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Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE



New director named
for Higher Education Campaign
page 16

September 28, 1972

One layman's opinion

Some lessons from a muddy road



Dr. Grant

Can any good come from driving on a slippery muddy road?

This was the question that ran through my mind as I was searching for some consolation some weeks ago when a trip was interrupted by an ugly muddy stretch of highway between Arkadelphia and Camden. I was on my way to speak at the First Church of Cullendale and did not know that several miles of the pavement had been torn up in

a reconstruction project, or that a heavy downpour of rain the night before had played havoc with the red clay fill.

After my initial irritation had subsided, I tried to be philosophical about the whole thing and was surprised to discover that it is possible to learn some useful lessons even from a muddy road.

As I slowed down to between five and ten miles an hour in order to stay within the treacherous ruts, I came to a new sense of appreciation for some things I had been taking for granted, such as paved, high-speed highways that are trouble free about 99 percent of the time. The last real detours of this kind that I could recall took me back to the 1930's when my father took the family on vacation trips to various parts of the nation.

But the most amazing thing I noticed as I slow-poked along that road toward Camden was that houses and farms have people in them — real live human beings who smile and wave and appreciate a smile and wave in return. I am afraid that in all of my high speed travel, people had become purple blurs and inanimate objects, without souls and personalities. It was really an amazing feeling to be driving slow enough to exchange greetings with people along the road.

It reminds me of the overpowering sensation of sightseeing in the over-populated little island of Hong Kong where the individual is almost completely lost in the masses of people. One day Mrs. Grant and I stepped off the crowded street into a little tea room, without any feeling that the mob consisted of individual persons. But one of the mob, a little bright-eyed teenage girl, came to our table and pleaded for us to help her go to the United States so that she could get an education. Suddenly we were reminded that the masses are made up of individual persons with unique personalities and needs.

I learned one other thing from the muddy road. I hate to admit it because Betty Jo had been trying to convince me of it for some time. This is the fact that I simply was not allowing enough time as a margin of safety against mishaps as I traveled from Arkadelphia to my various speaking engagements. In spite of all our improvements in the dependability of motor

vehicles and highways, my usual margin of safety of three minutes between arrival time and speaking time is simply not enough. I now allow four minutes.

Daniel R. Grant

In this issue

- The recommendations by the Executive Board to the 1972 state convention are carried this week to allow Arkansas Baptists to be informed prior to the meeting. See page 10.
- A "Jesus Festival" is planned in conjunction with the Baptist Student Union convention in Little Rock next month. Information on the speakers, musicians and other arrangements are found in a story on page 12.
- Another in a series on the interfaith witness ministries of Southern Baptists comments on the Roman Catholic Church. See page 9.
- The hobby of a Southern Baptist missionary has become an important avenue of service. See a story of Glen Hickey and his amateur radio ministry on page 17.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

VOL. 71

SEPTEMBER 28, 1972

NO. 38

J. EVERETT SNEED, Ph.D. *Editor*
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Abbreviations used in crediting news items: BP Baptist Press; CB Church Bulletin; DP Daily Press; EP Evangelical Press; LC Local Correspondent; AB Associational Bulletin; EBPS European Baptist Press Service.

Emphasis on people



JES

One of the most exciting emphases Southern Baptists have had in recent years will begin with this coming Sunday. Our theme for the year is "People to People." Such an effort is extremely timely, as we are just beginning to capture a new sense of optimism. Every area of our work is presently on the increase.

In an age of computers, gigantic metropolitan areas, and depersonalization, this theme should challenge us to do our best. The effort will not only alert us to reach people, but, also, to assist them to reach the potential God intends for their lives.

Each church is urged to take five simple, yet specific actions: (1) Make a commitment to reach people; (2) Go and find the people; (3) Prepare for the people; (4) Witness to the people; and (5) Involve new people. These actions could produce the greatest year in Southern Baptist history.

It appears that the timing is excellent. In 1971 we baptized 409,659, which marked the third best year in our history. It may even be better in 1972. The utili-

zation of the "Lay Witnessing" materials, the tremendous results of the bus ministry, and the renewed trend, all point to the success of this thrust.

Our opportunities have never been greater than they are at this moment. There are more people to be reached than ever before and the multitude grows larger every day. We, as Southern Baptists, have the talent, the money, and the facilities. We must utilize our resources to supply the needs for those whose hearts are hungering for the gospel.

"People to People," is a Bible centered program. Jesus' total ministry was people centered. Our Master declared "For God so loved the world. . ." (John 3:16.) He again instructed "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled." (Luke 14:23.)

In what has been called "Our Lord's greatest declaration," he discussed three major objectives of the church — to make disciples, to baptize, and to teach. There is but one imperative in the original text — to make disciples.

As we unite our abilities and resources in honoring our Saviour we can succeed. The key is for Christians to dedicate themselves under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

How to make a decision

An associational missionary tells of leading a fine, well-educated young couple to Christ in his home. Though the young man was from a totally unchurched background, his wife had been a member of a church of another faith. Since they expressed their desire to become Baptists, the missionary was very surprised to learn that they had failed to unite with a church on the following Sunday morning.

On Sunday evening it was his fortune to visit the church which this couple was attending. Finding himself seated behind them, as the invitation started he leaned forward to inquire if they had any unresolved problems. "No," replied the husband, "But how do you join this church?"

Incidents such as this could be multiplied many times over. In an effort to help the person who is not familiar with the procedure of a Baptist church, some are printing on their bulletin information concerning the invitation time, as well as the ways Baptist churches receive members.

It is our feeling that such procedure would prove very beneficial. A church may wish to make this a permanent part of their bulletin or carry it on particular Sundays each month. Let's help people in every way possible to make the decision Christ desires them to express.

New features to appear

Beginning next week we will carry two new features which promise to give great assistance to our readers. These are the "Answer Box," by Vester Wolber, and a series on counseling by L. H. Coleman.

Dr. Coleman's article will deal with helping people in difficult circumstances. Relating to others in times of death, illness, or other stress, is of vital importance for every Christian.

Counseling could be defined as a face-to-face situation, in which, by reason of training, skill, or confidence, one person assists another to identify, clarify, understand, solve or resolve a problem of adjustment.

Coleman will be discussing some of the many doubts and anxiety producing factors which can unite or destroy the wellbeing of an individual. In these troubled times, much of the solution lies in the sincere communications of Christian love.

Dr. Wolber's "Answer Box," will give opportunity for our readers to ask questions of Biblical doctrine, practical or ethical matters, ecclesiology (church practices), etc. Often, people seek a qualified source of information in such matters. By education, practical experience, and personality, Dr. Wolber is well qualified to render such assistance.

All correspondence of this type should be addressed to Dr. Vester Wolber, Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Ark. 71923

I must say it!

Where the action is . . .



Dr. Ashcraft

There is nothing magical or automatic about renewal. It is the summation of many things, the least of which is not hard work. Anyone driving into town between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. best be careful else they could be crushed by a church bus driven by a youthful driver.

Upon entering the church I advise you quickly to tell them your age or you may be pressed into service in the nursery. It is also wise to clear the deck quickly after the service as all hands heave to on loading the buses or you may get a free round trip somewhere. An usher may enlist you at the last moment to receive the offering in the balcony because it is full these days.

Those who attend a renewed church are impressed with the kind of preaching which is going on. It is extremely Biblically oriented, interspersed with scripture quotations and proof texts, if you please. The preacher usually reads a passage of ten verses or more and doesn't apologize for it either.

The sermons do not always close after 20 minutes and the preacher doesn't seem to care a great deal. A renewed church is something to behold when the invitation comes around. A fire department has no finer sequence than the pastor and his counselors. The counselors are always there and come forth at the right time to counsel the inquirers or assure those standing in line that the pastor will see them soon.

It's great, man, and it is not all over after the benediction. The lingering fellowship is rich indeed.

Another thing about a renewed church is the evening hour. It best resembles the Los Angeles International Airport at the peak of traffic. There are youth choirs everywhere. Worshipers are wall to wall and the music man comes alive with a great informal songfest.

Traffic is heavy between Church Training and worship periods. Those on crutches or in wheel chairs would be safer on a freeway. Attendants are available on request.

In some churches the same buses run at night as they did in the morning. Again you better know where you are going or you will run with the tide. Many of these renewed churches have baptismal services both morning and night but it is not over after the benediction.

Go out for an after church snack with one of these renewed preachers and you will witness to waitresses, parking attendants, and just maybe to a prospect recognized at an adjoining table. You go home and try to sleep but sleep doesn't come. You can't forget the thrills of a glorious Lord's Day.

Don't misunderstand me, renewed churches are not without their problems. The thrill of renewal obscures the growing pains and normal cares of such action. While the morgue and the cemetery represent the highest concentration of peace and quiet as well as the absence of growing pains and problems they are less than appealing to growing boys and girls or a renewed church.

If you wish to go where the action is, check in at the Baptist church.

I must say it! — Charles H. Ashcraft, Executive Secretary.

Letters to the editor

Articles on Judaism

Many thanks for the very interesting series of articles on Judaism, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

That man can return to God (be reconciled to Him) by his free will is a very important part of Jesus' teaching as well as of other traditional Judaic beliefs. The free will from God is a good will — the love, essence, and spirit of Jesus' teachings. Many thanks to Rabbi Kilimnick for pointing out the value of the gift of free will. May we all use it for love, understanding, peace, unity among men. —Gloria Clendenen, Siloam Springs

Available for supply

C. Dean Nelson is available for pulpit supply or interim pastor. He is Circuit Clerk of Ashley County. He has attended Ouachita University and has served as pastor of churches in Ashley, Liberty, Delta and Bartholomew Associations.

He feels the Lord has called him to

serve smaller churches while also serving as public servant.

He may be contacted by writing P. O. Box 309, Hamburg 71646 or calling 853-8493 or 853-5113. — Homer Shirley Jr., Pastor, First Church, Crossett

Commends ABN writers

There are many of the writers of the magazine that I could commend very highly, but I will just mention two of these.

The articles written weekly on the "Doctrines of Faith" by Dr. Jimmy Millikin are worth collecting and studying over and saving them for future reference.

The article by Velma Merritt gives many great insights into the life and interworkings of a church.

We thank God for your brilliant leadership and pray continually God's blessings upon you and our magazine. —Ken Freemyer, Pastor, Trinity Church, Ft. Smith.

BSU prepares slide presentation of work

The BSU Advisory Committee has prepared a 25-minute slide and cassette tape presentation which tells the story of the ministry of the Baptist Student Union work in Arkansas. Prepared from beautiful color slides, it pictures every campus of our state, and is accompanied by a professional narration to tell the story in the best possible manner. This program will thrill the members of our church who have been giving support to the BSU but who may not have known the tremendous ministry provided on our campuses.

It is suggested that this presentation be used during the annual associational meetings and Student Night at Christmas. The information will be extremely valuable to Christian young people who are preparing to go to college.

Those using these materials will need a carousel projector and a cassette tape recorder.

Those desiring slides and tapes should write the Baptist Student Union, 525 West Capitol, Little Rock, Ark. 72203

Acting department head named at Southern



Gibbens

Jerry D. Gibbens, Professor of English at Southern Baptist College for the past five years, has been named Acting Chairman of the English Department according to Woodrow BeHannon, Academic Dean.

Gibbens is a graduate of Black Rock High School and holds the associate of arts degree from SBC and a bachelor and master's degree with a major in English from Arkansas State University, Jonesboro. He has done additional graduate study at Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind., and is currently taking additional graduate work toward a Ph.D. in English at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

He is a member of the Arkansas Council of College Teachers of English, the National Council of Teachers of English, the Modern Language Association, American Association of University Professors, and Phi Delta Kappa. He is a member of the Walnut Ridge Kiwanis Club, and a member of First Church. In 1971 he was listed as one of the "Outstanding Young Men in America." In addition to his professional, civic and church memberships, he has served in various organizations at Southern and is currently the Chairman of the Public Relations Committee and the Lyceum Committee.

Gibbens is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Gibbens of Black Rock and is married to the former Barbara Mitchell of Batesville. They are the parents of two daughters, Julie and Sarah.

Harris heads Kyle's Boys Ranch

Floyd Harris has resigned the Bellaire Church, Dermott, to become full-time director of Kyle's Boys Ranch, Jasper. He has served churches in Arkansas, Texas, and Louisiana as well as serving with the Department of Physical Education, Baylor University.

He is an experienced pastor and is available for supply.

"I want to commend the people of Bellaire Church as being among the finest I have ever served. They have followed the leadership of the pastor in a very dedicated fashion. The church reached an all-time high in attendance last year," declares Harris.



More than 2,000 young singers from Baptist churches around the state were present for the second annual "Youth Choir Day" at Ouachita University on Sept. 9. Rehearsing in the afternoon, they presented three choral numbers that night during halftime of the Ouachita-Bishop College football game.

Arkansan gets degree



Dr. May

Phillip May received his doctor of education degree from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville Aug. 22. He majored in Educational Psychology and Guidance.

Dr. May is now assistant professor of psychology at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn. He plans to intern later at a mental hospital for a year.

Dr. May was formerly pastor of South McGehee Church in McGehee and of First Church in Pocahontas. He has been associate pastor at Broadway Church, Knoxville, Tenn. He received his B. A. degree from Ouachita University and holds a bachelor of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary.

Dr. May's wife is the former Sissy Gannaway, and they have two daughters, Paula and Suzanne. Mrs. May is now teaching in the Knoxville, Tenn., school system.

A native of Fordyce, Dr. May is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis May of Fordyce.

Victory Day at Hermitage

Hermitage Church celebrated Victory Day recently as the culmination of a ten-year program with a note burning ceremony which left the church free of debt.

Bob Meggs became pastor of the church in 1961 after graduating from Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex., with the Bachelor of Divinity Degree.

In 1963 the church built a new auditorium at a cost of \$23,000. In 1965 educational space was added and air conditioning installed at a cost of \$20,000. A \$22,000 parsonage was completed in 1971. With a membership of less than 300 the church has paid out a total of \$65,000 in their 10-year building program.

A special "Harvest Day" offering this year totaled \$2,700. The Victory Day for debt retirement and Harvest Day offering were combined into one celebration. Activities of the day included dinner at the church and the note burning ceremony on Sunday afternoon.

The pastor, who has served the church for 11 years, resigned on Sunday night. While serving the Hermitage Church Mr. Meggs also served as pastor of Marsden Church.



Petty and his wife, Bonita, live at 700 Edna in Fayetteville. Their four children are Harley, 3, Rebecca, 6, Ronita, 12, and Ruth, 15.

Your superintendent of missions at work Washington-Madison Association gives emphasis to outreach

July 1, 1972, marked the first anniversary of Peter L. Petty as Superintendent of Missions in Washington-Madison Association. Petty said, prior to coming to Fayetteville, "I personally feel that the position of superintendent of missions in an association is very important. For several years I have had a definite impression toward this kind

of work and for this reason I received seminary training in religious education. Education and administration are most important in this work."

In 1971 a complete study was made of the association. This study along with a new constitution and bylaws and projected goals were approved at the 53rd annual session of the association last

October. A new job description for the superintendent of missions was a part of this study. The results of the study have given new direction to the association.

In an interview with a Norman, Okla., newspaper reporter prior to moving to Fayetteville, Petty said, "It is not enough to put up a church steeple and a sign. That is not going to reach people in this age. We've got to go where the people are." For this very reason Washington-Madison Association is building toward a well-balanced program which will include leadership development for outreach in existing program organizations. Special ministries are also a real concern of the association. Several churches are already involved in these ministries with work in kindergartens, day care, clothing rooms, ministry to the aged, and after-school clubs. There is a need for more of these and additional ministries.

This summer two student summer missionaries appointed by the Home Mission Board have been engaged in Resort Ministry. The young ladies have worked with campers on Beaver Lake and at Devil's Den State Park, conducting sing-ins, Vacation Bible Schools, worship services, and rap sessions.

In October of last year the associational office moved to a rental office building located at 117 N. East Street. The building provides space for secretary-reception office, superintendent of missions' office, which is large enough for committee meetings, and work room. The association is deeply indebted to First Church, Fayetteville, for having provided office space free of charge for many years.

In the July Executive Committee meeting the Missions Committee recommended that the association keep the church building and the 160' x 180' lot of the disbanded Bethel Heights Church to develop into an associational



The building of the disbanded Bethel Heights Church will become the association's office building after renovation.

office. The building contains 2,262 square feet and, when renovated, will add a new dimension to the associational work.

Washington County Association was organized Nov. 26, 1918, and in 1941 merged with Madison County Association. The two counties have a population of approximately 87,000 having gained about 30 percent in population during the past 10 years. Washington-Madison Association now has 36 churches with a membership of 10,883. Nineteen of these churches have pastors who give their full time to the work, the others having pastors who are secularly employed. Four churches have additional full-time staff members. Twenty churches are located in open country or small towns under 1,000 in population, five in towns with population between 1,000 and 2,000, and 11 in Fayetteville and Springdale.

Ten churches have been organized in the association since 1960. Greenland and Rolling Hills have organized during this year. The association has worked in close cooperation with the State Missions Department in the purchase of land and the erection of buildings. Presently a mission site is being purchased on Sang Avenue in Fayetteville.

Camp interest has continued to grow. In 1970 the girls' camp and boys' camp were combined into a Youth Camp, and for three years the camp has been conducted at the State Assembly grounds in Siloam Springs. Last year there were 311 registered, and this year registration totaled 623 with 86 professions of faith.

Mrs. Charles Bryant, wife of the pastor at Greenland, serves as part-time office secretary, rendering valuable service to the association and the missionary.

Bart Neal resigns post

Bart C. Neal has accepted the call of Briarlake Church, Decatur, Ga., to serve as minister of music effective Sept. 1. Neal comes to the church from the First Church, Fayetteville, where he held the same position. Previously he served churches in Texas and at Parkview Church in New Orleans.

Neal, a native of Texas, holds the bachelor of sacred music degree from Baylor University and a master of religious education degree from New Orleans Seminary.

Mrs. Neal, also a native Texan, is a graduate of the University of Houston, with a bachelor in music education degree. She has taught public school music for eight years.

The Neals have two children, Courtney Steven, age 4, and Christy Lynn, age 10 months.

And some . . . evangelists



Griggs

Wilburn D. Griggs, a native of Viola, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Griggs, Marmaduke. Griggs is married to the former Carolyn Conger of Marmaduke.

He has served three years in the Armed Forces.

His education includes Greene County Technical High School, Paragould and Southern Baptist College, Walnut Ridge. He holds the BSE and MSE degrees from Arkansas State University, Jonesboro. He has taught English three and one-half years at Corning.

He has served Spring Grove Church, Fairview Church, Walls Chapel, New Liberty Church, all of Paragould. He has also pastored Temple Church, Searcy, and Cherry Valley Church, Cherry Valley.

Recently, the Wilburn D. Griggs Evangelistic Association has been formed with Jimmy Terrell as president.

"Wilburn is well suited by call and dedication to the work of evangelism. His experience in the pastorate, with its many problems, would qualify him as a "pastor's friend," declares E. E. Boone, pastor of First Church, Wynne.

"... he has completely forgotten self, and put Jesus first in his life. He is an humble man, knowing that apart from the Holy Spirit he is nothing. . .," states his pastor, Jimmy Terrell of Temple Church, Searcy.

Mr. Griggs may be reached at Route 2, Pinegar Addition, Searcy 72143, or by telephone, 268-9929 or 268-8506.

Woman's viewpoint

Call ye upon Him

By Iris O'Neal Bowen



Mrs. Bowen

A mother was getting her family ready for Sunday School and told her very young daughter, "Hurry, now and get dressed. We are going to God's house today."

"But why should we go to God's house?" the little one asked. "He never comes to see us."

This just may be the reason a lot of Christians don't make it to God's house on Sunday. It is possible that God hasn't been to their house for a long time, for God, you see, will not make an unwelcome guest of himself, and he will not be found where he is not wanted!

There is a song heard on radio right now, and part of it goes something like this: "if there is a God . . . why did he desert me?"

A real Christian with a close relationship with God, who stays near to him through prayer, Bible study, and fellowship with other Christians knows that God will not desert him.

When troubles come, the close-to-God Christians will receive strength from the Father to bear his burdens and survive his tragedies, and through it all, he grows in strength and grace and becomes a sweeter Christian for all of it.

A person without a close relationship with God, however, cannot get in touch with him, probably because he doesn't know how to get in touch! Then he gets bitter.

"Why has God deserted me?" he asks. "Why did he let this happen to me?"

There are multitudes of people who want to make deals with God. They say, "Look, God. We haven't forgotten that you are up there, somewhere, but we are pretty busy, right now, God. So don't expect much attention from us just now. But if we get in any tight spots, you will be the first one we will call!"

When Isaiah said, "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near," it sounds like the time might come when it would be too late to seek and find him. Or it might be if one waited too long to call on him, he might be too far away to hear!

Why not make God a welcome guest at your house all week, and then go to see him on Sunday.

"You will be glad you did!"

Burks to Cullendale

Jimmy L. Burks of Beaumont, Tex., has accepted a call to Cullendale First Church. He is a graduate of Baylor University and Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. Mrs. Burks is the former Barbara Maltbie of Port Arthur, Tex. She attended the Port Arthur Business College and Southwestern Seminary. They have three children: Jodie, Judy, and Jimmy.

Griffin celebrates fourth anniversary

By Charles H. Skutt
associational moderator



Griffin

July 1 marked the fourth anniversary of James A. Griffin as Superintendent of Missions for the Concord Association.

These four years have been unparalleled in progress for the association. During this time there has been

approximately 3,500 baptisms, 822 net Sunday School increase, and a 327 net increase in Training Union. The total gifts have been \$8,764,346 which represents an increase of \$260,404. Total mission gifts have been \$1,109,124 with an increase of \$90,578. Cooperative Program gifts have totaled \$711,630 with an increase of \$41,955.

The associational budget has also shown a dramatic change. The total gifts for these four years have been \$87,256. When Missionary Griffin came to Concord Association in 1958, the gifts were \$14,615. In 1971 the total gifts were \$26,693. This year it is expected that the association will reach its budget of \$30,073.

Some of the significant leadership programs which the association has conducted include a Training Union Workshop with Southern Baptist leadership, a Sunday School enlargement campaign, a World Missions Conference involving 35 churches, a Church Administration Workshop, and three WIN schools. In 1969 a Pastors' Conference was begun and in 1970 the association observed its Centennial year.

Climaxing the physical accomplishments of these four years was the dedication of a beautiful new associational office building which was a direct result of Superintendent Griffin's dream.

"Compassion for lost souls and a desire for spiritual rehabilitation are the motivating factors which drive him in leading the association to its new heights," a spokesman declared.

Between parson and pew Calling the doctor

By Velma Merritt



Mrs. Merritt

For the third time in two weeks it was necessary for me to call the doctor concerning the physical condition of our three month old son. I was somewhat embarrassed to call again although I felt the calls were necessary to stop the signs of illness before they got serious.

While making the third phone call, I thought how wonderful it would be if church members would be as anxious as a new mother to call on the Great Physician in the early stages of church sickness.

It is a regrettable fact that churches are not in perfect health. What is even more regrettable is that the health of churches would be better if preventive measures would be taken at the first signs of infectious Satan.

It seems the devil just can't stand for a church to prosper too long. When things really get going good, he will interfere. Part of the reason he can interfere is because we underestimate our adversary and forget the power Satan has.

It is easier to go to our own sources of medicine than it is to contact the Great Physician when problems occur, and while the medicines we choose might work for a while the problems will appear again. Even worse, our own prescription might backfire on us. A prescription of prayer for wisdom from God is the only cure for hurt feelings, misunderstandings, interference outside the church, tempers, and pride.

A continuing supply of healing is available only from the Great Physician.



Student government officers for Southern Baptist College for 1972-73 are, left to right: Reta McCarroll, Black Rock, secretary; Mitzi Casper, Forrest City, treasurer; Paula Cooper, Cherokee Village, president; Ray Winningham, Pine Bluff, vice president.

Tallant takes post

James Tallant, pastor of the First Church, Magazine, has accepted the call to Cherry Valley Church, Cherry Valley, where he will assume his duties Oct. 1 as full time pastor.

He previously served as pastor at Fitzgerald Crossing Church, Wynne, before going to Magazine.

Dr. Whitlow's address

All correspondence concerning organization of chapters of Americans United for Separation of Church and State should be addressed to Dr. S. A. Whitlow, Rt. 1, Box 48, Hope, Ark. 71801

Would you really be glad?

By C. Brownlow Hastings

"Would you believe . . .?" so runs the TV gimmick from the extravagant to the ridiculous. We are all a generation of believers — prone to believe what we wish to believe. And we are all a generation of doubters — given to doubt what we have so long denied possible.

"Would you believe . . ." that Roman Catholics are experiencing a greater internal reformation than ever happened in the 16th century?

"Would you believe . . ." that there is a distinct possibility the next truly great spiritual awakening is already beginning within the Roman Catholic church?

"Would you believe . . ." that Roman Catholic theologians are becoming more biblical than traditional while most old line protestant theologians are hardening in the opposite direction?

Now it would take at least a large book to document the answer to each of these questions. Even if one were qualified to present such evidence, few of us would agree on the evaluation. And such freedom of judgment is one of the few remaining heritages we possess today. So this is not an attempt to persuade anyone. It is hard enough for us to believe what we see and hear these days within the Roman Catholic church.

But the point of this whole matter is one simple question: would we be glad if these things were actually coming to pass? Would we rejoice to see the Spirit of God work a mighty work that did not necessarily add to our own status and power? And what happens to our sense of worth when The Enemy becomes Our Brother through no evangelizing of our own? Would we have the largeness of heart to accept it as from the Lord and rejoice in it?

Two things we can do: we can learn what Roman Catholics are thinking and doing now, not those of past generations. And we can make friends fast with them through prayer, Bible study, and working together in evangelism and social ministries. "Try it. You'll like it!"

Dr. Hastings is on the staff of the Department of Interfaith Witness at the Home Mission Board, with responsibility for Catholic relations and research in Catholicism. He will lead the conference on Catholicism in the Seminar on Witnessing to Other Faiths, to be held in the Immanuel Baptist Church, Little Rock, Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 1972. The

Seminar is jointly sponsored by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention and the Home Mission Board, and it is open to all Arkansas Baptists.

The history and doctrines of such other faith groups as Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons and the Saints, the Worldwide Church of God (the Armstrongs), various occult movements and ideologies (witchcraft, astrology, the Church of Satan), and several world religions now growing rapidly in the United States, and ways of witnessing to the followers of these religions, will be studied in the seminar.

Gramling to Dermott



Gramling

Marion Gramling, pastor of Second Church, Forrest City, for the past seven years has accepted the call to Temple Church, Dermott.

During his pastorate at Second Church, he baptized 323 people. The church constructed a new auditorium that seats 330 people, a new fellowship hall, and remodeled the old auditorium into class rooms.

Gramling and his wife, the former Judy Hughes, are both natives of Greene County. They have two children, Vickey, 17, and Clint, 12.

Naramore to NLR



Naramore

Gene D. Naramore recently accepted a call to become the minister of music and education for Sylvan Hills First Church, North Little Rock. He attended Northeastern Oklahoma College and has served numerous churches in Oklahoma. His

places of services in Arkansas include Bluff Avenue Church, Ft. Smith, and Temple Church, Ft. Smith.

His wife is the former Jean Warren of Little Rock. They have four children: Ronald, now working on his Ph.D. in the University of Vienna, Austria; Cheryl, 18; David, 15; John, 12.



Mr. and Mrs. Dean Newberry

Observe fiftieth Wedding anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Dean E. Newberry, De Queen, observed their fiftieth wedding anniversary Sept. 3. Mr. and Mrs. Newberry were married Sept. 3, 1922, in De Queen where they have made their home during these years.

They have a son, Dean E. Newberry Jr. of Rogers, and a daughter, Mrs. Don Rhodes of North Little Rock.

Newberry was employed for many years with the D. C. Goff Wholesale Grocer Company and the Ritchie Grocer Company. He was employed 13 years with Prince Hardware, later known as Wilson Hardware. He served for 20 years in the De Queen city administration as councilman and served two terms as Mayor.

Mr. and Mrs. Newberry are active members of First Church where he serves as a deacon and church treasurer and currently serves as church custodian.

A dinner was given in their honor by their children on Sept. 3.

Oak Bowery church to mark 100 years

Oak Bowery church, located ten miles southeast of Conway on 286 (Faulkner County), will celebrate its Centennial Sunday, Oct. 1. Dr. Charles Ashcraft, Executive Secretary of the Arkansas Baptist Convention, is to be the guest speaker. Former pastors and members are invited to return on this day of celebration. There is to be gospel singing, a lot of Baptist handshaking, and a dinner on the grounds. Oak Bowery once was the largest rural church in the state. In 1971 it reported about two hundred in total membership.

Executive Board recommendations for the convention

Recommendations:

1. Housing allowance for retired or- dained ministers.

The Executive Board recommends that actual expense for housing up to one-third of the total retirement annuity received through the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention shall constitute a rental allowance paid as part of the retired ordained minister's compensation for past services.

2. 1973-74 Emphasis — "Share the Word Now"

"The Executive Board recommends that the Arkansas Baptist State Convention suggested program and theme for 1973-74 be "Share the Word Now." This Program coordinates the state Ten Year Program with the Southern Baptist Convention long-range program for the decade of the seventies.

"We recommend that the state Sunday School department lead the state emphasis, and suggest a calendar of events and resource materials which the church may consider in planning their work.

"We recommend that the Sunday School program for '73-'74, "People Now," be supported by the Missions Department program, "Extend Now," the Evangelism Department program, "Win Now," and other department programs support the promotion in appropriate ways."

"People Now — 1973-'74"

Sunday School Department A bold new promotion plan

1. A bold new "People Search" fall '73 or spring '74.
2. A bold new "High Attendance Goal" plan, first Sunday of each quarter.
3. A bold new "Literature Distribution Plan", individual or family approach, — prior to each quarter high attendance Sunday.
4. A bold new "Sunday School Leadership Preparation Week" Sept. 16-23, 1973, teach a new book "Using the Sunday School to Reach People."
5. A bold new "January Bible Study Week" emphasis. January, 1974.
6. A bold new "Growth Campaign" or "New Member Drive" fall '73 or spring '74.
7. A bold new "Lay Evangelism School" or "Sunday School W.I.N. School" fall '73 or spring '74.
8. A bold new "Attendance Campaign." Members attend 12 of 13 Sundays. Spring or fall.
9. A bold new "Read the Bible through This Year" — a plan to encourage every member to read the Bible daily.

1973 BUDGET

(Executive Board Recommendation to Convention)

I. STATE CAUSES	
1. ADMINISTRATION	\$ 65,296
2. MISSIONS	
(1) BSU — Operating	157,300
(a) BSU — Buildings	13,500
(2) Brotherhood	19,872
(a) Camp — Operating	16,000
(b) Camp — Improvements	4,000
(3) Evangelism	56,386
(4) Missions	147,678
3. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	
(1) Church Music	27,597
(2) Church Training	44,573
(3) Sunday School	65,143
(a) Assembly — Operating	14,337
(b) Assembly — Improvements	12,750
4. ARKANSAS BAPTIST NEWSMAGAZINE	23,000
5. WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION	68,598
6. SERVICES	
(1) Division of Services	50,238
(2) Baptist Building Debt	95,000
(3) Convention	19,700
(4) Annuity — Operating	10,793
(5) Retirement Dues	110,000
(6) Stewardship-Cooperative Program	38,760
(7) Contingency Fund	9,500
(8) Reserve	12,300
TOTAL	\$1,082,321
7. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	
(1) Ouachita Baptist University	460,593
(2) Southern Baptist College	65,168
(3) Ministerial Education	49,169
TOTAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	574,930
8. ARKANSAS BAPTIST FAMILY & CHILD CARE SERVICES	103,851
9. ARKANSAS BAPTIST FOUNDATION	25,000
TOTAL STATE CAUSES	\$1,786,102
II. SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION	\$1,133,319
TOTAL	\$2,919,421
III. ADVANCE	
1. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	
(1) Ouachita Baptist University	175,519
(2) Southern Baptist College	51,914
(3) Ministerial Education	25,052
	\$ 252,485
2. OTHER	
(1) Baptist Student Union	33,506
(2) New Mission Site	26,805
(3) Ark. Baptist Family & Child Care Services	40,388
(4) Assembly Improvements	34,249
(5) Camp Improvements	11,418
(6) Baptist Building Improvements	9,185
	155,551
TOTAL ADVANCE	408,036
GRAND TOTAL	\$3,327,457

OBU adds to faculty

ARKADELPHIA — Twenty-seven additions have been made to the Ouachita University faculty with the beginning of the 1972-73 academic year.

New full-time faculty members and the departments in which they are teaching are the following: Jane Elizabeth Archer, English; Major Kent Brown, military science; Martin Gonzales, business; John B. Hawkins, mathematics; Dr. Joe Jeffers, chemistry; W. C. Mims, education; and John E. Small, education.

Part-time instructors are J. Winston Bryant, political science; Pat Chambliss, English; Frances Coulter, history; Glen Hickey, religion; Carol Scott, mathematics; George S. Smith, journalism; Lila Thaxton, art; Sherwin Williams, accounting; Ouida Keck, music; and Marjorie Halbert, music.

New staff members of the Arkansas Technical Assistance and Consultative Center sponsored by OBU are: Esther Crawford, Paul Root, and Sammie Sutton.

Graduate assistants teaching on a one-year basis are Kathy Harness, English; Richard Laber, music; William D. Raines, history; James Alton Rees Jr., education; Grandy Royston, biology; Bobbie Beeson, history; and Norma Williams, education.

ARKANSAS BAPTIST CAMPERS

Next Rally on Oct. 13-14
at Horseshoe Bend Recreation Area
on Beaver Lake

(About 6 miles southeast of Rogers on State Road 94)

7:30 p. m. Friday

Bible Study

Led by Rev. Rex Easterling

10:00 a. m. Saturday

B.S.U. Tour

at University of Arkansas

For more information, contact Stewardship-Cooperative Program Department, Arkansas Baptist State Convention, 525 West Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201.

ADULT CHURCH TRAINING LITERATURE

October — November — December

BAPTIST ADULTS

Unit 1: October 1-29. **Christ, Our Example in Service** — A unit to inspire us to dedicate ourselves more completely to the service of our Lord.

Unit 2: November 5-26. **Growing in Church Loyalty** — A unit to lead us to seek more consistently to demonstrate genuine loyalty to our own church.

Unit 3: December 3-31. **Questions About the Bible** — A unit to lead us to a greater dependence upon the Bible as a guide to conduct.

SKILL

Unit 1: The Ecology of a Church — A unit to help church members develop a climate conducive to **Koinonia** in their church.

Unit 2: Involving Youth in the Church's Mission — A unit on ways to involve youth in the mission of the church.

Unit 3: Learning Is for Life — A unit delineating some basic principles of learning and guidelines on how these principles can be implemented to result in personal Christian growth.

Unit 4: Advance Through Retreat — A unit providing guidelines on how to plan, conduct, and evaluate a church retreat.

SOURCE

Unit 1: October 1-November 12. **Like a Mighty Army** — A unit on the work of the church and how it is accomplished. Church polity and organization.

Unit 2: November 19-December 31. **More Blessed to Give** — A unit on stewardship as an expression of missionary concern. Christian doctrine.

Unit 3: Undated. **Person to Person** — A unit offering guidance in improved understanding of the ethical and theological implications of communications in the life of the Christian. Christian ethics.

NOW

Unit 1: Charisma: The Gifted Church — An interpretation of the meaning of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in biblical Personalities, the New Testament church, and the contemporary church.

Unit 2: Kerygma: The Proclaiming Church — An interpretation of the proclamation of good news in the life of Jesus, the New Testament church, and contemporary events.

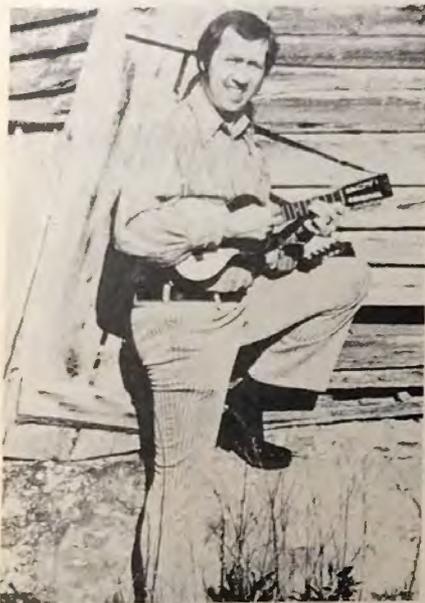
Unit 3: Diakonia: The Serving Church — An interpretation of service in the life of Jesus and the New Testament church.



Duane Pederson



The New Californians



Grady Nutt



As part of the Arkansas Baptist Student Union State Convention in Little Rock, Saturday, Oct. 21, 1972, from 1:30 — 5:30 p.m., a music festival called a Jesus Festival has been planned. The Festival, which will be held at Burn's Park in North Little Rock, will be open to the public and there will be no admission charge. Arrangements have been made in the event of inclement weather.

Duane Pederson, from Hollywood, Calif., will bring a brief message. Pederson helped establish Jesus People International and is the editor of the *Hollywood Free Press*, the largest Christian underground newspaper. The paper currently has a circulation of over 1,000,000 copies monthly in 50 states and 26 countries.

Jesus People International publishes a monthly Bible study magazine, a Christian comic book, a 30 minute radio program, and has a training center, an International Street Staff and

International Street Staff Workshop. Pederson has written the book *Jesus People* and assisted in the writing of *Jesus is Alive and Well*.

Grady Nutt will be the master of ceremonies. He is from Louisville, Ky. Nutt is a professional entertainer by occupation, a minister by ordination, writer by avocation, and finder/enjoyer/proclaimer of all things funny by inclination. He plays a dozen different musical instruments, juggles, sings, lectures, and tells funny stories from his own experiences. In 1970, from 1200 applications, Nutt was named second place winner at the International Platform Association's annual preview of new performers. He has appeared as a frequent guest of the "Mike Douglas Show."

The music will be provided by The New Californians, Randy Matthews, Phase III, City-wide BSU Choir and The New Creations.

The New Californians are from First



Randy Matthews

Church, Lemon Grove, Calif. The group consists of 10 members who back themselves with a jazz organ, electric piano, trumpets, and rhythm section. In 1971 they were chosen from over 2,000 professional acts to appear for eight weeks on the CBS Newcomers show as the summer replacement for the Carol Burnett Show. The New Californians have been honored to participate in a White House Prayer Breakfast and performed a concert in the Pentagon's Auditorium for the military personnel in May of 1972.

Randy Matthews is a singer/composer from Nashville, Tenn. He attended Ozark Bible College and Cincinnati Theological Seminary. While in Cincinnati he helped to start a "Jesus House." He drew from his experiences in a rock group and a Gospel Quartet to help him write and record "Gospel Rock" music for two albums: "Wish We'd All Been Ready" and "All I am is What you See. . . I Pray You See The Truth In Me."

Phase III is a rock group from Arkansas State University, Jonesboro. The group consists of seven members who sing and switch up playing electric piano, trumpets, trombone, flute, and rhythm instruments. Last spring they performed at the State BSU Retreat at Camp Paron and the Southern Baptist Convention in Philadelphia. They have recently returned from a ten week mission tour in New York City.

City-Wide BSU Choir is a Black gospel choir, made up of students from Philander Smith College and Arkansas Baptist College, who get together to entertain on special occasions. They performed for a music festival at Arkansas State University, the State BSU Convention in 1970, for Tucker Prison Farm several times, and for many local organizations.

The New Creations are a collegiate choir from University Church, Fayetteville. Among their credits are two albums, three week long tours in Arkansas, and a one week engagement in Mammouth, New Jersey. In 1970 they were selected as one of 30 choirs in the nation to premiere the musical "Natural High."

100th anniversary

Finch Church, Rt. 3, Paragould, will observe its 100th anniversary at a special all-day service Oct. 8. Lunch will be served at the church following the morning worship service. Missionary Carroll Gipson will be the speaker for an afternoon memorial service. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend.

September 28, 1972

Doctrines of the faith

Doctrine of the Christian life

By Jimmy A. Millikin

Southern Baptist College



Dr. Millikin

The Christian experience does not end with the salvation experience. The saving act is only the beginning. There is a life to be lived after salvation. This life is a continuation of the saving act of faith. This we will call the doctrine of the Christian Life.

The Christian life had two sides to it. There is the contemplative side, and there is the active side. The one consists of prayer, meditation, Bible study, and such like; the other consists of work. In order to have a healthy Christian life, both of these sides are necessary.

First, a look at the contemplative side. This is sometimes called the devotional life of the Christian. This aspect of the Christian life is often discounted, but it should not be. The

contemplative elements are some of the most necessary and important parts of the Christian life. In fact, if the active or work part of the Christian life is to be effective and fulfilling it must be preceded by the contemplative. It could very well be that the reason why many Christians are doing more "Christian works" and enjoying it less is because they have neglected the source of power and strength for Christian activity. This comes through the contemplative side of Christianity, which consists of two essential elements.

First, there is prayer. Through his example and direct teaching Jesus has taught us the importance of prayer. On a number of occasions he found it necessary to withdraw from his activities to pray (Luke 6:12; 9:18; 11:1). In his teaching he bids us and encourages us to pray (Matt. 5:6; Luke 18:1ff.).

Elsewhere in the Scriptures we are taught the need and importance of prayer. To fail to pray is sin (I Sam. 12:23). The apostles regarded prayer as one of the most important things that could engage their time or attention (Acts 6:4). Prayer was a characteristic feature of Paul's life (Rom. 1:9; I Thes. 1:2), and he urges all believers to continue in prayer (Col. 4:2; I Thes. 5:17). James actually tells us that we may lack the necessary blessings of life because of a failure to pray (James 4:2).

A study of prayer in the Bible reveals that true prayer consists of many elements. It includes adoration, communion, thanksgiving, intercession, confession, and petition, to name some of them. An examination of the Model Prayer (commonly called the Lord's Prayer), will reveal all these elements.

Many Christians find prayer to be one of the most difficult things to do. Many books have been written giving instructions on how to pray, and some of them are very helpful. However, it is very difficult for one person to tell another how to pray. Jesus is our best teacher at this point. The best thing to do is just pray. It will take determination and discipline but the rewards are worth it.

The second element in the contemplative side of the Christian life is the reading of the scriptures. This is another basic and vital element in the Christian life, but one which is widely neglected. Most Christians have been told about the importance of Bible study, but it seems to always be escaping us.

The Scriptures themselves point out the necessity of studying the Holy Scriptures in order to have a strong Christian life. The Psalmist stated that it was through the meditation in the law that brought happiness because it brought strength, stability, and productivity to the reader (Psa. 1). The word of God has a cleansing effect on those who heed it (Psa. 119:9): it gives strength to resist temptation (Psa. 119:11): and provides direction for all who will read it (Psa. 119:105). It makes us "wise unto salvation" (2 Tim. 3:15), and makes for strong, mature spiritual lives (2 Tim. 3:17).

Prayer and Bible study seem so elementary for these days in which so much needs to be done. Neither, however, is a Micky Mouse affair. Both are absolutely necessary if we are to live the Christian life as it ought to be lived.

Next week we will look at the active side of the Christian life.

Deaths

Clarence Byler, 47, Berryville, died Aug. 29. He was a member of Freeman Heights Church.

Andrew J. Riley, 73, North Little Rock, died Aug. 27. He was a member of Morrison Chapel Church.

J. H. Caldwell, 74, died Aug. 14 at Gilmer, Tex. During his early ministry he

pastored churches in Northwest Arkansas. In 1942-43 he was a missionary in Mississippi County.

Carl C. Patterson, 70, Brinkley, died Aug. 4. He was a member of Goodwin Church.

James E. Cox, 76, Gurdon, died Aug. 30. He was a deacon at First Church, Beirne.

Alexander resigns

Bob Alexander, pastor of Fisher Street Church in Jonesboro for the past six years, has resigned to become pastor of the Sheridan Road Church in Tulsa, Okla. He is a native of Arkansas, and a graduate of Ouachita University and Southwestern Seminary. He presently serves as a member of the Executive Board of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. Dr. Jim Millikin, Bible professor at Southern Baptist College, has been called as Interim Pastor.



Alexander



Coulter

Coulter to Stuttgart

T. R. Coulter Jr. of Moselle, Miss., has accepted the call of North Maple Church, Stuttgart. He assumed the pastoral duties Aug. 6. His most recent pastorate was Shelton Church, Moselle, Miss. Former pastorates in Arkansas include: Matthews Memorial, Pine Bluff; First, England; and West Church, Batesville.

Dedicates new organ

First Church, Beebe dedicated its new organ recently. The organ was presented in memory of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Warren who were members of the church for many years. The gift was made by the William Warren family, the W. M. Burnett family, the Robert Warren family, and the Robert H. Hastings family.

The service included words of welcome by Pastor W. W. Dishongh, a musical presentation by James G. Meredith and the dedicatory prayer by W. M. Burnett.

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Little Rock, Ark. 72202
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Phone 376-2662

Family and child care gives assistance to families

Bobby and his parents arrived at one of our area offices after being referred by a friend. Bobby, age 12, was having difficulty in the community and school. His problems stemmed from a difficult family situation. Communication with his parents had deteriorated rapidly and emotional upheavals prevailed in the family. The father was out of town except during weekends, when he spent most of his time drinking with his buddies in the community. The mother worked each weekend and had the total responsibility of the home.

When Bobby had had a problem he had felt that there was no one to listen to him or to acknowledge his presence. As a result, he had become angry, mistrustful and dejected. He had started running around with other young boys who also had no parental guidance and they soon got into trouble in the community and were brought to the attention of local authorities. It was at this point that Bobby's parents turned to their pastor, who referred them to the Arkansas Baptist Home for Children.

Fourteen-year-old Abie came to the Arkansas Baptist Home for Children in search of help. Her father is a cruel person who provides very little love and companionship for his family. The mother is very shy and insecure, Abie's older brother ran away from home at the age of 16 and is now in military service.

Abie has not presented any abnormal behavior problems, but she is shy, withdrawn, insecure and frightened. She has no friends and seems unconcerned about her failing grades in school.

The Home for Children has a service for each of these children. Bobby was placed in the institutional program while his parents received our help in their home. Hopefully, he will learn how to relate to others and will learn to trust adults. He may be able to share his frustrations, disappointments and hurt feelings with a Christian staff member.

As he learns to relate to others, he may be able to relate to his parents, as they, in turn, are helped by one of our workers. They are being confronted with their responsibilities as parents.

When the tensions and problems subside, Bobby will return to a warm and understanding atmosphere. All of the problems will not be completely solved, but a start will have been made in the right direction.

Abie, too, will need a great deal of help and understanding as she continues to live in her own home at the request of her parents. Her father seems willing to work on his problem. He was referred to a psychiatric clinic for special help. The mother became involved in a small church group and this helped her over-all attitude. She gradually has become a happier and more out-going person. This positive change was reflected in Abie's personality and image of herself. Her grades have improved and she has participated in extra-curricular activities in school and church.

These two cases merely illustrate the complex needs of children and their families in our care. They represent general problems rather than individual names and personalities. —Johnny G. Biggs, Executive Director

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WHOLESALE TOURS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Caring for those who serve through the Cooperative Program

Editor's note: This is the fourth of a series of six articles on the Cooperative Program written especially for Cooperative Program Month. The series is being circulated nationally by the SBC Stewardship Commission, but the articles were written by Roy F. Lewis, of our own Arkansas state convention staff.

A young man had returned from the Korean war. He settled down to live a normal, comfortable life with a wife and one child while he attended college on his GI Bill.

The pattern was soon altered with the coming of a second child. Then tragedy struck. The second child, at the tender age of six weeks, was victimized by the dreaded disease polio.

Months later the young man was about to complete his college training, the invalid child had made progress, and the family routine was returning to normal. Then came another disruption of a completely different nature.

The hand of God upon the young man and his wife had been felt for months, and a growing feeling of a special calling had begun to crystallize. His decision was made, prayerfully but firmly, to enter the gospel ministry.

Immediately, he became conscious of his need for further training, but with heavy financial obligations and with family responsibilities that involved special care, the prospect of attending a seminary seemed remote indeed.

His pastor told him of Southern Baptist seminaries, supported by the Cooperative Program. Within just a few months he had resigned his job, sold his home, and enrolled at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. The theological training he coveted was becoming a reality.

After seminary graduation several pastorates beckoned, but again a special type of call seemed to persist. The young minister took his family to northern Ohio, which was then a rich, pioneer mission field, only recently entered by Southern Baptists.

He became the first pastor of a new mission that was the only Baptist witness in the entire county. There were few additions to the membership by letter; most of the growth came from new converts who were won to Christ and then baptized in a borrowed baptistry forty miles distant.

Hours were spent finding prospects, training new converts, and visiting the sick, along with other pastoral duties. Again, Southern Baptists came to his aid and provided a salary supplement with Cooperative Program funds through the

Home Mission Board. The superintendent of missions later declared that a work in that area could never have been solidly established without a full-time ministry.

Another pioneer pastorate followed. There were new problems and new challenges, many of them seemingly beyond the ability of a young minister with limited resources. Again, the denomination responded.

Trained denominational leaders, supported by Cooperative Program funds, were always close at hand to counsel and assist. The young church was given aid in the purchase of property and buildings. Always it seemed that Southern Baptists and the Cooperative Program were waiting in the wings to help.

The young man was then invited to join the staff of the Home Mission Board, and a new perspective of missionary support resulted. His duties took him all across the nation, working closely with dedicated missionaries who served faithfully and tirelessly in difficult places, and who depended upon the Cooperative Program for support. He also visited in churches that struggled desperately to keep their doors open, frequently because limited Cooperative Program funds were not adequate to maintain a full-time ministry in every place. Daily he rubbed shoulders with successful giants of the faith who were successful, in part, because the Cooperative Program had untied their hands and enabled them to move ahead unhindered.

A third pastorate then followed, this one in Georgia. The church was strong financially and mission-minded, but most of its mission gifts had been given to special, designated causes.

As the new pastor shared with the people his personal knowledge of Southern Baptist work and mission fields, the church decided it wanted a greater part in supporting all the missionaries. The church membership voted enthusiastically and unanimously to contribute all of its mission gifts through the Cooperative Program.

The years have passed and the young man is no longer so young. The family has scattered and other circumstances have changed. But one thing still remains constant — the appreciation for and belief in the Cooperative Program, developed through years of personal experience.

Having witnessed the stabilizing and supporting effect of the Cooperative Program on those who serve on the mission field, this minister now serves as

a director of Cooperative Program promotion in a state convention. Because Southern Baptists for so many years have been concerned for him and his ministry, he now seeks to enlist others in the support of those who serve.

Southern Baptists care for those who serve in special ways, and the Cooperative Program is a daily demonstration of that concern.

RAs

A chance to help Brazilian campers

Mission Activities is essential to real active Royal Ambassador Chapter. At the state Royal Ambassador Congress in May, mention was made of a Mission Action project that all chapters could have a part in. The project is the Brazilian Royal Ambassador Camp. A challenge to those present to give at least the equivalent of the cost of one soft drink per boy was accepted. The money would be used to purchase a refrigerator for use at the camp. The cost will be about \$500. There are approximately 8,000 Royal Ambassadors in Arkansas. At 10 cents per R. A. we could easily go over the goal.

At this time only a few Chapters have responded. However, they have given a little over the cost of a soft drink per boy. Chapter members worked at various jobs to make money for the project. They really came through in a great way.

Your chapter could have a part in this very worthy project. It would be wonderful to send a list of the chapters in Arkansas along with a check to Alvin Hatton, missionary in Brazil, who is responsible for Royal Ambassador camping in this great mission field.

The camping season in Brazil begins in January. It would be wonderful to have the refrigerator for use this camping season.

For the price of a soft drink each Royal Ambassador in Arkansas can have a part in reaching lost boys in Brazil. If your chapter has not made plans to have a part in this project how about doing it.

Send all gifts to C. H. Seaton, Baptist Building, 525 West Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72203.

Don't delay do it today! Let us show the Brazilian boys we really care. —C. H. Seaton

Associational meeting date is changed

Searcy County Association has changed the date of the associational meeting. The meeting will be held Oct. 12 at Leslie. The date listed in the Sept. 14 issue of the *Arkansas Baptist* should be disregarded.



As director of the Ouachita-Southern Advancement Campaign, Tillman (left) will work with Executive Secretary Charles Ashcraft in the promotion of Christian higher education.

New director for campaign to begin work immediately

Jim Tillman, pastor of First Church, Walnut Ridge, has been named to direct the Ouachita-Southern Advancement Campaign for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention.

He succeeds Alvin "Bo" Huffman Jr., Blytheville businessman and Baptist layman, as director of the effort to raise funds for Ouachita University and Southern Baptist College.

Announcement of the appointment was made by W. O. Vaught Jr., pastor of Immanuel Church, Little Rock, who is chairman of the Campaign. Dr. Vaught said that Tillman will move his family to Little Rock and take up his

work immediately. Working from an office in the Baptist Building, Tillman will continue the campaign which already has pledges of \$4½ million.

Tillman, an Arkansas native, holds the B.A. degree from Ouachita University and the B.D. degree from Southwestern Seminary at Ft. Worth, Tex. He has served churches at Pine Bluff and Little Rock and at Mansfield, Tex., before coming to the Walnut Ridge church.

He is married to the former Betty Jo Beaty, and they are the parents of two daughters and a son.

Dr. Vaught said that Tillman will be



This group of men attended the witnessing retreat.

available to any church or other group needing his assistance in the promotion of the campaign. "We desire that the associational meetings hear his message about this great Christian endeavor. He will be glad to appear on associational programs and will provide literature and offering envelopes for any group needing them.

"We commend this fine leader to you and ask that you take him to your hearts and include him in your prayers. The entire Executive Committee of our Campaign joins me in sending this announcement to Arkansas Baptists. We confidently believe that God has raised up this noble pastor to help us march on to victory in this greatest effort Arkansas Baptists have ever made for Christian education."

Pastors attend witnessing retreat

The Pastors' Witnessing Retreat held Sept. 7 and 8 at Camp Paron majored on preparation and promotion of Lay Evangelism Schools. All the manuals were taught and WIN materials were discussed.

Roy Hilton, pastor, Immanuel Church, El Dorado, was the Bible teacher. An interesting part of the study was a revelation by Brother Hilton. In the ministry of Jesus not one convert was recorded from Jesus' public preaching. All His converts as recorded in the Bible were from a person to person contact. This truth shocked all of us into the realization of the importance of personal witnessing.

C. B. Hogue, Secretary of Evangelism, Oklahoma Baptist Convention spoke on "Witnessing in the Spirit."

There were 60 in attendance. Full time evangelists of Arkansas, superintendents of missions, chairmen of evangelism and student pastors were guests of the Department of Evangelism. All those in attendance that received the leadership training and will attend a school will be qualified to be directors of schools.

Anyone interested in leadership training will be able to attend a Lay Evangelism School at Calvary Church, Little Rock, Oct. 23 through 27. Leonard Sanderson, Secretary of Evangelism, Louisiana Baptist Convention will direct the school. Leadership training will be offered in the daytime. Those interested in this training should write me and pre-register. The school will be from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. Monday, Oct. 23 through Friday night, Oct. 27. — Jesse S. Reed, Director, Evangelism.



Missionary Glen Hickey uses his amateur radio equipment to relay many emergency messages.

For SBC missionary

Hobby becomes avenue of ministry

"PY7ZAA, Recife, this is net control, WA4PXR, northwest Florida. Stand by for emergency traffic." Many times these words have come blaring forth from the loudspeaker of an amateur radio station in Recife, Brazil, alerting missionary Glenn Hickey to lay aside a theological textbook or a sermon notebook in order to attend an urgent call.

Dr. and Mrs. Glenn E. Hickey are Southern Baptist missionaries to Recife, Brazil, a city of one million population located on Brazil's northeastern coast. In addition to his responsibilities as professor of New Testament at the North Brazil Theological Seminary and pastor of a local Baptist church, Hickey has discovered a third avenue of ministry through the medium of a hobby acquired in college days at Ouachita University. "When I strung a piece of clothesline out a second story window of North Dorm in 1951 and connected it to a crude homebuilt transmitter, little did I realize that my newly acquired hobby would some day become a useful tool in ministering to human need."

Missionary Hickey has been a licensed radio operator since 1951, but until international agreements were signed in 1970, foreign amateurs could not operate their equipment in Brazil. The Hickeys have been missionaries to Brazil since 1964.

"As the only American currently

licensed to operate on the amateur circuits in Recife, I get a lot of calls for help in emergency communications and meet a lot of people I would not ordinarily come in contact with in the normal course of my missionary work. These contacts have opened many doors for witness and ministry. On several occasions we have been able to minister in a time of crisis," declares Hickey.

A majority of the communications are "phone patches" which allow direct voice communication between two parties. Through the Missionary Net (sometimes called the "Halo Net") and other radio circuits, voice contact can usually be established with most major cities in the U.S. The stateside amateur then makes a telephone connection via regular telephone circuits to the home of the desired party and the two parties may converse in a manner very similar to an ordinary telephone conversation.

Many of the calls are made for homesick MKs (missionary kids) in college in the states and their anxious parents who just need to hear a son or daughter's voice and know that all is well. Other contacts allow Brazilian exchange students in the U.S. to talk with their families in Brazil, reports Missionary Hickey.

Some of the situations in which rapid, direct communication is essential are

Committee

(From page 24)

several fragmented lay movements. James Johnson, a computer specialist from Arlington, Tex., who heads the organization, was named a part-time staff member of the commission Sept. 1.

Final determination of location of responsibility for promotion of bus ministries in Baptist churches was also delayed. The program committee was asked to continue study of the matter with the view of assigning the program to either the Home Mission Board or Sunday School Board.

After lengthy subcommittee discussion, the committee voted to continue for two years use of income from three trust funds for scholarships for graduate and post-graduate study for teachers in Baptist colleges and seminaries and to review again the use of the funds in 1974.

Presidents of SBC seminaries had requested that income from the trust funds be used for seminary study support, rather than Baptist college scholarships, arguing that there is less need today for teachers with doctor of philosophy degrees in some fields at Baptist colleges. The new proposal does include seminary professors.

Two motions referred to the Executive Committee by the SBC in Philadelphia were assigned to subcommittees for study and later report. One asked that dates of future conventions be changed to permit more laymen to attend, and the other asked a committee studying SBC organizational structure to consider giving the Evangelism Division of the SBC Home Mission Board the status of a commission.

quite unusual. "One day a distinguished architect from Uruguay appeared at my door wanting to talk to the states. He had fled his country for political reasons and had resolved to start life all over in Brazil. Evidently, he wanted to make his new start by bringing his divided family together again. We contacted his estranged wife, now living in the U. S., and they talked together for the first time in 7 years. When she seemed to admit no possibility of reconciliation, the man was visibly crushed and distraught. In that situation of real human need, I was able to minister with a word about God's love and forgiveness," states Hickey.

While on furlough, the Hickeys are residing at 303 N. Fifth St., Arkadelphia, where Hickey is teaching in the religion department of Ouachita University. He is a native of Mount Ida. Mrs. Hickey, the former Dorothy Thomerson, is a native of Malvern.

Jonesboro church expands — into Church of Christ building



The members of Central church have purchased the Church of Christ building at the left. Their own facilities are to the right of the photo and behind the other church's building.

"I have just read in your church paper that you had purchased the Church of Christ. When do you plan to take over the Methodists and Presbyterians? That must be a first in the history of Southern Baptist . . . buying a Church of Christ. Congratulations!"

The letter was from Ralph Smith, Pastor of Hyde Park Church of Austin, Tex. It was addressed to R. Wilbut Herring, Pastor of Central Church in Jonesboro.

It is not known whether this is a first, but it is a fact that this unusual transaction took place in Jonesboro. For years the Central Baptist Church and the Main Street Church of Christ worshipped side by side on the same block of Main Street. The Baptist Church started a record of growth that made it possible to buy more and more property and to build more and more buildings. Finally the whole block was owned by the Baptists except the small lot upon which the Church of Christ members had built a sizeable building for Sunday

School classes and worship services.

After many years of prayer and negotiations the hour finally came when it was time to purchase the property. It was at the same time when worthy demands were being placed before the Baptist Church. The special funds needed for the Associational Camp, the need to be a part of the Higher Education Development campaign for Ouachita University and Southern Baptist College, the need to increase Cooperative Program gifts, and the need to increase the church budget for a more dynamic program of outreach were before the church at this same time.

The church lived up to its reputation of being "one of the leading Southern Baptist Churches in Arkansas," and met the challenge of each need including the purchase of the Church of Christ property.

The property purchased has a frontage of 130 feet on Main Street and

110 feet along Oak Street. The Gothic type structure has an auditorium which will seat 400 adults. There are class rooms on the second and ground floors.

The Central Baptist Church will use these newly acquired facilities in its enlarged program of evangelism and education. The auditorium will be used for the Children's Church Services to begin Oct. 1. The Evangelism Bus Ministry has created a need for a children's worship service on Sunday mornings running concurrently with the regular Morning Worship Service for the Adults and Youth. The Children's worship service will be in the charge of Wes Kent, minister of evangelism and his corps of workers.

The ground level space is being redecorated and made suitable for the fast growing University and Career Department of the Sunday School. The church has a special ministry to the students of the Arkansas State University. The educational program is under the direction of Les Stanley, minister of music and education.

Central Church has consistently been in the top 25 churches in baptisms and Cooperative Program gifts for World Missions. It has enjoyed a substantial growth in the last three years under the leadership of its pastor, R. Wilbur Herring. Dr. Herring served the Central church from 1952 to 1958. After successful pastorates in Jacksonville, Fla. and Atlanta, Ga.; he returned to the Jonesboro Church in October, 1969.

This real estate transaction was handled by the Properties Committee headed by Frank Lady and the Finance Committee headed by Ray House. The chairman of the Deacon Fellowship is Ernest Howell.

January Bible Study books recommended

The following books are recommended for study during January Bible Study Week, 1973:

Adults—*Galatians: Freedom Through Christ*, by Howard P. Colson and Robert J. Dean.

(Also available for use with the above book are a workbook, a teaching guide, and a filmstrip, all bearing the same title as the book.)

Youth—*Now Listen, My Friend*, by Dan G. Kent.

Older children—*Men Who Told His Story*, by Johnie Human.

Younger children—*The Story the Bible Tells*, by Mrs. Carl Clark.

Older preschoolers—*God's Care in Autumn and Winter*, by Polly Hargis Dillard.

Younger preschoolers—*Animal Friends*, by Elizabeth Hutchens.



The heron

By Grace Krogh Boller

Heron has long necks and heads. This heron comes from South America. It is a big bird. It likes water. It wades and finds its food in the water. It likes to eat minnows, frogs, and little snakes. That is why it has such a long, sharp bill. This heron uses its bill to stab at the fish and frogs it needs for food. Perhaps sometime you may see a heron in a zoo.

The man who stood firm

By Betty L. Potter

"What!" the red-faced man bellowed. "You mean, ye'll buy us no rum!"

The small, quiet man nodded his head. "That's what I do mean," he answered firmly.

"Not even one tankard?" asked a black-haired man with bushy eyebrows. "Not even just one wee drink of rum?"

"Not one!" replied the man, standing firm by his convictions.

The time was 1777, James Madison, delegate to the Virginia Assembly was facing some of the men who would vote on whether to elect him for another year. In the past, delegates had soothed their electors with free rum. Not James Madison. He had studied for the min-

istry and was firmly against strong liquor.

"But it's the custom!" shrilled a gray sparrow of a man, hopping up and down. "It's the custom. Always been done!"

"Yes, the custom. Everyone does it," shouted the other men around the table, their eyes on James Madison.

"I'll not be buying the demon rum for you," Madison was embarrassed but firm in his answer.

"Jamie," whispered a well-dressed companion standing at his side, "James, it might pay you to buy them the liquor. After all," the man paused to fan him-

self with a large, silk handkerchief while his eyes searched the face of James Madison. "After all," he repeated, "you do want their vote."

"Yes, I do," replied Madison. "But I'll not be blackmailed into buying them rum when I don't believe in it!"

"Now, James," his companion's voice was pompous, "be reasonable. You want their votes. Just buy them the rum." He glanced contemptuously at the crowd of men at the long, rough table. "They do expect it, and I don't think it will hurt their morals much."

"No!" James Madison's voice had a note of finality to it.

"Stingy!" shouted a rough voice from among the men.

"Well, Mr. Bigwig," shouted a coarse, sandy-haired man, standing up and letting the crude chair fall behind him. "No rum! No votes! Virginia can do without you as a delegate. Your political career will come to an end here and now!"

James Madison turned and left the room. His companion stumbled after him, muttering, "You can't do this, James. Consider! You have to have their votes."

James Madison gave no sign that he heard the crude cries of "no rum — no votes" from within the room. Neither did he listen to his companion's desperate pleading.

The men did not reelect James Madison as their delegate. He returned to his home a defeated man. A neighbor and a cousin met him on the eve of his return. As the neighbor shook James Madison's hand, he said, "You stood tall in your beliefs, James. I'm proud of you."

"Never you mind, James," his cousin added. "Virginia needs you and our growing country needs you." He smiled reassuringly. "You'll be back shaping our future in no time."

In November, 1778, James Madison was back in politics. He was elected as a member of the Governor's Council of the state of Virginia. Later he played a large role in the writing of the Constitution of the United States. That role earned him the name "The Father of the Constitution." A grateful nation later made him the fourth President of the United States. He was a man who set principle and belief above his career.

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The battle for men's minds

By Lawson Hatfield
State Sunday School Secretary



Hatfield

What could Paul have accomplished had the press, radio, T.V. and efficient mail service been available to him?

That he would have used the mass communication media is a foregone conclusion. Paul was at once a mystic and a pragmatic spirit. He was spiritually minded and at the same time a very practical leader.

Paul admonished Timothy to preach the word. To communicate the gospel. Paul set the example in communications and was effective and efficient in spreading the gospel. Consider this: he methodically approached his countrymen, the Jews, with the gospel message. He consistently reached the Gentiles. He functioned in the synagogues, the religious educational institutions of his people. He also functioned in the streets, the market place, the public forum, and from house to house.

Paul had many things going for him in communications. He traveled much. He rode beasts of burden on occasions. He traveled by boat. Paul appeared in many small towns, talked often with individuals, preached to large crowds in the larger cities, witnessed to a mob, preached to kings and to his jail keeper and guards. He traveled narrow paths, dusty roads, and walked the highway of kings, the Appian Way. The witness of Paul reached from the crooked streets of Damascus to Caesar's household.

Paul was as apt in communications in his society as Billy Graham is in today's world.

Paul's communication, both teaching and preaching, had a freshness and urgency springing from an apparent expectancy concerning Christ's return.

Today's Sunday School teacher and class member might ponder heavily this obvious motivation in Paul's concept.

Paul declared Jesus as judge, judge of the living, judge of the dead; Jesus as ready to appear, a King with a Kingdom. Verse 1-2.

Paul was a good example of instant communication. He could, therefore guide other leaders to be "instant in season, out of season." This really means "constant."

The negative emphasis of the Gospel

People who insist the gospel is all positive are simply overlooking some

of the facts. Preaching, Paul says, will have negative elements in its emphasis.

A good exercise just here would be to read a dictionary definition of the following words; reprove, rebuke.

Another element of gospel communication in the first century or the twentieth century is to exhort.

Exhortation means to urgently and warmly encourage, advise, warn.

To offer the gospel is not to throw a man a cold potato, nor a hot one, but to patiently, persistently, and lovingly teach him or indoctrinate him.

However effective the method and equipment of communicating the gospel, some hearers will be a disappointment. Some will not stand up under strong doctrine, some will entice false teachers to their payrolls, who in turn will satisfy their fable infested ears.

In hard contrast, the faithful witness is to watch or see the full meaning (true or false) in all things.

The faithful witness is to keep evangelism first, which will help keep doctrine pure. Do the work, the honest, true, hard work of an evangelist, Paul commands. In this way, the real validity and rightness of one's ministry will be evident.

There are important words and concepts in this passage. Consider these:

1. The imminence of the second coming
2. Preaching
3. Reprove, rebuke
4. Patience
5. Teaching
6. Sound doctrine
7. Fable lust
8. Watch, work
9. Endure, persevere
10. Evangelism
11. Test, proof
12. Ministry

Phil. 4:8-9

Positive emphasis

The gospel, when fully accepted, will make radical changes in individuals and will positively affect society.

Christians are to be thinkers, not stinkers. Think through several important Christ-like characteristics.

1. Things that are true — Think about

and praise God for things that are true — both from God and man.

2. Things that are honest — Think honesty and your life can honestly praise God.

3. Things that are just — Think of the just thing to do in your immediate problem today, do justly and your just action will sweep back to you in an exultation of praise.

4. Things that are pure — Think pure thoughts when impure pictures and words confront you. Replace pornographic pictures with pictures of your mother, wife, daughter, reputable girl friend. Put away filthy books, dirty books, and so-called "adult" books. Put in their place good literature. Just read the Bible daily.

5. Things that are lovely — Think lovely thoughts. Praise God in lovely music, and other art forms. See God in lovely nature. Worship God on his lovely Sunday in loving praise.

6. Things that are good — Good — right — just

Application

One practical way to apply this lesson on good communications is to share Christ in a positive witness with friends and neighbors. Find and cultivate people who do not know Christ. Join in the battle for the mind and conscience of the non-Christian. Communicate a positive Christian witness.

Another application is to combat false advertisements such as alcoholic beverages, which saturate the minds of children daily in news media, including T.V. For example, parents could frequently combat beer ads by reading Proverbs 20:1 and 23:29-35. Parents could often say, "That advertisement is not at all true to life." Then, point out some fact the child can remember such as a drunken fight, an alcohol caused auto wreck, or the sickness of a family member or a friend caused by alcohol. This suggested approach is effective. A child is much more apt to believe a loving parent than the total impression that "all is well" with certain products including drugs and alcohol.

Social change is as old as history. The battle for the minds of men is constant. Aggressive teaching, preaching and living are required if Christians are to participate effectively in the Christian warfare.

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The demands of faith

By Don Cooper

Associate, State Sunday School Dept.



Cooper

Have you noticed any pioneers lately? They say it takes a frontier to make a pioneer. We have all viewed those brave pioneers who have conquered the frontier of space. How brave and daring those modern day spacemen must be! It is almost breath-taking to see them "bounce" around on the moon. They really are pioneers.

These are not the kind of pioneers I had in mind when I posed the original question. I wanted to know if you had observed any spiritual pioneers. It takes a certain kind of faith to do what the astronauts did, but spiritual pioneers must possess a different kind of faith.

A challenging example

There are some spiritual pioneers among us. Just in case you haven't seen any lately, let me tell you about two that I know. On Sept. 1, 1972, these two young ladies became a part of a mission venture in Salt Lake City, Utah. They will represent our Lord, Arkansas Baptists, and our Baptist Student Union on the university campus. Becky Hutchison and Rhonda Wiley responded to the demands of their faith. Like Abraham, their response was an action response.

Becky is from Evening Shade and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rex Hutchison. She has been an active Christian student at Arkansas Collège. She has had several recognitions and was chosen Miss Congeniality in the Miss Arkansas pageant in 1971.

Rhonda is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Junior L. Wiley of Piggott. She too has been an active Christian student. Her school was Ouachita University. She has served as summer missionary in Hawaii. In 1970 she attended the Baptist World Youth Congress in Berne, Switzerland.

In the dedication service we heard these young missionaries pray: "Hear us now, Lord, as we dedicate our time, talents, and material worth, yea even our very lives to the continued advancement of thy kingdom upon the earth. Give us a strong faith in thee and in the future of thy work. Give us love that we may live before our fellow men the salvation of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen." You pray

for these two young spiritual pioneers as they continue to meet the demands of their faith.

There are yet many spiritual frontiers for those who possess such a pioneering faith.

The studies in this first unit center around Abraham. We will discover some of the real qualities of pioneering faith. Later studies this quarter will give us examples from Jacob and Joseph.

Scripture highlights

The writer of Genesis records for us the message from God to Abraham (v. 1-3). This is followed by Abraham's response in action, not words (v. 4-6). Then follows another message from God and another action response by Abraham (v. 7).

The writer of Hebrews gives us a brief commentary on God's initial relation to Abraham (Hebrews 11:6, 8-10).

The call of God must have been clearly understood by Abraham. Not that he understood "why," but he did understand "what." He knew what God wanted him to do. It was not easy for Abraham to "pull up stakes" and go, but he recognized the demands of his faith in his God. The promises in verses two and three must have been reassuring to Abraham. Again he could not see the end, but he saw enough to give a positive response.

We should note here that this was the initial act in the great drama of redemption of mankind. The climax was reached centuries later in the coming of Christ in the form of man. God was now taking the first step in his own mission of making possible salvation. The call of Abraham was a deliberate choice on the part of God. It was an expression of God's eternal love for man. God said to Abraham in his call to him that through him "shall all the families of the earth be blessed." He was blessed to be a blessing.

Now in Genesis 12:4-6, we have Abraham's response. Abraham's faith was immediately translated into action. His response to God's message was one of action. God had said "go," so Abraham "went." He apparently made a definite

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Life and Work

Oct. 1, 1972

Genesis 11:27 to 12:7

Hebrews 11:6, 8-10

break with the past, as the Lord commanded. As we read what he took with him, we note that he made it clear to everyone that he was not coming back. He took everything he had and departed. Abraham was 75 years old at the time, but keep in mind he lived another 100 years.

The land to which he came, Canaan, was already occupied. This fact might have raised some questions for Abraham, but he was supported by the promise of God. Abraham did not see it in his lifetime, but he knew that one day his people would possess the land.

Another message from God and action response is recorded in Genesis 12:7. God again renews his promise. Abraham expresses confidence as he builds an altar unto the Lord. Abraham was not content with one act of faith. He had moved at God's instruction once, he would continue to do so.

The Hebrew passage is a divinely inspired commentary on Genesis 12:1-7. This is the best commentary available. If anyone had any doubt about the accuracy of the Genesis account, the inspired writer of Hebrews confirms the message. Hebrews 11 is the great faith chapter. It is a "roll call" of the great men who lived by faith. Abraham was perhaps the most prominent one listed. One of the young ladies referred to in the introduction cited Hebrews 11:8 as one of the messages she received from the Lord about the mission call for her life. By faith it is possible to obey.

Identification

Can you identify with Abraham? Does God continue to lead (call) his people? Are there still some "Canaans" to be possessed? Was Abraham just a man as human as us? Are the demands of our faith sometimes overwhelming? Does God's provision still exceed the demands?

The answer to all the questions except the first one is "yes." Only you can answer the first question. The need for Abrahams has not ceased. God is not out of business. God is still in business in some "unknown lands," in Salt Lake City, and in the place where you live. Your action response to the call of God depends on faith in God and in his eternal purpose.

Next week we will study about "Faith Under Fire."

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A smile or two

A young man had just graduated from the university as a mathematics major and had gone to work for a large company engaged in research. On his first day in his new job, a man who was unknown to him came up and gave him a problem to solve: two microbes were placed in a gallon jar at exactly 10 o'clock. The number of microbes doubled itself every second. The jar is exactly full at 11 o'clock. At what time was the jar half full?

The young mathematician sat down at his calculating machine and started work, and his answers were getting astronomical when an old timer in the office tipped him off to the prank by pointing out that the answer was: one second to 11 o'clock.

* * *

The sailor began to talk to the man with whom he was sharing a seat on the bus.

"Yes," he bragged, "I've traveled a lot. Been nearly all over the world, in fact."

"Nothing like travel to broaden the mind," commented his companion. "I suppose you must know a lot about geography?"

"Well, yes and no," replied the sailor, a bit hesitantly. "The ship I was on did put in there once. 'Tain't much of a place, though, from what I remember."

* * *

A year after moving to Florida, a photographer was showing a native acquaintance some street-scene photos he'd taken in Miami. "The weather's great down here," the newcomer exulted. "Just by looking at these pictures, you couldn't tell which were taken in winter and which in summer."

"I can tell which is which," the Cracker asserted. Then going through the photos, he did, without a miss.

Amazed the greenhorn said, "How could you tell?"

"In winter," said the native, "we get Cadillacs and Lincolns. Summer, it's Fords and Chevies."

* * *

Mrs. Perkins had been after her husband for weeks to turn the living room rug around so it would wear evenly. He would give compliant husbandly grunts but the rug remained unturned. Finally one weekend, when he was busy out in the garage, she laboriously moved the furniture, turned the rug and restored the arrangement of the room. Then she had to go on an errand. When she came back, her husband greeted her, smiling smugly.

"I bet you thought I'd forgotten," he said "While you were out I turned the rug for you."

Attendance report

		September 17, 1972		
Church	Sunday School	Church Training	Ch.	Addns.
Alexander, First	44	26		
Alicia	49	57		
Alma, First	340	99		2
Alpena	73	48		
Beirne, First	55	25		
Bentonville, First	260			3
Bella Vista Mission	32			
Berryville				
First	182	74		
Freeman Heights	156	43		
Rock Springs	99	69		5
Blytheville				
Clear Lake	116	99		
Gosnell	204	84		
Booneville First	242	199		2
Glendale	85	35		
Cabot, Mt. Carmel	190	90		
Camden				
First	490	80		2
Hillside	121	51		2
Cherokee Village Mission	135			1
Concord, Mt. Zion	40	17		3
Crossett				
First	483	113		1
Mt. Olive	275	92		3
Des Arc, First	180	72		
El Dorado, Caledonia	44	18		
Forrest City, First	654	177		12
Ft. Smith				
First	1155	433		9
Grand Avenue	704	292		1
Moffett Mission	23			
Haven Heights	227	116		
Oak Cliff	144	47		2
Gentry, First	167	70		
Greenwood, First	274	101		
Grandview	76	41		
Hampton, First	126	57		
Harrison				
Eagle Heights	244	125		2
Woodland Heights	78	47		1
Helena, First	248	66		
Hope				
Calvary	182	94		
First	501	151		
Hot Springs, Park Place	375	121		
Hughes, First	213	64		
Jacksonville				
First	337	76		
Marshall Road	296	117		
Jonesboro				
Central	560	184		8
Nettleton	308	109		
Lake City, Bethabara	112	110		4
Lake Village, Parkway	73	39		
Lavaca, First	342	128		
Little Rock				
Geyer Springs	671	226		1
Life Line	646	134		2
Martindale	107	48		1
Sunset Lane	264	86		1
Wakefield First	64	43		
Woodlawn	112	55		7
Magnolia, Central	581	185		
Marked Tree				
First	169	49		
Trinity	46	38		
Melbourne				
Belview	193	104		1
First	144	64		
Horseshoe Bend Mission	41			1
Murfreesboro, Mt. Moriah	46	26		
North Little Rock				
Baring Cross	490	128		2
Calvary	414	153		10
Gravel Ridge	187	108		
Levy	426	88		10
Park Hill	848	128		3
Sylvan Hills	265	103		
Paragould, East Side	209	86		1
Paris, First	396	103		
Pea Ridge, First	140	35		
Pine Bluff				
Centennial	218	68		
First	695	218		1
Green Meadows	66	32		
Prairie Grove, First	171	73		
Rogers, First	721	155		11
Roland, Natural Steps	89	63		
Russellville, Second				
Springdale				
Berry Street	112	44		
Caudle Avenue	118	39		
Elmdale	366	114		8
First	1409	230		21
Oak Grove	65	27		2
Van Buren, First	513	222		
Mission	45			
Vandervoort, First	46	25		
Warren				
Immanuel	239	80		
Southside Mission	61	46		
Westside	68	49		
W. Memphis, Vanderbilt Ave.	80	49		

Southern Baptist datelines

Executive Committee continues study of pastor counseling agency

NASHVILLE (BP) — In one of its shortest sessions in recent years, the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention delayed final action on several major items on its agenda, devoting most of its September meeting to internal affairs.

The 63-member committee, in its major decisions, granted new titles to three of its executive staff members, approved a preliminary report on a study of a proposal to provide a counseling program for Baptist ministers, and approved a \$365,000 1973 opening budget.

The Executive Committee delayed, however, final decisions on several items that prompted lengthy debate in subcommittee sessions.

Postponed for final disposition were proposals by the SBC Brotherhood Commission to take over a tabloid newspaper and an independent lay movement organization as a subsidiary corporation, a decision on program assignment for SBC-wide bus ministry promotion, and a change in use of income from a trust fund now going to provide scholarship aid for graduate students planning to teach in Baptist colleges.

New titles were granted to three executive staff members.

Albert McClellan, formerly program planning secretary, was named associate executive secretary and director of program planning.

W. C. Fields, formerly public relations secretary, was appointed assistant to the executive secretary and director of public relations.

John H. Williams, formerly financial planning secretary, was given the title, assistant to the treasurer and director of financial planning.

All three relate directly to Porter W. Routh, executive secretary-treasurer of the Executive Committee.

Routh has named McClellan as editor of the *Baptist Program* magazine effective Jan. 1, 1973. Leonard Hill is managing editor of the publication. Fields will assume additional duties as assistant to the executive secretary October 1.

Responding to a motion introduced to the 1971 Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis asking the Executive Committee to study providing a counseling service for ministers, either through its Annuity Board or some other agency, the Executive Committee recommended that no additional SBC commission or agency be established at this time to provide such a service.

Furthermore, the committee com-

mended actions taken in recent months and years by at least seven state conventions to establish either some type of counseling, or information services to help pastor-less churches and church-less pastors get together.

"We encourage these programs to be initiated in all our state conventions where they do not now exist," the Executive Committee said.

Citing the need for continuing the study for two to three years, the Executive Committee authorized creation of a temporary coordination committee composed of Executive Committee members, SBC agency representatives, and state consultants to help evaluate work in the area being done by state conventions and SBC agencies.

A consultation a few weeks earlier had disclosed that 523 associational superintendents of missions surveyed had estimated that 3,000 full-time church ministers leave their jobs in Southern Baptist churches every three years — an estimated annual loss of 2½ percent.

Responding to another study, the Executive Committee reviewed implementation of recommendations coming out of a depth analysis of Southern Baptist work programs, saying that the committee felt "reasonable progress has been made in fulfilling the terms of the recommendations" from the study.

Two resolutions were adopted, praising the contributions of a retiring executive secretary, and the role of a Baptist leader who recently died.

The resolutions paid tribute to the late T. L. Holcomb, who died six days earlier at the age of 89. For 18 years Holcomb was executive secretary of the SBC Sunday School Board. He also had been pastor of numerous churches, and executive secretary of both the Southern Baptist Foundation and the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Another resolution honored W. Fred Kendall, who retires this year as executive secretary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

In other actions, the Executive Committee approved a public relations campaign seeking to communicate who Southern Baptists are to the people in the Northwest prior to the SBC's annual session in Portland, Ore., next June; selected the Hilton Hotel as the headquarters for the 1974 convention in Dallas; approved plans for conducting a capital needs program from 1974-79; and authorized a study of the method of distributing Cooperative

Program funds to the six SBC seminaries.

The committee also extended to 1974 a \$2 million fund drive for the Radio-TV Commission, authorized the SBC Home Mission Board to borrow \$740,000 to purchase additional property; authorized a study of borrowing procedures for the SBC Home Mission Board Church Loans Division; and designated a \$24,292 estate bequeathed to the SBC by Marie F. Spears of Siloam Springs, Ark., to Cooperative Program capital funds.

Approval was granted to transfer the responsibility for promoting World Missions Conferences (formerly called Schools of Missions) from the SBC Home Mission Board, to the SBC Brotherhood Commission.

Several items, however, were left unfinished for consideration in later sessions of the committee, which meets twice annually between conventions.

A proposal by the SBC Brotherhood Commission to create a subsidiary corporation, Lay Ministries Inc., and assume publication of its tabloid newspaper, *Mission Action News*, drew opposition in two subcommittee meetings. Decision on the matter was delayed to allow time to obtain more information on the matter.

Glendon McCullough, executive secretary of the Brotherhood Commission, said the proposal was made in an effort to bring into the mainstream of Baptist life the largest and most aggressive of

(See Committee on page 17)

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