, the legal problems of illegitimacy, the budget problems of child care centers, the steady flow of suicide victims to the city morgue, welfare applications, and the outer-darkness of soul created by this unbeautiful life pattern.

The highest penalties are paid by those who tamper with sacred things. The tender personal relationship involving the romance, fidelity, loyalty, mutual respect, offspring and dignity of the man-woman union are intensely sacred.

Within the fabric of the Christian institution is to be found the destiny of the race, the dreams of God and the ultimate hopes of mortal men. These Christian institutions, the home and the church, are the custodians of the gains of the centuries and may prove to be the only hope that Christian morals will not perish in our lifetime.

A religious consideration is the only basis upon which morals can be established and maintained. Anything less than the Judeo-Christian level of demeanor is offensive and unacceptable to a holy God.

The Life and Liberty Crusade of 1976 may not be our last and only chance but it is an ideal one. An acceptable life style for a century hence could be born of our evangelism thrust in the one year of 1976 or lost forever if we fail God this time.

These shaggy free spirits with a harem complex will not be so free when they stand before God at the end of

their lives. "It has been appointed unto man once to die and after that the judgment.....The wages of sin is death."

I must say it!

In this issue

The right assignment 4

The success or failure of your work for the Lord may have a relationship to whether or not you do the right assignment, says ABCS president Don Moore in his monthly column.

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Speakers expressed the belief that church is still the Sunday night place as they spoke to the Church Training Convention Oct. 24.

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Little Rock's Baptist Book Store sought to promote an interest in good books for children by bringing together writers and illustrators with children and adults at a book fair recently.

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The top promotional poster for family and child care emphasis has been chosen and an El Dorado youth is the winner.

Arkansas Baptist

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J. Everett Sneed

The sanctity of marriage

Many young people today are living on the assumption that marriage is outmoded. They maintain that if two people are in love a piece of paper is of no value.

Many Christians are only vaguely aware of this evil epidemic. But the rebellion against marriage is becoming increasingly evident. On one of television's most popular new shows the heroine decided to live with her boyfriend without the benefit of nuptials. After she arrived at her boyfriend's house, she decided that she couldn't go through with it because of her "hangups."

We may be tempted to shrug off television dramas, believing that real people don't embrace such ideas. The polls, unfortunately, tend to show otherwise. In 1969, 60 percent of those questioned said that they believed that sex before marriage was "wrong." In 1973 only 48 percent responded in the same way. Of greater concern were the answers of people under 30. In 1969, 49 percent of the younger group condemned premarital sex, but in 1973 the figure had dropped to 29 percent.

The Bible is clear on the sanctity of marriage. Hebrews tells us that "Marriage is honorable in all." (Heb. 13:4)

The importance of the institution of marriage is further shown by Jesus' presence at the marriage in Cana of Galilee. Here, he honored the couple by performing his first miracle. (Mark 2:1-11.)

Weddings are described as being a time of joy. Paul

likened the union between Christ and the church to marriage. (Eph. 5:21-33.)

Christ stressed that marriage was created by God. "But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife; and they twain shall be one flesh...." (Mark 10:6-8.)

What can be done to correct this tragic abuse of the first institution created by God? Christian parents must recognize that the problem exists. We must not hide our heads in the sand and say "I can't talk about sex to my children. This would embarrass me and besides my children will automatically do what is right."

We must recognize the tremendous pressure on our young people today. Sex is being exploited on TV, in movies, in magazines, etc. By their peer groups young people are pressured to believe "Everybody is doing it." We need frank communication with emphasis on the Word of God.

Secondly, Christian parents and leaders must set the right example. Unless we teach with our lives as well as with our words we can not reinstate a belief in the sanctity of marriage.

Finally, we must pray for wisdom in dealing with this vital issue. We must remember the truthfulness of the statement "As the home goes, so goes the nation." If the home fails, the doom of our country is certain.

Guest editorial

Churches should have adequate insurance

The catastrophic destruction of tornadoes in Kentucky this spring and fires in recent weeks have revealed how unprepared churches are for such losses. Calamities, whether they be natural or humanly induced, are no respecter of persons or places. They happen to the good as well as to the evil, to churches as well as to taverns. Church buildings in the path of a tornado are destroyed the same as other buildings and arsonists often are demented enough to put the torch to a church building as quickly as to other buildings.

For calamities it is better to be overprepared than underprepared so far as insurance on property is concerned. This goes for church facilities as well as other property. It is rare to find a church with enough insurance. The amount of insurance looks adequate until it is really needed. Then it is sadly realized that replacement of the same facilities will cost far more than we thought.

Of the churches destroyed by the April 3 tornadoes, none had enough insurance to replace the buildings. For example, Phillips Memorial in Brandenburg settled with the insurance company for a little over \$200,000 for the church and pastorium both of which were totally

destroyed. No firm figures have been arrived at yet but replacing the church building and the pastorium will likely cost twice the amount of insurance received.

The same is true for two churches in Muhlenberg Association whose buildings were totaled by fire recently. One church had \$50,000 insurance and a \$150,000 loss.

Neglect accounts for most such losses. The responsible persons or group just don't get around to taking care of this vital matter. Ordinarily the church trustees would see to this but, if they don't, the deacons, pastor or some other member ought to call attention to it.

The next business meeting of the church will be late enough to make sure there is adequate insurance for complete replacement of all facilities. And don't forget liability insurance. A church could be ruined financially in a lawsuit resulting from an injury on church property.

Insurance may be regarded as a mundane matter but it is no less important. It is better to have insurance and not need it than not to have it and need it. — **Editor C.R. Daley in the "Western Recorder" of Kentucky**



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant / President, OBU

Reflections on crossing the International Dateline

Recently on flying from San Francisco to Tokyo I had occasion for the second time in my life to cross the International Dateline. In a fleeting split second I lost one full day out of my life as time switched from Tuesday noon to Wednesday noon.

This happened to me once before, some 16 years ago, when Betty Jo and I were traveling with our three little children en route to spending a year in Bangkok, Thailand. On that occasion the time skipped from midnight Friday to midnight Saturday. I tried to explain to our children, Carolyn, Shirley, and Ross, that the day they lost was the day they usually received their weekly allowance of 25 cents and international law prevented my paying them this allowance. They took a very dim view of this interpretation of international law and, with some nudging from their mother, they soon received a more favorable interpretation of the law and received their allowance anyway.

The main difference in this crossing

and the first one is that we recovered the lost day when we returned a few days later, but we never got the one back that we lost 16 years ago because we returned to the United States by continuing westward across Asia, Europe, and the Atlantic Ocean. I have never quite understood what happened to that day. As we crossed the International Dateline this time, I looked around and out the window very carefully in search of anything that looked like a missing day. The area looked absolutely no different from all of the rest of the Pacific Ocean.

Frankly, the idea of losing a day or gaining a day bothers me. It sounds too much like losing or gaining an arm or a leg, and I have become very attached to arms and legs and days. Life is so precious that I get uncomfortable with the thought of one full day dropping out of my life. But again, it may be that God is trying to remind me that all of life and the heavens and the earth are still in His hands.

Paschall heads group on state Baptist papers

LUBBOCK, Tex. (BP)--H. Franklin Paschall of Nashville, Tenn., will serve as chairman of a five-person committee on ministries of state Baptist news publications, according to Southern Baptist Convention President Jaroy Weber.

Weber, pastor of First Church, Lubbock, appointed the committee at the request of messengers to the SBC last June in Dallas, who responded favorably to a motion that such a committee be named to "work with the editors of Southern Baptist Convention state papers in projecting circulation and underscoring the role and function of state papers in the life of the convention..."

Thirty-three state Baptist news publications, with a combined circulation of over 1.75 million, serve Southern Baptists in 33 state conventions which cover 50 states.

The committee, which will report to the 1975 convention in Miami Beach, is made up of Paschall, pastor of First Church, Nashville, and former SBC president; Andrew W. Tampling, pastor of First Church, Birmingham; Glen E. Braswell, executive secretary of the Colorado Baptist General Convention; Richard A. Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix (Ariz.) Church; and Julian Pentecost, editor of the *Religious Herald*, Richmond, Va. Pentecost made the motion approved by the SBC in Dallas.

Weber, as convention president, will serve as an ex officio member of the committee.



The president speaks

Don Moore / President, ABSC

Today's assignment is...

It is generally agreed that the Great Commission as given to the 12 is as binding upon us today as it was upon them then. The Christian community is not agreed as to what the teacher really meant by the assignment. If school children were as confused on "today's assignment" as Christians are on theirs, they would turn in math papers to English teachers and science papers to music teachers. It is not enough just to do something. We must do the assignment as given. I can't believe the master teacher would confuse his pupils on the assignment. I can believe that the pupils would like to interpret the assignment in such a way as to make it convenient and easy on them. The result would naturally be that much good work would be turned down because it was not what had been assigned.

I can't imagine God filling people with his Spirit to give them power to carry out jobs he has not assigned. Nor can I

feature him getting excited about answering prayers whose ultimate effect would completely miss the big assignment. Could it be that the teacher seems reluctant to help us on our project because it is not what he assigned.

The master teacher is willing to guide, empower, answer prayer, refine and patiently coach his pupils when they are working on the assignment He has given. Restlessness, fruitlessness and defeat characterize too many of God's people. If I accept God's priorities as my own then God is bound to become very excitedly and effectively involved in my life. That does not allow for restlessness, fruitlessness or defeat.

The assignment calls for men who are "dead in trespasses and sins" to be made alive. It calls for men of "reprobate (no spiritual judgment) mind" to be reprogrammed. It calls for us to "loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens of sin, and to let the

Did you know...

that 51 percent of your Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program dollars went last year to foreign missions?

oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke." It calls for those blinded by the god of this world to be given sight.

Yes, it takes a miracle. It takes resurrection power. But the one who gave the assignment has provided the power. It also takes a man through whom that power can work. It takes a personal soul winner. Jesus said if a man followed Him, He would make him to become a "fisher of men." Obviously, most "Christians" are not following him because so few become fishers of men.

Soul winning commitment day might be a greater part of the assignment than we have thought. The Life and Liberty Campaign in 1976 falls unquestionably in the assignment.

Let's all check our work again and see if we are not about to try to turn in work that has it even been assigned.

The Holy Spirit at conversion

by Ralph W. Davis
(19th in a series)



Davis

Every Christian has received the Holy Spirit. "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." (Romans 8:9) "In the divine presence of the Triune God we find that we must never yield to the false, modern idea that the Holy Spirit is one-third of God, so that some Christians have God and Christ, while others have three-thirds: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Every true Christian has the whole God, the one true God" (Norborg, *What Is Christianity?* p. 76.) The power of the Holy Spirit is Jesus Christ!

In the New Testament, especially in the Epistles of Paul, it is clear that every believer, when he believes, receives the Spirit. Thereby he is made a Christian.

This constituted him a child of God. It is erroneous to think of receiving Christ without receiving his Spirit. B.H. Carroll spoke of the Holy Spirit as the "Other Jesus." "Paul could write of the risen Christ and the Holy Spirit in such a way as to make the terms almost interchangeable...To know the Father requires that one know the Son. It is through the Son that the Spirit comes...We cannot be saved simply by an event two thousand years ago...To save us, it is necessary for Christ to accomplish a radical change in us." (Stagg, *New Testament Theology*, pp. 39-41.) This radical change is made possible by the Holy Spirit.

You don't receive Christ in one act of faith and the Holy Spirit in another act of faith. That does not mean that a man cannot receive the Holy Spirit more. There can be fillings of the Spirit. But the way to get more of the Spirit is to get more of Jesus Christ. W.T. Conner once

stated in his class that there is no function of the Holy Spirit in our lives except to help Christians to a fuller knowledge of Christ. He also stated that the Holy Spirit will come to a man more when that man takes Christ more as Lord and Saviour. The only God we will ever know is God through Jesus Christ, and the only Christ we will ever know is in and through the power and person of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit comes as the spiritual presence of Christ. You don't get God in "installments," one-third at a time!

The possession of the Holy Spirit is the essential mark of a Christian as seen in Romans 8:9. In speaking of the Spirit, John 14:17 says, "He dwelleth with you." The same statement is made in 1 Corinthians 3:16. Who are the sons of God? Romans 8:14 gives the answer: "They that are led by the Spirit of God." in Galatians 3:2 when Paul asks, "Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law or by the hearing of faith?" he is talking about how they were saved. This shows that there is no receiving the Spirit apart from receiving Christ.

But if this be true, how do we explain such passages as Acts 19:1-7?

Next Week: A look at some scripture.

Letters to the editor

All that sex on TV

I've stood by and watched or turned off some of the most offensive programs on TV the past two years I have ever seen. I can stand by no longer, especially when they use the Bible to promote and advocate sex outside of marriage. I am referring to the Lucas Tanner show last night. Next week, from what I understand, he's going to be against a couple living together outside of marriage. I ask "What's the difference?" The point I want to make is that God sees no difference. God's approval was not on the acts of David and Bathsheba. David paid the consequences. Also, David repented of his acts, but this program stated it was proud of its part in sex.

I believe sex should be looked upon open mindedly. By that I mean from God's view. Since this program saw fit to take this one little part from the Bible, let's take some more. "And when the wife of Uriah heard that Uriah her husband was dead, she mourned for her husband. And when the mourning was past, David sent and fetched her to his house, and she became his wife, and bare him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord. (II Sam. 11:26-27.) If anyone wishes to read how displeased God was with David, read chapter 12 of II Samuel. You will also read of David's confession of sin and God's forgiveness, but he still paid the price of sin.

I want to use a couple of other verses regarding marriage and sex. Heb. 13:4 says "Marriage is honourable in all and the bed undefiled; but whoremongers

and adulterers God will judge." Also, Exodus 22:16 says "And if a man entice a maid that is not betrothed, and lie with her, he shall surely endow her to be his wife. Some other verses regarding marriage (God's plan) are: Gen. 1:27; Gen. 2:22; Mal. 2:15-16; Matt. 19:6 and Cor. 7:3.

Therefore I believe the Lord advocates marriage and sex only in marriage.

I've wanted to make a stand and speak up for what I believe for some time now. I think the networks need to know how we feel. I'm not speaking as a religious fanatic, but rather as a concerned Christian. I do not mind the word sex being used, if they will tell the whole truth. Youth needs to know the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help me God.

If you think this letter states the truth, please forward to responsible people in the networks. I do not know the proper people to contact. I thought you might. — Barbara Higgins, Lamar.

Good SS lesson

I am writing to tell you what an outstanding lesson Brother (Paul) Wilhelm presented in your Sept. 29 issue.

I have been a teacher in First Church in Ozark and now am enjoying being a member of a mixed class of young adults (ages 20-35 married.)

Brother Wilhelm's lesson not only helped me to understand the lesson

better, but was easy everyday reading an average person could understand. He also had many thought-provoking ideas. My lesson is well prepared. Could we have more of him? It is one of the best lessons I've read in a long time.—Mrs. John Greer, Ozark.

Liked McAnear article

The article in your Oct. 10 issue by Louie E. Throgmorton concerning Frank McAnear of Clarksville was of special interest to me. Mr. McAnear was superintendent of schools in Russellville while I was a student over 50 years ago. He also served as basketball coach and was a friend to all in the school.

He later served the schools in Warren and Morrilton as well as at other places.

I appreciate your giving space in your paper for the article about this great and good man.

To my friends who may remember me in Ouachita College and as pastor of Beech Street, Texarkana, I am glad to report that retirement is wonderful and plan to continue living here where I have been for twenty-seven years. However, Arkansas will always be home and I follow the Baptist work through your excellent paper.—Bruce H. Price, 6400 Huntington Ave., Newport News, Va. 23607

Arkansans are optimistic about making 'Church: the Sunday night place'

"It's Still Happening at Church: the Sunday Night Place" was the subject of John Holston's message to the Church Training Convention held at Immanuel Church, Little Rock, Oct. 24. Holston, pastor of First Church, Nashville, (Ark.) pointed up the many benefits which his church has enjoyed through its enlarged Sunday night training program. Among the benefits he attributed to this emphasis were more trained leaders, a warm fellowship in the church, an enlarged attendance at Sunday evening worship services, and church members who are better trained and equipped for the witness and ministry of the church. He emphasized the fact that they followed closely the plan suggested in the Church

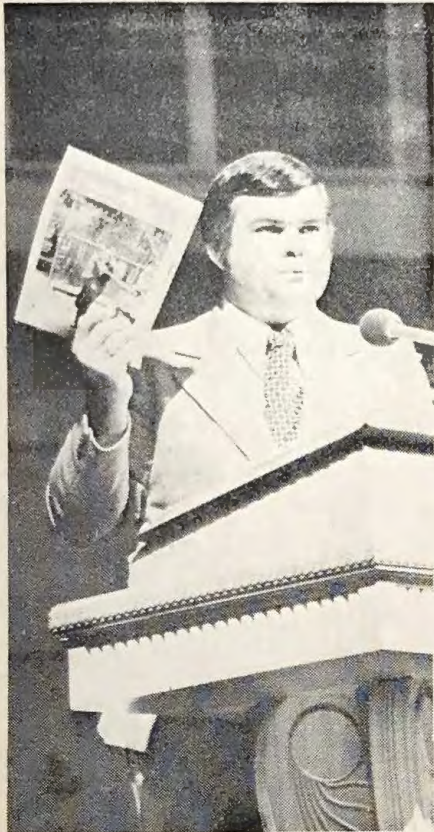
Guide and that Southern Baptist curriculum materials are used as the basis of their training program in every age group. He also pointed up the importance of the pastor's personal commitment to and involvement in this emphasis.

Junior Vester, pastor of Calvary Church, Paragould, shared a testimony in the afternoon session related to the church: the Sunday Night Place emphasis in his church. He pointed out the emphasis that is placed on training in his church, particularly on new member training. This church has experienced a 50 percent increase in Church Training attendance in recent months. He attributes this increase to the emphasis that is placed on Church Training

throughout their total church program.

At a noon luncheon for associational leaders, Carroll Gibson, superintendent of missions in Greene County Association, spoke in optimistic and positive terms about the enlarged Church Training Program in many of the churches in this area. Greene County Association has reported an increase in total Church Training enrollment and average attendance for 1973-74 according to Gibson.

A highlight of the Church Training Convention was the Church Training Fair in which a wide variety of training resources was exhibited. A church recreation exhibit and Ridgcrest Conference Center exhibit were also available.



Nilon Elliott, consultant for the Church Recreation Department recommended the Church Recreation magazine to participants in a conference at the convention.



Convention attenders found a wide range of displays at the Church Training Fair.



Junior Vester, pastor at Calvary, Paragould, was a resource person.



Superintendent of Missions Carroll Gibson gave a testimony.



Little Rock Baptist Book Store personnel related their display to the event at hand by featuring a book by Bob Holley, who heads the state Church Training Department. Sales Supervisor Wayne Richardson shows a copy of "Diagnosing Leader Training Needs."

Right: John Holston, pastor at First, Nashville, gave a testimony.



One conference combined superintendents of missions and Church Training directors.



Pastor's conference organized at Southern

A Southern Baptist College Pastors' Conference, meeting on the campus at Walnut Ridge, was launched Oct. 15 with approximately 75 present from Northeast Arkansas and Southeast Missouri. These elected Carroll Fowler of Horseshoe Bend, chairman; Earl R. Humble of the college faculty, secretary; and a program committee consisting of Gene Dixon, Fisher; Leddell Bailey, Paragould; and Donald Settles, Biggers.

The Oct. 15 meeting featured C.D. Butler, of Senath, Mo., and C.A. Johnson, Paragould, as speakers, with an emphasis on expository preaching.

The next meeting of the Pastors' Conference will be Nov. 12 on the campus. The theme will be the Book of Acts. Earl Humble will stress the major themes of Acts, and John Finn will bring a message on the missionary thrust of Acts. Rex Holt will preach on Paul, the man and his message.

The meeting will be held from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the College Chapel.

News briefs

□ El Paso Church ordained three deacons on Sept. 29. They were Bedford Burns, Darrell Short, and David Wick. C.S. Maynard, interim pastor, preached the ordination sermon. The church recently paid off debts on their property and purchased a bus.

□ First Church, Beebe, has established a coffeehouse ministry. The Sounds of Joy, a semi-professional group from Hot Springs, will be featured there Saturday, Nov. 9, from 8-11 p.m.

□ Delta Association was host for an area-wide prayer retreat for women Oct. 19 at Wolf Creek Camp near Collins. Women from all denominations were invited. Women of Dermott Church were hostesses.

Staff changes



Davis



McGraw

Nall's Memorial church, Little Rock, has two new staff members. **Mark Davis** is serving as music director and **Bill McGraw** is youth director. Davis is a student at Central Baptist College, Conway. McGraw, who came to the church from Florida, is a student at Mid-America Seminary. McGraw and his wife, Donna, are the parents of two sons.

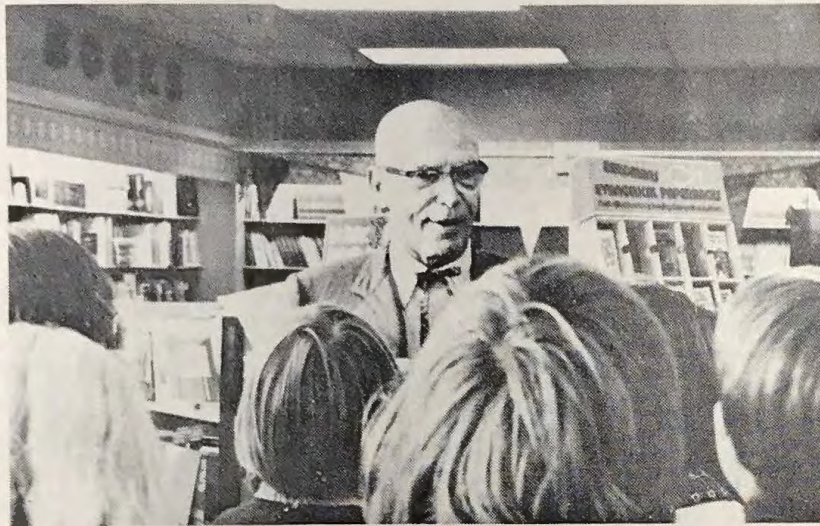


Edna Barth

2300 children learn about books at first fair

Little Rock's Baptist Book Store brought together Oct. 10 and 11 children, children's books, authors and illustrators for the books, and adults interested in good reading for children. They called it the first annual Children's Book Fair. More than 2300 children attended in the two days.

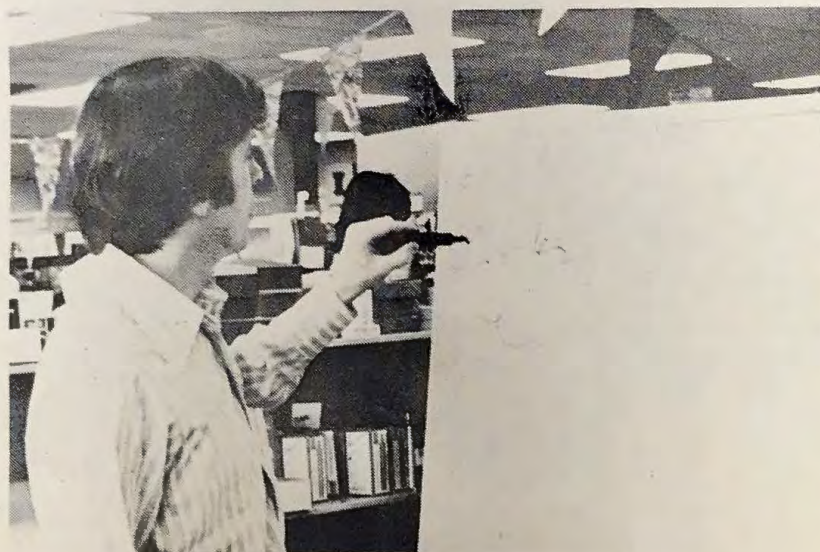
One of the authors was Edna Barth (top, left) who has produced several books on the origins of holidays.



William Armstrong (middle, left) is the author of *Sounder* and 15 other books.

Illustration, an essential part of book production, was demonstrated by Stan Mack, a free-lance illustrator. (below, left)

Responsible for planning the book fair (below) were Robert Bauman, manager of the Little Rock store; Mrs. Nellene Ganick, sales promotion specialist with the Book Store Division of the Sunday School Board; and Jennifer Bryon.



'76 Life and Liberty Campaign

by R. Wilbur Herring



Dr. Herring

If your church decided to inaugurate a prayer program, where would be the best place to start? It would seem that the best place to start a prayer program would be with the mid-week prayer service. Dr. John A. Broadus is credited

with having said, "If you want to know the true function of a thing, go back to its origin." The mid-week prayer service was designed primarily for the church to come together and pray.

What kind of mid-week prayer service do you have now? Is it really a prayer service or have you just about squeezed the prayer out of the mid-week prayer service? We all know from actual experience that there are so many things that must be scheduled on Wednesday nights. There is the fellowship supper, the missionary agencies, the graded choir program, the church choir rehearsal, Bible study, business meetings, committee meetings, visitation, and the teachers and officers meeting. This is what we call a comprehensive program. We schedule everything and get nothing done.

So many church leaders are wringing their hands wondering where the power has gone. The answer is on your lips already. It was when your church stopped praying and stopped depending upon God. Too many of us have substituted activities for prayer. Some leaders are actually afraid to give the prime hour on Wednesday night to praises, testimonies and prayer. They are afraid that the great activities and numbers will drop off.

We need to return to the "sweet hour of prayer" and discover again what John Huss named "the hour of power." It is prayer that brings all of the potentials of God into the life of the church. It is prayer that brings the power of God into our witnessing and our serving.

Remember the Laodicean church? She was "rich, and increased with goods and have need of nothing," and when an individual, a church or denomination gets in that state it is thought there is no need for prayer. That is the very time



Church members add a tin roof to the walls of the church they have built from lumber cut nearby and hewn with a crosscut saw. It replaces a mud building with a grass roof.

Kenya church built by members

When members of the Ntuntuni Baptist Church in Central Kenya built a mud and grass building for worship they expected to get eight to 10 years use out of it before the rains and termites got to it. The building had survived nine years when it was washed away in long, heavy rains. When this happened, they decided to relocate.

Some members gave two acres of land where the center of the community will be as it develops. The members wanted to erect a more permanent structure, but they had no cash, only time and raw materials.

Southern Baptists invested about \$450 in a building large enough to seat about 125-150 people. All the lumber used was cut from trees near the forest with cross cut saws. Most of the labor was donated by the men. The women helped by carrying loads of lumber, stones, and other needed items on their backs with support straps on their heads. Some of the women and children carried small stones from the stream at the foot of the hill to put on the floor for a stone rather than a dirt floor. I took the tin for the

roof up on the four wheel drive land cruiser. This saved us several dollars because the remoteness of the area causes prices to be much higher.

The money was from Southern Baptist gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Without this offering we would not be able to help churches like Ntuntuni. Without the Cooperative Program the total amount given by a church for this special offering for foreign missions could not go to undergird missions overseas. By that it is meant that the Cooperative Program pays the salaries of the bookkeeping staff, the mail, banking costs, etc. that is involved in collecting and sending of the special gifts. Overseas we do not know the difference between Cooperative Program gifts and Lottie Moon gifts nor do we care which way it comes. We are concerned about needs of congregations like Ntuntuni. We are faced with unlimited opportunities, limited funds, and an inflation that knows no bounds. — Sam Turner, representing the Stewardship-Cooperative Program Department

when a return to prayer is needed the most, for the Lord Jesus says, "...knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and

naked." (Rev. 3:17)

Dr. Herring, pastor of Central Church, Jonesboro, is General Chairman of the '76 Life and Liberty Campaign.



Woman's viewpoint

Iris O'Neal Bowen

Another new ailment

Eldest Daughter took the two little girls to the doctor the other day. They had sore throats and fever they had not been able to throw off for several days.

Good Doctor gave them the works, then solemnly made his diagnosis. When Martha got home, she called to tell me they had contracted yet another strange new disease.

"Get ready, Mother," she said, "The Doctor said they had "Herp-Angela!"

"You think he named it after Angela?" I ventured.

"I don't think so. "Remember when they had "Fifth's Disease?"

"I do remember," I sighed. The truth finally dawning, I figured it out. "Now, do you remember? For a long time, whenever you went to the doctor, you always came home with the explanation that the children had "another one of the viruses." Do you know what I think? I think the mothers got tired of all those "just another virus" bits and began demanding names for their children's ailments.

"Then the doctor, being hard-pressed

for a name, just grabbed the first idea that floated by and made up his own name.

"I'd be willing to bet that when you went down with Michele and demanded a name for her ailment, the doctor counted on his mental fingers, realized she was the fifth child he had seen that day with these particular symptoms, and triumphantly announced the newest virus: Fifth's Disease!

"Now, today Angela was probably the first child he had seen with her particular symptoms of one of the Herpes family, hence 'Herp-Angela.'"

"At least we won't have any trouble spelling it," she replied, "which is more than you can say for what you're walking around with!"

"Yes," I sighed, "at the rate of, say, twenty dollars a letter, it was an expensive diagnosis. With inflation taking its toll, I think I'll just settle for the 'flu, next time.'"

"The 'Iris 'Flu Virus?'" she suggested. I hung up.

L R Book Store names staff member



Richardson

Wayne Richardson has been named sales supervisor for the Little Rock Baptist Book Store. He came to the position Sept. 1 from the Jacksonville, Fla., Baptist Book Store.

Richardson is a native of Jacksonville, and a 1974 graduate of Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss. He has served as pastor of Montrose Church, Tallulah, La., and as interim pastor of Paul Avenue Church, Jacksonville, Fla. While in college Richardson worked with the Jackson, Miss., Baptist Book Store and with the Lifeway Book Store, operated by the Baptist Book Store Division of the SBC Sunday School Board.

Richardson has worked with R.A. camps in Florida and in Mississippi.

He was licensed and ordained to the ministry by Woodstock Park Church, Jacksonville.

New hymnal uses tunes by Arkansan

The new *Baptist Hymnal*, to be released in March, 1975, will contain hymn tunes by a native of Arkansas, Buryl Red. Red has written the tunes "Raymer" for the text "For the Beauty of the Earth", "Stevens" for the text "Give to the Winds Your Fears", "Leach" for the text "Let Your Song Go Round the Earth", and "Woodland" for the text "His Gentle Look."

Midwestern Seminary alumni to meet

Alumni of Midwestern Seminary will meet for breakfast at 7 a.m. Nov. 20 at Howard Johnson's Restaurant, 4115 South University in Little Rock. Guest speaker will be Dale Cowling, pastor of Second Church, Little Rock. Roy Huncutt will represent the seminary at the annual meeting.

Further information can be obtained from Bill Cavelle, P.O. Box 554, Blytheville 72315, or (501) 762-2432.

Mission



Spotlight

West Africa

H. Cornell Goerner, Area Secretary

Countries: 9
Population: 92,141,000
Predominant Religion: Animism, Islam, Catholicism

Southern Baptist missionaries: 263
Baptist Churches: 786
Membership: 142,188

Lottie Moon Offering - designated for this area: * \$1,061,286.00
Average per church in SBC: 30.61
Average per Southern Baptist: .09

Prayer Requests:

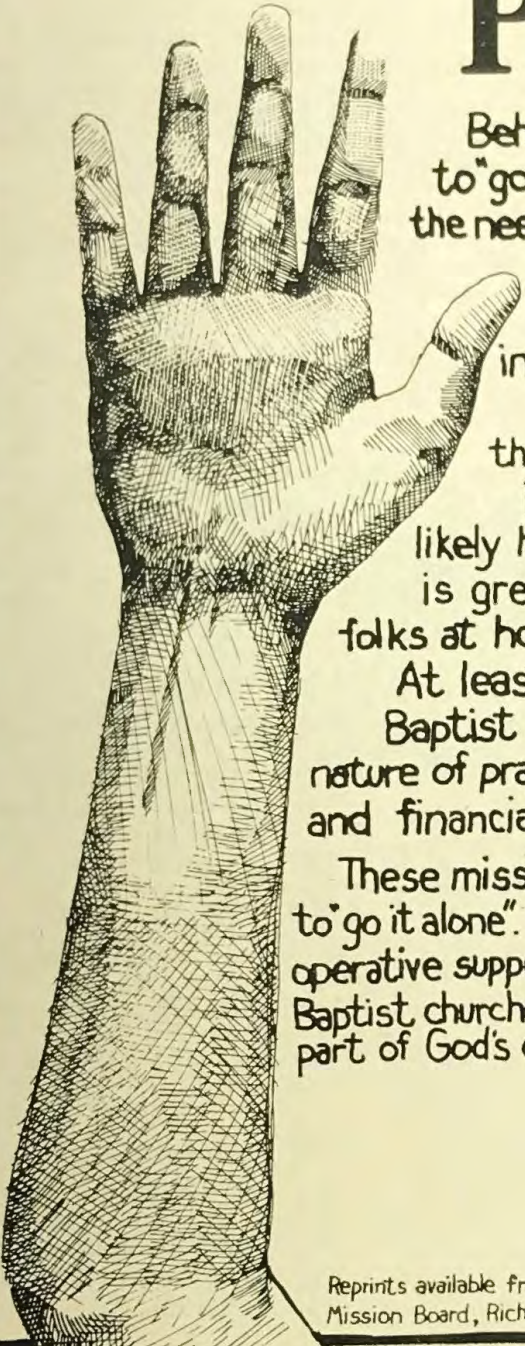
1. Pray that God will call forth new missionaries to French West Africa.
2. Pray that new doors will open in our older work.
3. Pray for the young churches in the newer work.

This is one of seven articles preparatory to the Lottie Moon Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions. Weekly, the Mission Spotlight will focus on one of the seven areas where your foreign missionaries serve. Statistics are as of Jan. 1, 1974. *These figures are based upon approximately 63 percent of the total Lottie Moon goal. More will be designated at a later date.

Did you know...

that your Cooperative Program supported 95 foreign missionaries working in 30 publication centers last year?

A Missionary Parable

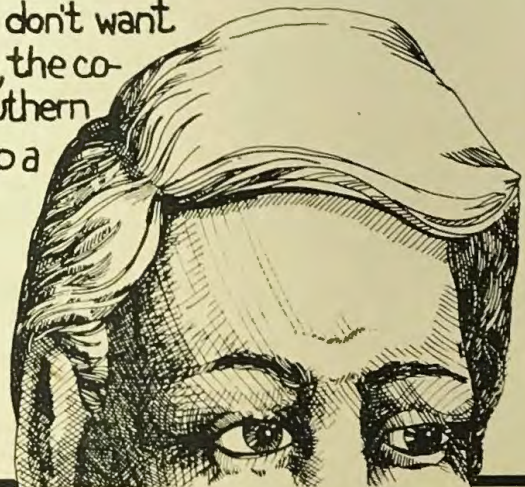


Behold, a certain foreign missionary decided to "go it alone". Just the missionary, God, and the needy people of the world. No prayer or financial support from fellow Christians back home. After all, God's call is an individual matter, he assured himself.

We don't know what happened to the missionary. Maybe he is accomplishing great works for the Kingdom. More likely he discovered that missionary effort is greatly enhanced by support from the folks at home.

At least this is the experience of Southern Baptist missionaries. They realize the crucial nature of prayer support, personnel reinforcement and financial giving by friends stateside.

These missionaries don't want to "go it alone". For them, the cooperative support of Southern Baptist churches is also a part of God's call.



Reprints available from Foreign
Mission Board, Richmond Virginia

To support offering

El Dorado youth draws best poster

Lance Ogle, age 13, is an all-American Christian boy. Lance, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Ogle, is a member of Immanuel Church, El Dorado, and is the winner of the 1974 Draw-A-Poster Contest sponsored by the Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services.

At the age of seven Lance became a Christian, and is now an active member of his church. He is involved in Sunday School, Church Training, is a member of the choir and attends Vacation Bible School during the summer. Through Vacation Bible School, he was presented with the opportunity to "help other children" and entered the contest to design the 1974 Thanksgiving Offering poster.

A boy with a winning smile and varied interests, Lance holds a blue-belt in judo. He has won three state titles in his weight division: Arkansas State, Arkansas Junior Olympics, and Boys Club. He also placed first in the Southern Open. Going on to national competition, he placed sixth in the nation in his weight division.

As a seventh grader in Barton Junior High, Lance plays quarterback on the junior high football team. He is also a Boy Scout. Lance has a sister, Tracye, who is 10 years old, and a two-year old brother, Trent. As a family, they enjoy camping together.

Lance is an impressive boy with an optimistic trusting view of life. He is concerned about others. Why does he support the Thanksgiving Offering? "I share because I care about Arkansas Baptist Home for Children". This is a challenge to us all. It is my prayer that Arkansas Baptists will share this beautiful thought and that the churches will be 100 percent in our Thanksgiving Offering this year.

We are proud of the four young people who were runners up in the contest. Let me share with you their names and their reasons for supporting the Thanksgiving Offering:

Georgette Lawrence, Amorel - "Count Your Blessings, Then Give Accordingly".

Debra Gillespie, First, Jonesboro - "People Are God's Business, and Yours, Too".

Sonia Stanhill, Lowell - "God is Wonderful: So Are Children".

Kathy Gilbert, "To the Children's Thanksgiving Offering, Give a Helping Hand"--Johnny C. Biggs, Executive Director, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services.



On the cover

Lance Ogle displays his winning poster in the sanctuary of his church, Immanuel, El Dorado.

STATION GUIDE

FOR PROGRAMS
BY YOUR
RADIO-TV COMMISSION

"I woke at 3:30 this morning thinking of a great loss I have had and other problems and wondered 'Why me?'. Then I heard 'Country Crossroads' and the Christian testimonies on it, and the chip on my shoulder disappeared. I realized that I am not alone. I have God. I'll be listening next Sunday morning and it will be a standing date."

<p>COUNTRY CROSSROADS</p> <p>CAMDEN KAMD 0910 K SA 1030PM CORNING KCCE 1260 K SU 0700AM DEQUEEN KDQN 1390 K SU 0200PM HEBEE SPRINGS KBWS 1370 K SA 1000AM HOT SPRINGS KBHS 0590 K SU 0430PM LITTLE ROCK KILF 1150 K SU 1000AM MARKED TREE KPFA 1580 K SU 0330PM OSCEOLA KOSE 0860 K WO 230PM PARAGOULD KDRS 1490 K SU 0600PM SILOAM SPGS KUOA 1290 K SA 0100PM ALSO SA 0535PM</p>	<p>THE BAPTIST HOUR</p> <p>BERRYVILLE KTHS 1460 K SU 0815AM CONWAY KCON 1230 K SU 0200PM CORNING KCCE 1260 K SU 0100PM DEQUEEN KDQN 1390 K SU 0630AM FAYETTEVILLE KFAY 1250 K SU 0830AM FORDYCE FBJT 1570 K SU 0430PM HELENA KCR1 107.5 K SU 0300AM HOPE KXAF 1490 K SU 0100PM MENA KENA 1450 K SU 0630AM MONTICELLO KHBM 1430 K SU 0325PM PARAGOULD KDRS 1490 K SU 0830PM SILOAM SPGS KUOA 1290 K SU 0700AM WARREN KWRF 0860 K SU 0800AM WYNNE KWYB 1400 K SU 0730AM</p>	<p>MASTERCONTROL</p> <p>BERRYVILLE KTHS 1480 K SU 1230PM CORNING KCCE 1260 K SU 1000AM DEQUEEN KDQN 1390 K SU 0100PM DUMAS KDDA 1560 K SU 0130PM FAYETTEVILLE KHCC 1440 K SU 0930AM FORDYCE KBJT 1570 K SU 1000AM FORREST CITY KJJK 0950 K SU 0100AM FORT SMITH KWHN 1320 K SU 0800PM ALSO SA 0800AM HELENA KCR1 107.5M SA 1200N HOPE KXAF 1490 K SA 1115AM MORRILTON KWOM 0800 K SU 0400PM NASHVILLE KEBC 1260 K SU 0315PM NEWPORT KNBY 1280 K TH 1200N PARAGOULD KDRS 1490 K SU 1000AM PARAGOULD KILG 104.9M SU 0830AM PRESCOTT KTRPA 1370 K SU 0215PM SILOAM SPGS KUOA 1290 K SA 1000AM WYNNE KWYN 1400 K SU 0600PM</p>
<p>HUMAN DIMENSION</p> <p>BETHEL KYUK CH 04 WE 0700PM</p>	<p>POWERLINE</p> <p>CORNING KCCE 1260 K WE 0530PM KWKJ KISE 093.7M SU 0600AM ALSO SU 0800PM FORT SMITH KWHN 1320 K SU 0830PM LITTLE ROCK KKYK 103.7M SU 0700AM MCGHEE KWSA 1220 K SA 0300PM NEWPORT KNE 1280 K SA 0300PM PARAGOULD KHIG 104.9M SU 0500AM RUSSELLVILLE KARV 1490 K TU 0830PM SILOAM SPGS KJBU 1030 SPRINGDALE KERS 1340 K SU 0905PM</p>	

Southern Baptist Radio-TV Commission/6350 W. Freeway/Ft. Worth, Tx. 76116
Paul M. Stevens, President

Did you know...

that the Cooperative Program supports 30 missionaries in Malawi?

Nov. 10, 1974

God's concern for a nation

Jeremiah 1:9-10; 38:2-6, 17-18



Robertson

God is always deeply concerned for his people. This has become quite obvious in our studies in recent weeks in that God has been concerned about leaders, worship, everyday life and its activities, oppression of the poor, and finally for

the nation as a whole. The writing of Jeremiah the prophet will describe this concern as expressed in the life of rebellious, doomed Judah, occupying a land that God has given them.

God's concern examined

A stark tragedy unfolds as the writing of Jeremiah is read. God has been gracious to his people and provided them with a nation all their own, but in their lack of appreciation they have rebelled against him and become sad excuses for servants of God. Israel, the northern kingdom, had long since fallen prey to God's judgment through the armies of Assyria, now Judah was also walking without apparent concern toward similar judgment at the hands of Babylon. Socially the land was deeply corrupt for the rich were extremely powerful and highly unscrupulous, they had no concern for the pressing needs of the poor, they were only concerned with what they could gain for themselves. Their religious life was so far from what God intended it surely broke his heart. Their worship was a devastating mixture of the Canaanite nature religion, Baalism, Babylon's cults, and form that was empty and meaningless.

As God viewed this sad scene he knew something must be done to stop such a travesty of what he intended these people to do and be for his glory. God's desire had always been to produce love and loyalty toward him in the lives of his people, but it was not there to any extent.

God's concern personified

To help meet the desperate need in Judah God called a tremendous individual to be his prophet or spokesman or preacher. He was to bring God's message for half a century and endeavor to turn men back to God, but most of them rushed on to destruction, punishment and exile. God's call to the young man is reviewed in the opening verses of Chapter 1; a call that turned a person who was convinced he could not be equal to the task into one of the most

courageous prophets who ever lived.

God informed him he was a "figure of destiny" who was set apart by God even before his conception in his mother's womb. His ministry was to be both destructive (rot out, pull down, destroy, and throw down all activities and ways of life God had not designed), and constructive (build and plant God's Word and purpose in the hearts of those listening that God might use them.) God was not finished with his people, his purpose was still vital, but he would be using a remnant of these chosen people. What an astounding task, but what a marvelous job of fulfilling God's will on the part of this prophet.

Jeremiah was to face indifference, hostility, rebellion, and persecution as will the spokesmen for God in any day, but his call and the assurance of God's presence will sustain him. The men of God today have the same God to lean upon, and he will surely pour strength into us as he did the ancient prophet.

God's concern brings consequences

Eventually the people had gone so far there seemed to be no turning back to God for them. So God used the mighty force of Babylon to march across Judah and trample her into submission. During the siege of Jerusalem the suffering was enormous and Jeremiah's counsel was straight, honest, and to some inflammatory. The prophet who understood from God what was happening advised surrender to avoid any further bloodshed, but many of the leaders branded him a traitor and caused him to suffer for his message.

In spite of the suffering Jeremiah continued to tell them defeat was certain, for he knew that God was moving in judgment against his people's sin. Sure enough the forces of Babylon broke the defenses of Jerusalem, destroyed the city, and even burned a part of it. Jerusalem lay in ruins and her people were marched away to pagan Babylon in exile. The man of God had spoken the truth as hurtful as it may have been. The people of Judah for the most part refused to listen because his message was unpleasant and one they didn't want to hear. We should learn carefully from this to be very slow to disregard the message of God's men today simply because they are not pleasant and not what we want to hear.

Some would say God wasn't really concerned about his people or he wouldn't have allowed such destruction and suffering. In fact, the opposite is true, God was so deeply concerned he

could not continue to watch their rebellion without bringing consequences for their evil. God's judgment or punishment toward his people is always in love as he seeks to shake them into awareness of their sin and cause them to repent and serve him as before. God's concern for his people never dies, but our righteous God must punish his people when they continue to sin without any apparent concern and attempt to bring them back to him.

Conclusion

The parallels between Judah and America are glaringly obvious. America is standing in a river of sin and rebellion (as was Judah) whose waters are growing deeper every day, and its undercurrent and its tide are likely to sweep us away (as Judah) unless we realize where we stand, cease to rebel, repent, and begin to follow God. What happened to Judah can happen to us for we do not serve an uncaring God, but a God who wants us to follow him and him alone.

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Did you know....

that as a result of your Cooperative Program supported foreign missions in Malawi, there are over 10,881 Baptists in that country?



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A ministry of reconciliation

Nov. 10, 1974

2 Corinthians 5:16 to 6:10



Shipman

Ours is the task of reconciling men to God through Jesus. In order to do this we must be prepared for the ministry, understand the work of the ministry, and be personally involved in the ministry reconciliation.

"The gospel has its social implications, Jesus came to save the whole man; his soul, so he died for his sins; his mind, so he taught him the demands of Christian discipleship; his body, so he healed men." Thus we must be about this same kind of ministry, a ministry of reconciling, developing, and enlisting the whole man in the service for Christ.

Preparation for ministry

[2 cor. 5:16-17]

There are two basic ideas of preparation for ministry suggested in this passage of scripture. (1) That men must be born again in order to minister. (2) That man's outlook on life and others be changed.

It is essential that men's hearts be reconciled to God before they can become reconcilers. Man and God are separated because of sin. God initiated the ministry of reconciliation through Christ. On the other hand men must accept this act of reconciliation on God's part as being their substitute for sin. At this acceptance men become "new creatures." (v. 17)

Getting a new heart is step one in the preparation for ministry. The second step is that our preception be changed (v. 16) The view of men before an experience with God is one of worldly prejudice, however, after one is reconciled to God he begins to see men through the compassionate eyes of Jesus. Thus his preception is changed, he begins to see men as men in need not as trees. (Mark 8:224) It is essential in the ministry of reconciliation that Christians recognize the needs of others.

When a man's heart and his preception is right he will be making strides in the ministry of reconciliation.

The work of ministry

[2 Cor. 5:18 to 6:10]

When men are prepared for the ministry of reconciliation, they should then desire to understand the work of the ministry. This passage unfolds two basic ideas concerning the work of a ministry of reconciliation then closes with an example which is to be followed.

The first idea concerning the work of the ministry, is the role which God plays in this work. First of all, all things are from God, as he is the reconciler. It was he who through Jesus made possible this ministry. Not only has he made possible this reconciliation through Jesus, but sustains it through the Holy Spirit.

This idea is basic, however, the second is concerning man's responsibility as a minister. "So we are Christ's ambassadors" (v.20) The word "ambassadors" is the translation of the Greek verb "presbeuomen" which literally translates "we are ambassadors." This

then indicates present action on the part of those who consider themselves as ambassadors in behalf of Christ. That present action to which we should be glued is the ministry of reconciliation.

To receive the son of God as our saviour is to be reconciled therefore, we should be reconciling others to God. It is the task of Christians to see the needs of men and assist in the fulfilment of those needs. Man's greatest need is the need to be reconciled to God.

The example which Paul leaves is his own life (6:3-10) His is a life which points others to Christ and is a hindrance to no one. The life he lived helped rather than hindered the work of the Holy Spirit in bringing men to Christ. Are our lives a help or hindrance to the ministry of reconciliation?

Secondly there was no fault to be found in his ministry. He was faithful to his calling before God and other men knew it because his life was consistent. Are our lives consistent?

Third his soul dependence was upon God and his soul allegiance was to Christ. As Christians the strength for our task of ministry rests upon the degree of our dependence upon God. Are we depending upon God for strength in the task of ministry?

Paul was also a good steward of what God gave him. He was content to use what God had given him as the means of his ministry. Often Christians suggest by their lives that, "if they could be like so and so, they would be good ministers." Chances are that if they had it they would not use it. Paul suggests that we should use that which God has given us, in our ministry of reconciliation. Are we good stewards of the gifts God has given?

Personal involvement in ministry

Are we personally involved in the ministry of reconciliation? Paul's life is a good example. Examples are to be followed. If we follow his example we will be personally involved in the ministry of reconciliation. However, following the Apostles example is not enough. Each individual should feel his own call to this ministry. Therefore, we need to sense their call and then follow the examples that are before us.

When Christians see a proper example for ministering and when they have proper motives for ministering, then they are ready to engage in an effective ministry of reconciliation.

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Attendance report

Oct. 27, 1974

Church	Sunday School	Church Training	Church Additions
Alexander, First	86	50	
Alma, First	402	105	
Bentonville, Mason Valley	88	44	
Berryville			
First	166	66	1
Freeman Heights	154	57	
Blytheville, Clear Lake	107	63	
Bryant, First Southern	56	35	11
Cabot, Mt. Carmel	244	103	2
Camden, First	563	175	
Concord, First	91	38	
Conway			
First	676	128	19
Second	347	64	
El Dorado, Trinity	166	86	
Forrest City			
First	697		8
Second	204	50	
Fl. Smith			
First	1394	279	5
Grand Avenue	808	276	1
Moffett Mission	20		
Northside	87	68	
Temple	161	92	4
Trinity	181	75	2
Windsor Park	748	210	3
Garfield, First	86	41	6
Gentry, First		64	
Grandview	74	44	
Greenwood, First	245	100	
Hampton, First	145	73	
Hardy, First	129	40	1
Harrison			
Eagle Heights	383	174	6
Woodland Heights	78	55	
Helena, First	270	104	
Hope			
Calvary	201	100	9
First	444	85	
Hot Springs			
Grand Avenue	482	222	13
Park Place	397	114	
Hughes, First	211	100	
Jacksonville, First	435	85	2
Kinoston, First	67	33	2
Lavaca, First	309	95	
Lexa	150	84	
Little Rock			
Cross Roads	145	91	1
Crystal Hill	149	75	1
Geyer Springs	794	337	4
Life Line	575	186	6
Marlindale	122	50	4
Shady Grove	85	61	
Sunset Lane	223	205	2
Wakefield	93	29	4
Woodlawn	135	60	
Magnolia, Central	605	191	2
Montic			
First	291	63	6
Second	305	88	
Murfreesboro, First	128	63	
North Little Rock			
Calvary	472	162	4
Gravel Ridge	227	124	4
Levy			
Park Hill	505	137	
Park Hill	802	126	5
Paragould			
Calvary	238	166	
East Side	218	93	
First	485		
Paris, First	434	107	1
Pine Bluff			
East Side	195	108	2
First	623	123	1
Green Meadows	60	48	
Second	112	58	
South Side	742	159	
Tucker	16	6	
Oppelo	12	11	
Watson Chapel	386	130	2
Prairie Grove, First	181	77	
Rogers, First	543	186	4
Russellville, First	540		
Sheridan, First	287	83	
Springdale			
Caudle Avenue	139	49	6
Elmdale	374	123	1
First	1249		12
Oak Grove	81	34	2
Texarkana, Trinity	355	201	
Van Buren, First	568	221	
Mission	27		
Vandervoort, First	64	32	3
Walnut Ridge, White Oak	66	51	
West Helena			
Second	216	114	1
West Helena Church	302	110	4
Wooster, First	129	80	2

A smile or two

There was the first grader who asked why his junior executive father brought home a briefcase full of papers every night.

"Sh-h-h," the mother said. "Daddy has so much to do that he can't finish it all at the office, so he has to work at night."

The son said, "Well, why don't they put him in a slower group?"

□

The librarian went over to the noisy little boy and said, "Please be quiet. The people near you can't even read."

"They can't?" the boy said in wonder. "Then what are they doing here?"—

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Jordan Baptist work flourishes

by Jim Newton
for Baptist Press

Baptist missions work in Jordan got perhaps the biggest boost in its history this year—and not one boost, but three.

Baptists in Jordan during 1974:

--Opened and dedicated a new hospital building replacing the dilapidated facilities in Ajloun.

--Established and opened an elementary school in the capital city of Amman.

--Constituted and chartered the first Baptist church in Amman.

All three developments will strengthen Baptist ministries to the people of Jordan—both the poor of the countryside as well as the more prosperous and middle class people of the capital city.

Until recently, the strongest Baptist witness in Jordan has been concentrated in the northern farming and pastoral area surrounding Ajloun.

Southern Baptist missionaries first entered Jordan, a country about the size of Virginia with a population of two and one-half million, in 1952 to take over operation of the hospital in Ajloun.

The hospital, built in 1939 by a British doctor named Charles McClain, had been deteriorating for several years.

The building, "would have been condemned years ago in the United States," said Hospital Administrator Graydon Hardister in describing the old building.

He pointed to cracks in the wall

showing evidence of sinking foundations, and explained that the hospital had been built over four huge reservoirs to catch rain water, and that the mountainside had been gradually sliding beneath the foundations.

Now, however, the hospital is in a new three-story building made of glowing white cut stone.

And unlike the old structure, all the hospital facilities are now under one roof.

On the main floor is the outpatient clinic, pharmacy, lab, X-ray room, and two operating rooms. Below in the basement are the kitchen, dining room, storeroom and laundry. Upstairs on the top floor are 50 beds in three and four-bed wards, the obstetrics section labor room, and pediatrics section.

Although the hospital is in a new stone building, it is still handicapped by lack of adequate equipment.

Missionary doctor August Lovegren, who returned to his home in Georgia for a furlough five days after the hospital opened on Aug. 5, said the hospital moved all the old equipment from the former building to a new one. The hospital needs badly complete new X-ray equipment, new institutional laundry equipment, and a new operating table, he noted.

At present, laundry is taken from the new building by truck down the hill to the old area where the vast bulk of the washing is done by hand with huge washing tubs and rub boards.

Despite the lack of adequate equipment, the new hospital is far superior to what once had been used and is extremely functional in design, said Dr. Lovegren.

Unlike the rest of Jordan, which is 95 percent Muslim, Ajloun is almost 50 percent Christian.

The Ajloun Baptist Church is the largest of the six Baptist churches in Jordan but is now pastorless. The Jordanian pastor recently died of a heart attack, and the church is in the process of calling another pastor.

In addition to the hospital, Baptists also operate two schools for boys and girls. The school for girls is directed by missionary Maurine Perryman, and the school for boys is operated by the Ajloun church. They have a combined enrollment of about 350.

Baptist work began in the rural areas of Jordan due to location of the hospital. Hence, missions work has only recently spread to the big city of Amman.

Two of the three big events of 1974—constitution of the church in Amman and opening of the school in Amman—will greatly strengthen Baptist efforts in the capital city.

About two-thirds of the two and one-half million people of Jordan live within 50 miles of Amman, located in the Jordan River Valley, part of the area the hospital in Ajloun serves.

The First Baptist Church of Amman was constituted July 7, 1974, with 44 charter members. At present, they are meeting in two locations—the home of the pastor, Foez Omeish, and the home of a layman. And they hope to start services in still another part of town at the new Baptist elementary school.

The new school opened in September under the direction of Paul S.C. Smith, who carried the extra load of being chairman of the Jordan Mission and serving in general evangelism in Amman.

In late September, however, a Jordanian woman, Mrs. John Chao, who recently graduated from Carson-Newman (Baptist) College in Johnson City, Tenn., felt led to return to Jordan to take over as principal.

The new school is already making progress, and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has enrolled his children there.

The school will be entirely self-supporting through matriculation fees and will provide additional means for Baptists to reach and minister to the middle and upper classes of Jordanian society. It will augment the ministries to the poor and rural people of the Ajloun area.

In addition to the elementary school, Baptists also operate a Book Store in Amman, and this fall missionary Joe Newton started student work efforts in the capital city.

Seeking to carry the gospel to people in Jordan is difficult, for the people are slow to respond.

There are only about 250 members in the six churches, yet there is a spirit of Christian revival among the fellowship of believers. For several years, there has been a "spirit-filled" revival in progress, observers say, in the city of Zerka, the second largest city in Jordan.

And there are 19 Southern Baptist missionaries in Jordan who say they're encouraged by the events of 1974. They feel there is great hope in the future for missions in Jordan (BP)

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