

Ouachita Baptist University

Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1975-1979

Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine

10-21-1976

October 21, 1976

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arbn_75-79



Part of the [Christian Denominations and Sects Commons](#), [Mass Communication Commons](#), and the [Organizational Communication Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Arkansas Baptist State Convention, "October 21, 1976" (1976). *Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1975-1979*. 154.

https://scholarlycommons.obu.edu/arbn_75-79/154

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine at Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. It has been accepted for inclusion in Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine, 1975-1979 by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons @ Ouachita. For more information, please contact mortensona@obu.edu.

October 21, 1976

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE



Exploring Discipleship

at

Church

The Sunday Night Place!

**State Church
Training Convention
page 8**





I must say it

Charles H. Ashcraft / Executive Secretary

Glory in the church

The distance between any movement, crusade, or society and the historic church determines its longevity as well as its effectiveness. History is replete with the short span and impermanence of far-out religious movements.

The life of the historic faith is often renewed, revitalized or replenished by an outside organization such as the Salvation Army in other days. This worth and permanence happens when the distance between them is confined to a certain range. Beyond this range the society disintegrates along with the people who push it. The only real permanence of any religious organization on this earth is found in the degree of nearness to the living church of the living God. Only that zeal which relates to the heart of the Christian faith as it finds expression in the church will endure the wear of time, spanning the generations and centuries.

There are some youth movements which could profit by a closer attachment to the living body of Christ. The organizations which prey upon the church and church people for their total support denounce in return the so called despots for their ecclesiastical stupidity. This betrayal is only incidental to the damage done to converts by cutting them adrift from the historic church, denying them a church home and a fellowship within the company of the beloved.

The millions from Baptist purses in Arkansas to these temporary fads would cease within a moment if the donors were aware of this permanent damage to the converts and that their hard earned gifts would accrue little glory indeed to Almighty God. These organizations which would replace the church if they could, will fade with the first frost of autumn while those who render glory to Christ in the church will outlast the stars.

No youth movement on the scene today is more deeply interwoven or inextricably related to the church as Baptist Student Unions. Their leaders are committed to Christ and his church and deserve the support of student-minded Christians. The best decision some of our affluent Baptists will ever make is to rechannel their vast gifts from passing fads into the permanence of a cause through which Christ shall receive glory in the church, and in which God's new children will have the advantages of a church home and a pastor. God prefers to receive glory in the church as well as in Jesus Christ (Eph. 3:21).

I must say it!

In this issue

The cover

Conference situations like this one at last year's Church Training convention will be repeated Oct. 28 as Arkansas Baptists interested in church training meet at Little Rock's Immanuel Church for three sessions that day.

Arkansas in brief 5

News about Arkansas people and Arkansas buildings, and other brief items from state churches illustrate the growth and successes of Baptist work in Arkansas.

Economic issue 12

Christians should use their moral perspective on economic issues to measure candidates for public office, suggests Welton Gaddy. In an article on this year's elections, Gaddy explains that economic policies are matters of moral concern, as well as political concern, and defines the positions of the two major presidential candidates.

Public TM 16

Saying that Transcendental Meditation is a religion, the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs has issued a policy statement opposing government support of TM in any manner.

Arkansas Baptist

NEWSMAGAZINE

VOLUME 75

NUMBER 42

J. EVERETT SNEED, Ph.D. Editor
BETTY KENNEDY Managing Editor
MARY GIBERSON Secretary to Editor
ANN TAYLOR Bookkeeper

ERWIN L. McDONALD, Litt. D Editor Emeritus

Post office box 552, 525 West Capitol Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72203. Published weekly except at July 4 and December 25. Second Class postage paid at Little Rock, Arkansas.

Letters to the editor expressing opinions are invited. Letters should be typed double-space and must be signed.

Photos submitted for publication will be returned only when accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Only black and white photos can be used.

Deaths of members of Arkansas churches will be reported in brief form when information is received not later than 14 days after the date of death.

Original poetry cannot be considered for publication.

Individual subscriptions \$3 per year. Every Resident Family plan 18 cents per month or \$2.16 per year per church family. Club plan (10 or more paid annually in advance) \$2.76 per year. Subscriptions to foreign address \$5 per year. Extra copies 10 cents each.

Advertising rates on request

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer. Member of Southern Baptist Press Association.

The indestructible church

The editor's page

J. Everett Sneed



During the decade of the sixties many declared that the institutional church was dying or on its way out. Today, conservative evangelical churches, such as Southern Baptist, are stronger than ever. The names of most of the church's critics have almost been forgotten. We, as Christians, can take great comfort in the promise of Christ that his church is indestructible.

Many attempts have been made to thwart the church of our Lord. In the Middle Ages persecution was rampant. Non-Christians tried to eliminate all believers. Even more tragic is the fact that many so-called Christians took the life of those who held other views. The church not only survived but emerged stronger.

In more recent times, pressure has been directed at the church through ridicule or factions within. The evangelical efforts of the church are hampered by heated disagreements in the local church or in meetings of associations or conventions.

We can be assured, however, that the church will continue until Jesus comes again. Our Master said, "And I, yes I, tell you, that your name from now on is to be Peter, Rock, and on a massive Rock like this I will build my church, and the powers of the underworld shall never overthrow it" (Matt. 16:18, *The New Testament in the Language of the People*, by Charles B. Wil-

liams).

Much controversy has raged around this passage. But rightly understood, it provides great comfort and strength for Christians. Peter had just given testimony "... Thou art the Christ, the son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16). Jesus in responding said that Simon was a "little rock" but that he was establishing his church on a "massive ledge rock." The foundation was, of course, his own deity — the fact that he was "the son of the living God."

Since the church is founded upon the deity of Christ, it is totally indestructible. Not even the forces of hell can "prevail" against it or "overthrow" it. Satan and all his kingdom will never defeat the Lord's church.

The fact that the church lives on should mean much to Christians. It is a living testimony that all of Christ's precious promises are valid and reliable. It validates the Master's words as he said, "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you" (John 14:18).

Finally, the indestructibility of the church declares that we should give our best to it. It is Christ's institution. It is purchased by his own blood (Acts 20:28). And anything which brings harm to it is a direct assault on our Lord. We should love our church and serve our Master through it. In so doing we will find purpose, joy, and contentment.

Guest editorial Are people good?

We hear it said today that Americans are basically good at heart. Are they? They are not so — unless — they have been made "new" by a personal and experimental relationship with Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord of life. And then only when they live a surrendered life to the will of God.

The Scriptures tell us that man is conceived in sin and born in iniquity. Further the "Word" says all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. This means one thing to us — man by nature is bent toward sin, iniquity and wrong.

The way we act speaks so clearly as to what we really are that our words and boasts to the contrary fall on deaf ears. The honesty, integrity, credibility, uprightness, ethical and moral actions which characterized Christ Jesus must mark every true Christian. A child of God should remember that pride goes before a fall. Be careful about bragging. Boasted goodness and righteousness with a comparable action of one's life bespeaks hypocrisy of the first order.

Man will not respect a law he hates. We see evidence of this in the actions of more and more people today. Observe the revolution in city after city when it comes to our schools and integration. Notice some church reactions to enlistment and evangelistic efforts on an integrated basis. Check it with drivers on the highways. The law is a top speed of 55 miles per hour. Obedience of this law has given us less accidents, fewer highway fatalities. Yet the observance of CBe's flouting the law and driving like a bat out of hades when a

friend tells them the coast is clear, reveals that man is basically dishonest, a cheater and law violator.

One may succeed in deception for a time and deceive others for a while but the truth will come out. We must be conscious of the eternal truth — God sees all and our fellows are checking our righteous claims with our daily acts. Too, remember Jesus said, "... except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven."

Drive along with a "cruise control" set on 55mph and take note of how many drivers will pass you (check how many you pass too). Observe those drivers, as they pass, and see the look of disgust on their face for you and your stupid slowness on the highway.

We remember, years ago, a banker's comment. He was in a foursome playing golf just behind a Baptist pastor and three others who were playing. The pastor's drive landed next to a tree. Looking around to see who in this foursome were watching and seeing none — kicked the golf ball out into the fairway and made his next shot. The banker's comment, "I would not make pastor ... a loan of any kind. I would have an inner fear that he would cheat my bank if he thought I was not looking." A sad commentary on how much louder and more influential our actions than the sermons we preach. — **O. L. Bayless in the "Rocky Mountain Baptist" of Colorado**



One layman's opinion

Daniel R. Grant / President, OBU

One speech on discovering God's will

A chance meeting of Mrs. Wilfred Tyler at the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Norfolk last summer gave me the opportunity of telling her what one speech of hers many years ago has meant to me. It was a speech she made more than 32 years ago at Siloam Springs Baptist Assembly when I was still a college student at Ouachita.

I told Mrs. Tyler I had never forgotten her three-point outline on the subject of "Discovering God's Will for Your Life." Her three helpful suggestions were: (1) Favor your bent (move in the direction of the talents God has given you); (2) Follow the gleam (ask God in earnest prayer what you should do with your life); and (3) Watch for the open door (be aware that God often reveals his will through closed doors and opened doors that help to guide vocational decisions).

As I thanked Mrs. Tyler for that little outline I have remembered for all these years, I told her how helpful it has been in my own vocational pilgrimage, and how much I have shared her advice with literally hundreds of young people dur-

ing that time. She smiled and said, "I wish I had known that, because I have now added a fourth point to the outline!" I told her it was still not too late and asked what the fourth point is. She replied, "Take the first step."

As my pastor friends often say, "That'll preach, brethren." It should be added, "That'll preach, sisters." Since that pleasant visit with Mrs. Tyler, three strong impressions have remained with me: (1) If speeches last for 32 years in the mind and heart of only one listener, speakers had better be careful what they say; (2) It would be a mistake to underestimate the long-term influence of Baptist assemblies like Siloam Springs; and (3) It is never too late to improve on even our best three-point speeches or sermons.

Incidentally, this is a good time to remind high school students to attend Discovery Day at Ouachita this Saturday, Oct. 23, beginning at 9 a.m. and extending through the OBU-UCA football game in the afternoon. In the midst of a day of college fellowship and entertainment, the emphasis is on discovering God's will.



Woman's viewpoint

Iris O'Neal Bowen

His strength becomes ours

On Sunday evening we had baptismal services at our church. The first candidate was a little girl, about 10 or 12 years of age. The curtains opened to the soft music of the organ and the child stood quietly as our pastor repeated the familiar and always beautiful words, "I baptize you, my sister, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost."

But as the pastor prepared to immerse the child, I sensed that she was frightened. Her hands shook a little as she reached quickly to grasp his sturdy wrist.

Soon she was lowered beneath the water, and then lifted up. As she came up out of the water, she no longer seemed afraid, and she calmly left the baptism.

Others came into the water and were baptised, but I kept thinking of the little girl and her apparent fear. And I

remembered how I was such a frightened little girl when I came to the Lord, and how I clung to his promises, and was reassured.

Were we not all like the small girl, I thought, when we first came to Christ? We were very young, just babes in Christ, and as we came to him, we were, indeed, frightened, not sure of ourselves, not knowing what the future held, not even sure what was happening to us.

As the ripples of doubt pushed at us, we just lifted our trembling hands up to our Lord and grasped and held on to his strength. At once, we were introduced into his kingdom with gentleness and assurance. Then we were lifted up, strong and safe and secure!

Like the little new Christian who was baptised, we were able to go out into the Lord's kingdom with growing confidence that all was well, and always would be.

Correction, please

Grady C. Cothen, who will be the Wednesday evening speaker at the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Nov. 17, was incorrectly identified on page 9 of the Oct. 14 issue of the ABN. Dr. Cothen actually is President of the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

World relief gifts top \$1 million mark

RICHMOND (BP) — Gifts for world relief and disaster response through the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board have topped the \$1 million mark in 1976.

The \$1,384,838 received from January through September is \$33,987 more than the amount received in the same period during 1975. Total relief gifts last year reached a record \$1.67 million.

The board has appropriated \$836,173 from relief funds through September. In addition, relief gifts designated for specific purposes, which can be sent to the field without being appropriated, totaled \$58,107. This makes a grand total of \$894,280 made available for use by missionaries in areas of need.

"It is a great blessing to have relief funds in hand so that response can be made instantly to critical situations," said Baker J. Cauthen, executive director of the board. "Because of having funds on hand to meet disasters, it was possible to authorize \$50,000 for relief in the Philippines as soon as word came of the disaster in that land."

More recently, \$25,000 was made available for relief efforts in Mexico, immediately following Hurricane Liza.

In recent years, relief funds have been appropriated for many parts of the world, including Bangladesh, the Philippines, Guatemala, Honduras, Lebanon and many other countries. Plans for the use of relief funds are made by Southern Baptist missionaries and national Baptist leaders. Southern Baptist missionaries also administer relief with the knowledge and cooperation of the individual governments of the countries in which they serve.

"Missionaries are giving careful attention to the administration of relief, and we can rest assured that the love they express to the people is a vital part of the tangible expressions made in relief of suffering," Cauthen said. "Many remarkable doors for evangelism are opened as funds are used to provide food, emergency shelter, medicines, aid in rebuilding homes, and many other forms of assistance to our fellowman."

"Southern Baptists can rightly feel great joy in the ministry of relief that is being extended in our Lord's name," Cauthen said.

James D. Dwiggins, pastor of First Church, Van Buren, since September, 1971, has resigned and accepted a call to become pastor of Mt. Vernon Church, Atlanta, Ga. The Van Buren church, under the leadership of Dwiggins, had an addition of 645 with 345 of these coming on profession of faith. Dwiggins also led in the church in increasing its budget substantially and attendance averages in both Sunday School and Church Training increased. The Van Buren Church has completed a new three-story educational wing and remodeling the older educational facilities has been planned. Dwiggins, a graduate of California Baptist College and New Orleans Seminary, is now completing work for his doctorate at Luther Rice Seminary in Florida. He has had articles printed in various Southern Baptist publications.



Dwiggins



Parker



Lamont

from First Church, Searcy. Parker, who attended William Carey College, has served other churches in Mississippi and Alabama.

Cannon Lamont has been called to South Side Church, Pine Bluff, to serve as minister of music. There he will direct the music program and work with outreach ministries. Lamont has served in churches in both Texas and Arkansas.

Nathan Lee Lewis is serving as youth and music director at West View Church, Paragould. Lewis has attended California Baptist College, Riverside, Calif., and is presently a junior at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro. Prior to joining the Paragould staff Lewis served on the staff at North Main Church in Jonesboro where his father, Bill H. Lewis, is pastor.

Ernest Parker has joined the staff of South Side Church at Pine Bluff as associate pastor. His duties consist of the educational ministry and administration. Parker came to the Pine Bluff Church

Military Road Mission, Jacksonville, has completed and dedicated a new auditorium. The Highway church, North Pulaski Association, is sponsoring the mission, and the State Missions Department gave assistance toward the building program and purchase of some adjoining property. Members of both the mission and the sponsoring church gave their labor to build the building. The mission was organized on March 21, 1976, from what had previously been a non-affiliated Baptist church. Bill Williams is pastor of the mission and Larry Ballard is pastor of Highway Church.



Holland Church's building was paid for as it was built.

Holland Church, Holland, dedicated building additions and improvements and held homecoming Sept. 26. They remodeled the auditorium and four classrooms, and added two classrooms, two nurseries, two restrooms, and storage space. The \$30,000 building was begun in 1973 and completed this year. It was paid for as it was built. James G. Haggard is pastor of the church.

Oak Grove Church near Van Buren has voted to begin plans for a building program that will provide space for youth education and activities, including a family activities center, at an estimated cost of \$135,000. This facility could also be used as a temporary auditorium with a seating capacity of 500 people. Ralph McClure is chairman of the building committee. Other committee members are Bill Farrar, Otis Arnold, Harold Oliver and Tommy Bowen. Wayne B. Davis is pastor.



Three Arkansans were among fourteen outstanding students to receive scholarships from Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Missouri, this fall. The \$250 presidential scholarships are part of Midwestern's first continuing awards program and will be presented to selected beginning students each fall. Recipients are determined on the basis of previous academic excellence and personal achievement. Pictured (L-R): Stephen Wilks, Rogers; Ron Wynne, an "adopted" Arkansan since attending Arkansas State University and working in the area; Carol Seaton, Little Rock; and Midwestern president, Milton Ferguson.

briefly

First Church, Hampton, held a revival recently with Jerry D. Moore as evangelist. Music was directed by Herbert Johnson. Nine professions of faith were made during the week and five joined by letter.

Arkansas contributes to record number in Seminary Extension

NASHVILLE — Arkansas contributed 120 students, 151 course enrollments, and six extension centers to the all-time record statistics in the 1975-76 academic year of the Seminary Extension Department of the six Southern Baptist theological seminaries.

During the past year, the Seminary Extension Department totaled 8,449 students, 11,750 course enrollments, and 292 extension centers throughout the United States, and has shown large growth percentages.

Nationally, students went up 26 percent over 1974-75 and 70 percent over 1972-73, course enrollments increased 30.7 percent over 1974-75 and 68.5 percent over the past four years (since 1972-73 year), and extension centers rose 26.9 percent over last year and 40 percent over the past four years.

During the 1974-75 year, Arkansas had 192 students, 246 course enrollments, and six centers. Four years ago, the state convention contributed 102 students, 150 course enrollments, and seven centers.

A breakdown nationally shows 6,689

students and 9,735 course enrollments in extension centers, and 1,760 students and 2,015 course enrollments in the home study program. Arkansas statistics show 80 students in centers, 98 course enrollments and 40 students and 53 course enrollments in home study.

North Carolina and Texas ranked one-two in all three categories. North Carolina recorded 1,229 students, 1,904 course enrollments, and 46 centers, and Texas had 991, 1,671, and 24 respectively.

Others in the top five included Florida, third each in students (490) and in enrollments (685); Mississippi, fourth each in students (464) and enrollments (581) and tied for third in centers (18) with Ohio; and Missouri, fifth in all categories (451 students, 564 enrollments, and 15 centers).

Raymond M. Rigdon, Seminary Extension Department Director, said the department, which has gained approval of the National Home Study Institute and the National University Extension Association, has a goal of reaching church leaders not able to enroll for residence study in a seminary or return

for continuing education.

"As Southern Baptists are preparing for the Bold Mission Thrust, designed to evangelize the United States and stimulate church growth, Seminary Extension wants to help back up the effort by providing continuing quality education for pastors and others who will lead in the movement," Rigdon said. "Our department is working actively with several departments at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in helping them incorporate Seminary Extension materials in the Bold Mission Thrust effort."

Meeting for workers with Internationals

NASHVILLE — A total of 225,000 international students representing 175 countries are currently enrolled in American colleges and universities according to Rollin DeLap, consultant in international work, National Student Ministries, Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

The increasing number of international students has led lay persons, church staff members and directors of student ministries into becoming involved in ministry to internationals, DeLap said.

An upcoming training opportunity for workers with internationals, "Working with International Students," is scheduled Nov. 1-4 in Nashville. This conference is for student workers or those persons interested in beginning a ministry to international students.

In addition to DeLap, the seminar will feature Jack Burke from the University of Houston, who is a foreign student advisor there; and Glenn Ingleheart, director of the department of interfaith witness at the Home Mission Board, Atlanta. Darrell Wood, editor of Sunday School materials at the Sunday School Board, also will be on the program.

Programs to be explored include "Friendship International House" and the host family concept. Also to be discussed are such concepts as teaching English to internationals, sharing the Christian faith and acquainting internationals with appropriate community resources.

The seminar is sponsored by National Student Ministries, and will be held at the board's Church Program Training Center. To register, send a \$30 fee to Church Program Training Center, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.

AN ARK-LA-TEX SEARCH IS ON!

East Texas Baptist College Marshall, Texas

is in search of former students of ETBC and the COLLEGE OF MARSHALL.

Below is an information form prepared for your convenience.

Fill it out and drop it in today's mail.

CUT ALONG THIS LINE

... thank you.

ETBC and COLLEGE OF MARSHALL

Former Student Information



Name _____

Maiden Name _____

Residence Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Last year in attendance _____ Degree _____

Graduate Degrees _____

Employed by _____

Position _____

Send to: **Director of Alumni Relations**
East Texas Baptist College
Marshall, Texas 75670



ARKADELPHIA — Dr. Daniel R. Grant (c.), president of Ouachita Baptist University, presents Henry Rockwell and Mrs. Jean Ponder, both of Houston, Tex., with a "Worthy Ouachitonian Award" as part of the halftime activities of the OBU-Southeastern Oklahoma State University football game held on A. U. Williams Field during Choir Day at OBU. The Choir Day activities are endowed by a gift from Rockwell in honor of Mrs. Ponder's mother, Mrs. Evie Hugh Ryland Boll, who graduated from Ouachita in 1905.

Baptist film center for state moves

The Baptist Film Center serving Arkansas has moved from Jackson, Miss. to Memphis, Tenn. in order to improve delivery through the mail.

The new address is 3349 Winbrook, P.O. Box 161121, Memphis.

Baptist Film Centers provide 16mm religious films for rental and audiovisual equipment for purchase.

In addition to the new Film Center in Memphis, Film Centers are located in Atlanta, Ga.; Louisville, Ky.; Greensboro, N.C., and Arlington, Tex.

For best service, persons in Arkansas with the exception of those living in the zip code area beginning with 718 should order from the Memphis Film Center. Persons living in the zip code area 718 should use the Arlington Film Center.

BOLD BELIEVERS IN GIVING



Through a Christian Life Style

Magnitude of alcohol abuse revealed to pastors at conference

More than 100 Arkansas pastors attended a conference at Little Rock's Immanuel Church, and were told that alcohol is the number one drug problem and the number three health problem in America. The Pastor's Conference on Alcoholism was held Oct. 4 under the sponsorship of the State Office on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and by the Baptist associations of Central Arkansas.

Jess Wilson, Director of the Arkansas State Office, pointed out that the problem has reached such a magnitude that there are more than nine million alcoholics in the nation and an estimated 76,000 to 90,000 in the State of Arkansas. Statistics indicate that the alcoholic effects the lives of at least five others, which means that approximately 20 percent of the state (35,000 to 45,000) and the national (45 million to 50 million) population is effected. "However," Wilson said, "these statistics are insignificant when a member of your family develops alcoholism — then, it is 100 percent with all the agony that is involved."

Wilson said that there are more deaths annually in alcohol-related highway accidents than the total number of American casualties in the entire Vietnam war. He said that 50 percent of all highway deaths are alcohol-related.

He explained that the State Office on Alcohol Abuse has nothing whatever to do with the regulation of alcoholic beverages, but is charged with the responsibility to develop, implement, and maintain a state-wide network of resources and programs to provide assistance to persons and families with alcohol-related problems. In that context, Wilson said he feels that the pastors are a very important resource, because statistics indicate that 40 percent of alcoholics come into contact with a minister during their affliction.

William Swank, Director of Inner-Cities Ministries for Tarrant Baptist Association of Ft. Worth, Tex., indicated that there were two basic ways people look at an alcoholic: they exclude him or they may ostracize him.

Swank said he sees an alcoholic as a person who suffers with an addiction he does not understand, and as a man that needs help, love, and the resources of the community. He said Christians must

accept these people as a person whom God loves, a person who may have a great deal of talent, and a person in need of a miracle that can be wrought by Jesus Christ.

According to Swank, family habits and problems can contribute to the problem of the alcoholic member of the family. In many cases mates have switched roles to the extent that it is difficult for the non-alcoholic member to adjust when recovery is made.

Gil Glover, Chairman of the Pulaski Democratic Committee, said that pastors often make a mistake in trying to "sell" God to an alcoholic when he does not know or understand the type of God the pastor knows. He said the alcoholic should: (1) Admit he is powerless over alcohol; (2) Believe that a power greater than himself is necessary to restore sanity and; (3) Turn his will and life over to God as the alcoholic understands him. Glover said one has to take an alcoholic from where he is, not where he ought to be.

Glover said that he sees total abstinence as the only solution for a person addicted to alcoholism, and suggested daily communication with God for help to maintain sobriety and to abstain from alcohol.

A film shown to the group pointed out that alcohol abuse is a reality and that the alcoholic is an individual that needs help. The film conveyed the idea that a person's attitude is important in dealing with the alcoholic, and other problems as well. The group was told through the film that a confrontation with the alcoholic is necessary; that he must be made to realize his responsibility to deal with his problems; and that the entire family is involved in helping to overcome the addiction, even though resources in the community are used.

A panel discussion followed to give the pastors an opportunity to ask questions.

Billy Pierce coordinated arrangements for the Conference on Alcoholism. Any association interested in sponsoring a conference or in receiving assistance can contact him by writing Arkansas State Office on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, 1515 Building, 1515 W. 7th St., Little Rock, Ark. 72202. His phone number is 371-2003.

Church Training Convention



Exploring Discipleship
at
church
the
Sunday Night
Place!

Thursday, Oct. 28
Immanuel Church, Little Rock

Three sessions
10:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. 2:00-4:15 p.m.
7:00-9:10 p.m.

For all

- Pastors • Staff • Church Training leaders • Adult members
- Associational Church Training leaders •
- Church secretaries • Church library workers •

• Special features •

- ✓ **Church Training Fair: "Main Street USA . . . Avenues for Exploring Discipleship"**
- ✓ **Sidewalk Cafe — Lunch served by reservation at the Fair**
- ✓ **"Bold Discipleship" — to be shown at the Fair and at the night session**

• Keynote speaker •



Dr. Jack Terry, Dean
School of Religious Education
Southwestern Seminary



Preschool
Mrs. Fred Williams

Program personalities



Children
Dan Fowler



Adult
Stephen Combs



General Officer
Jimmy Crowe



Church Sec.
Idus Owensby



Library
John Hack



Youth
Helen May

Child Care Every dollar counts in helping children

I do not need to remind you that a dollar doesn't buy much anymore. It will not buy a gallon of milk, or two large loaves of bread, or two gallons of gasoline, or a gallon of ice cream, or even a study course book! But a dollar is vitally important to the Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Agency as we approach our Thanksgiving Offering.

Arkansas Baptists have always been generous in their support of the Children's Home. This year our Thanksgiving Offering goal is \$210,000, and we are asking that each church set as a goal one dollar per church member. These dollars added together will provide the finest spiritual, physical, mental and emotional care possible for homeless and dependent children in the State of Arkansas.

This past year 107 young people lived on the campus at Monticello and the group home at Jonesboro. Of this number, 22 made a profession of faith, and who can place a monetary value on these decisions? In addition, 497 needy young people and their families were assisted by the area offices in Monticel-

Six big weeks in '77

Siloam Springs Assembly just keeps getting bigger and better. Plans are now under way for 1977 to be the biggest and best ever.

Six big weeks will offer more opportunities for more people to have a better time at Siloam. Additional weeks have been added as interest and attendance have increased. Facilities and program have improved to keep pace with interest and



Cooper

lo, Jonesboro, Little Rock, and Fayetteville.

When your promotional materials arrive for the Thanksgiving Offering, please use it; inform your people of this mission endeavour in our state, and give them an opportunity to give. Jesus said, "Any of you who welcomes a little child is welcoming me and caring for me." (Matt. 18:5 NLB) — Jeff P. Cheatham Jr., President, Board of Trustees, Arkansas Baptist Family and Child Care Services

attendance.

Listed below are the dates and suggested attendance by districts. Keep in mind that these are only suggestions. We are aware that local calendars must be considered as you select the date for your church to attend.

June 27-July 2	North West
July 4-9	North Central
	North East
	West Central
July 11-16	South West
July 18-23	Central
July 25-30	East Central
Aug. 1-6	South East

Names of speakers and other personnel will be listed soon. If you have adult persons in your church that you want to recommend for faculty or staff for any of the weeks, please feel free to write to us. We have openings for doctors, nurses, teachers for all age groups, and groundsmen.

Siloam Springs is a spiritually rewarding experience for everyone in attendance. Plan now for your group to be a part of Siloam '77. — Don Cooper, Sunday School Department



Southern Baptist Convention Sunday School

HIGH ATTENDANCE DAY

FAMILY PRAYER EMPHASIS FOR SUPPORT OF MISSIONS

During Cooperative Program Month in October

Families praying together can give immeasurable support to all areas of ministry and missions. Prayer is a vital part of the Christian life style.

Keep this handy as a prayer reminder. Read aloud the prayer suggestions for each day in the week. Ask family members to mention other matters of prayer. Pray together for the people and ministries suggested.

Sunday, October 24

Support of Christian ministries must begin with the individual and the family. Discuss the ministries you are already involved in. Name other areas in which you could be of service. Decide how your family can best minister where you are. Remember the importance of financial support which you can provide. Pray—that each family member will better understand the need for his individual support and will commit himself anew to the task of sharing Jesus Christ with the world both personally and financially.

Monday, October 25

Jesus established the church to be his ministering agent here on earth. Church staff members and elected leaders bear a heavy responsibility as they seek to understand God's will in leading the church to perform ministries. Your church budget reflects the church's commitment to these ministries. Pray—for your church staff members by name; for the elected leaders in your church; for the church members to be faithful in support of church ministries.

Tuesday, October 26

Mission activities beyond the local church begin with the association. This fellowship of churches strengthens the ministries of all and enables each to share proportionately in personal and financial support. Pray—for your associational director of missions and other staff members by name; for the elected associational leadership; for your church to envision the bold mission thrust that would be possible through an increase in personal and financial support.

Wednesday, October 27

Your state convention is one of 33 state Baptist conventions. Its ministries are supported through the Cooperative Program. As your church gives a percentage of its budget through the Cooperative Program, you are having a daily part in all of the ministries within your state convention. Think about it! Every day you share in training leaders in Sunday School work, Church Training ministries, evangelism, missions, and countless other mission areas. Pray—for your state executive secretary and the other leaders in your state Baptist convention office; for the ministries being performed; for those within your state who are being ministered to through your Cooperative Program support and prayer support.

Thursday, October 28

Ministering to students is another area of work supported through the Cooperative Program in your state convention. This is true both on the campuses of our Baptist colleges and through Baptist Student Unions on other campuses. The lives of countless young people may be guided into areas of Christian service during these formative years through this ministry. Pray—for these and other ministries supported through your Cooperative Program gifts to your state convention; for the churches in your state to increase financial support.

Friday, October 29

Our 33 state conventions join together to form the Southern Baptist Convention. Again this enables us to reach out together as we could not possibly do alone. The ministries of our Home Mission Board are supported through your Cooperative Program gifts. One of our approximately 2,300 home missionaries is Job Maldonado who lives in Denver, Colorado, and works among Spanish-speaking people. Pray—for the leadership of our Home Mission Board; for Job Maldonado, and our other home missionaries.

Saturday, October 30

Troy and Marjorie Bennett are two of our missionaries in the troubled land of Bangladesh. The Bennetts represent 2,500 missionaries appointed overseas by our Foreign Mission Board. We support their ministries as we vote each year to increase the percentage of our church budget for Cooperative Program causes. Pray—for Troy and Marjorie Bennett and our other foreign missionaries; for those to whom we are ministering; for the leadership of our Foreign Mission Board.

Sunday, October 31

Today is Church Commitment Day through the Southern Baptist Convention. Churches will be making a specific commitment to the financial support of missions around the world through the church budget. Missions, Christian education, leadership training, evangelism, and countless other ministries in your own church, association, state convention, and throughout the world depend upon your prayers and financial support. Pray—that your church will catch a vision of bold thrust in mission support; for your church to increase giving for the associational mission program and through the Cooperative Program.

**BOLD
BELIEVERS
IN GIVING**



**Through a
Christian
Life Style**

Congress pressures USSR to release Georgi Vins

by W. Barry Garrett

WASHINGTON (BP) — The 94th Congress, for the first time in history, passed a resolution asking the Soviet Union to honor its constitution, and its international agreements relating to religious liberty.

Specifically, the Congress asked for the release of imprisoned Baptist minister, Georgi Vins, and that all other Christians and religious believers in Russia be allowed to worship God freely according to their own consciences.

Introduced by U.S. Rep. John Buchanan Jr. (R.-Ala.) and co-sponsored by one third of the members of the House of Representatives, the resolution was earlier approved overwhelmingly and sent to the Senate. The measure reached the floor of the Senate on the closing day of the 94th Congress, under the leadership of U.S. Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D.-Wash.) and co-sponsored by Senators Hubert H. Humphrey (D.-Minn.), Clifford P. Case (R.-N.J.), and Ted Stevens (D.-Al.).

Congressional leaders are continuing

in consultation about ways and means to present this resolution to the government of the Soviet Union and to exert the pressure of world opinion on the Russians.

The Congress has previously approved resolutions on behalf of Soviet Jews and intellectuals who have undergone oppression because of their political and religious beliefs.

Vins, secretary of the Council of Churches of Evangelical Christians-Baptists (CCECB), a dissenting group numbering about 100,000, is serving a 5-year sentence at hard labor. He was convicted for religious activities which, in the United States, are considered routine duties of a minister.

Congress selected Vins "as a symbol of the denial of basic human rights by the Soviet Union" in order to dramatize the difficulty that free thinkers and dissenters, both religious and intellectual, face in Russia.

A concurrent resolution passed by both houses of Congress does not have

the effect of law, but it does express "the sense of Congress." Such resolutions often set basic policy positions and can be used effectively to achieve objectives that do not require legislation.

The full text of the concurrent resolution on Georgi Vins follows:

"Whereas Christians and other religious believers in the Soviet Union are being persecuted simply because they desire to worship God according to the dictates of their conscience and the precepts of their faith rather than according to the dictates of the state;

"Whereas a symbol of the denial of basic human rights by the Soviet Union is the imprisonment for five years at hard labor of Georgi Vins, secretary for the Council for the evangelical Christians and Baptists, for the alleged crime of administering to the congregation that elected him as their pastor, and the continuing persecution of the Vins family, which for three generations has suffered imprisonment and death in imprisonment for preaching the Baptist faith;

"Whereas the continued denial of this fundamental human right in the Soviet Union could have adverse implications for the growth of amicable relations between our two countries; and

"Whereas such Soviet policy contravenes the spirit, if not the letter, of the Helsinki Agreement and, by so doing, raises serious doubts as to the commitment of the Soviet Union to that agreement; and

"Whereas the activities for which Georgi Vins has been imprisoned would not be considered crimes in most of the civilized world and under no circumstances could justifiably result in the imposition of such a harsh sentence; and

"Whereas Georgi Vins' release is essential on humanitarian grounds given his poor health and the likelihood that he cannot survive his present imprisonment;

"Now, therefore, be it resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring) that it is the sense of Congress that Georgi Vins should be released from imprisonment and that the government of the Soviet Union should allow him and all other Christians and other religious believers within its borders to worship God freely according to their own consciences, as the Soviet Union is committed to do by the provisions of its constitution and by the provisions of the United Nations Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which the Soviet Union has ratified."

Read this book before you cast another vote.

Now, from U.S. Senator Jesse Helms, a sobering look at the supertaxing, superspending superbureaucracy in Washington!



Here are all the facts and figures — including some of Washington's best-kept secrets — in an explosive bombshell of an election year book. Read the sobering truth about: the federal budget, big government waste, inflation, foreign aid, legalized abortion, what our colleges and universities teach, the school prayer issue, and much more.

When Free Men Shall Stand by Senator Jesse Helms. A superbly written book that demands attention in this crucial election year. Now at bookstores everywhere in Paper, \$1.75.



Election 1976 — Focus on economic issues

by C. Welton Gaddy
For Baptist Press

Economics is the number one issue in the '76 elections according to recent public opinion polls. Citizens are deeply concerned about a variety of money-related matters.

People want to know what can be done about unemployment, rising prices on basic commodities, and burdensome taxation. They want to know where candidates for office stand on these matters.

Christians rightly view economic issues from a moral perspective. The Bible has a great deal to say about daily work (Ex. 20:9, 2 Thess. 3:10), poverty (Prov. 17:5, Isa. 3:14-15), debts (Deut. 24:6, 12-13), taxation (Matt. 17:24, Rom. 13:1-7), and welfare (Deut. 14:22-29, Matt. 25:31-46).

All possessions are a trust from God. Financial resources are to be used responsibly. Thus, in this election year, economic policies are matters of moral as well as political concern.

No serious candidate for public office can avoid discussions on current economic problems. The two leading contenders for the presidency of the United States have repeatedly addressed themselves to various aspects of the economy. Here is a summary of the positions of Republican presidential candidate Gerald Ford and Democratic candidate Jimmy Carter on three major economic issues:

1. Inflation. Both candidates agree on the severity of the problem of inflation. Their proposed solutions differ, however.

Ford has declared, "My first objective is to have sound economic growth without inflation." A control of federal deficit spending is the key to attaining this goal in Ford's opinion.

Carter has stated that the best way to control inflation is to reduce unemployment and to engage in comprehensive planning. He said, "We ought to have stricter enforcement of anti-trust laws and of consumer protection laws. And, we need a monetary policy that encourages lower interest rates, so investment capital will be available at reasonable rates."

Differences of opinions between the candidates characterize their discussions of wage and price controls. Ford has reiterated his "firm opposition to wage and price controls." Carter is against across-the-board permanent controls but favors standby controls which the President could apply selectively. He has proposed that food prices

be stabilized by combining a concern for the consumer and the family farmer with national reserves of agricultural products. Ford plans to attack rising food prices more generally by combating all inflation.

Each candidate has promised to balance the federal budget if elected. Ford has projected the possibility of a balanced budget in 1979. Carter has announced that he would adopt a system of zero-based budgeting in which every federal program has to rejustify itself each year. He would balance the budget by the end of his first term in office.

2. Unemployment. Closely related to interest in inflation is concern about unemployment. On this problem, too, the candidates differ in their strategies for offering help. Both men outlined their proposals during the Sept. 3 nationally-televised debate.

Ford opposes any short-term public employment programs. In fact, he plans to reduce the number of public service jobs from 320,000 to 40,000 by September, 1977. He sees expansion in the private sector as the best method for creating jobs.

Stimulation of private industry would be coupled with a reduction in federal taxes in Ford's plan. Businesses would be given tax incentives to locate in inner cities where unemployment is greatest. Finally, Ford would offer assistance so unemployed youth could learn and work at the same time.

Carter views the federal government as an employer of last resort. However, he does favor federally-created jobs where there is acute unemployment. His overall plan to reduce unemployment majors on strengthening the private sector and increasing cooperation between it and the government.

Carter has suggested, for example, that the federal government share in the payment of salaries for part-time workers presently unemployed. In the central cities, Carter would develop special Civilian Conservation Corps-type programs. He is convinced that implementation of the quality of life programs which he has proposed (in the areas of health care, education, housing, railroad repair, etc.) will provide the jobs needed.

3. Taxation. With most Americans in agreement that some of the inequities in the present tax system are immoral and that major tax reform is long overdue, the candidates' statements on taxation are particularly noteworthy.

Ford has called for "a permanent tax cut with spending restrictions to stimulate the economy and relieve hard-pressed middle-income taxpayers." He favors raising the personal exemption from \$750 to \$1,000. Deductions for single taxpayers and married couples would be standardized at \$1,800 and \$2,500 respectively.

Also, Ford would reduce estate taxes by increasing estate tax exemptions from \$60,000 to \$150,000. He would "restrict the use of artificial accounting losses as tax shelters," believing that high income taxpayers should pay a "reasonable tax."

Carter has labeled the present tax structure as "a welfare program for the rich." He intends to eliminate loopholes, such as the deferral system by which multi-national corporations do not pay taxes on money made overseas and not brought back into this country.

He favors "elimination of special privileges for people who have been economically or politically powerful." Carter advocates "a simple structure with all income treated the same . . . with a truly progressive tax rate so that those who made the most . . . paid the higher percentage in total taxes."

Candidates for all elected positions should state their views regarding the economy. In order to cast informed votes, ask office-seekers: How do you plan to control the budget for your office? Will you make a full disclosure of your financial transactions? At what points do you plan to cut back expenditures and at what points do you plan to increase expenditures? Do you favor more or less government involvement in the job market? How can your position assist the unemployed and the underemployed? Do you think the system of taxation in this community is financially adequate and morally just? In specific terms, how would you alter the present structure of taxation?

Given the moral responsibility of handling financial resources justly, Christian citizens must give serious attention to economic issues in the '76 elections. The voice of Christian conscience can make a significant contribution to current deliberations on economic policies.

C. Welton Gaddy is director of Christian citizenship development for the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The new life as freedom

Oct. 24, 1976

Romans 7:14-8:2

Christ has freed us; let us live in his freedom. Paul likened our free life as being a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17). We are newly created; but the process of becoming sons of God involves personal conflict. This conflict is our study for today.



Darter

The old versus the new

The preparation for this study has resurfaced a struggle within me. The pieces did not seem to fit together as I studied. Two facts have helped me get off high center. One, becoming a son of God (Rom. 8:14) is not like a fairy tale. You don't snap your fingers and have everything magically corrected. Two, personal struggle will produce personal character. Christ is leading me on through this struggle and into strength. The strength from this conflict will prepare me for the next tougher one.

A common interpretation of the Christian life seems to be that if you just trust Jesus everything will simply miraculously be worked out for you. This inside look at Paul's experience (v. 14-20) should give us a clearer view of the process, agony and conflict, of becoming a child of God. We were freed from the tyranny of our sinful lusts. We are no longer bound to obey the letter of the Law to be righteous. We may now live according to the spirit.

The conflict that Paul lays bare for us may not appeal to some Christians. But he surely speaks to many of us average Christians. Several years ago I watched the muddy water of the Mississippi fight the filthy water of the Wolf River. There was a line of confluence. The Wolf made inroads, but the Mississippi rolled on.

A similar conflict occurs in a Christian when the new man seeks to win over the old man. We have made the decision to follow Christ and have steered our lives in that direction. But our old habits seem to still be moving us in the old direction. I understand flesh to mean all the likes, dislikes, beliefs, attitudes, and feelings which were formed before I was reconciled to God. These habits were my style of living when I was trying to be me and play God.

Paul writes that he just doesn't understand what is happening (v. 15). In the early stages of salvation or renewal this is normal. When God began to work in us, he first planned his work and then went to work (Phil. 2:13). We have made the decision but the completion will take much time, the rest of our lives. Just a passing thought, it may be that there is some of this same kind of conflict in every major change we face in our Christian journey.

Admitting someone else was right is often difficult for us. The Holy Spirit has been using the Word to get us to see ourselves as we really are. Now that we are saved we can confess that he is correct. We are living lives out of control and out of balance. Our crooked living proves that "our heart is deceitful" (Jer. 17:9).

The "I" Paul speaks of is the renewed self. We become real persons in relationship to God in Christ. When we are united to Christ, we begin the process of becoming his child. The resulting "I" is radically different from the flesh "I". This inner spiritual conflict is the reason that just knowing what to do is not enough for us to do it (v. 19). The habits of our life-without-Christ are so deeply ingrained that no amount of will power of short-term positive thinking can painlessly reverse them.

Struggling toward victory

Much to Paul's dismay he found pockets of evil that were still potent in him (2:21). Even though for years he had been reconciled to Christ, he was startled at the strength of the resistance that was within him. A trip to the doctor for me revealed a viral infection. He said it was highly resistant to antibiotics. So he gave me two kinds of treatment, a shot for quick start and pills for the long-distance fight that was necessary. Grace converted me; nothing but grace can stay with me long enough to gain control over me. In the midst of our struggle we have some strong shouting to do; we are certain who will prevail!

The Lord's game plan for salvation begins with the inner man (v. 22). Having won this center of life, he works outward. This compares to the spiritual man

Paul wrote of (1 Cor. 2-3). Our strength lies neither in our will power, nor in our muscles. The power to control the outer man is given by the present Holy Spirit into the inner man (Eph. 3:16). Sufficient strength is granted according to the treasures of Christ.

Paul seemed to feel like a helpless prisoner in his own self (v. 23). We are more than just prisoners; we know what ought to be happening. I know a man who fell asleep driving his car. It eased off the shoulder. Wheels in gravel awakened him. He fought to control the car. The front wheels responded to his command, but the car skidded on and on and on. Have you ever felt this way?

From deep within himself Paul is screaming a cry for help (v. 24). This gives us an universal question: Can anyone help me? The only answer to Paul's question is in verse 25. I believe that many Christians are feeling just as imprisoned and out of control. Each day new ground is conquered for the spiritual man. The old man is loving; but he never gives up.

Setting the priorities for his ministry, Jesus put himself to the task of proclaiming liberty to the prisoners (Lk. 4:18). He has graciously accepted us. He knew long ago that his kind of healing would need to take place. The sooner we accept this in our own lives that much sooner will we heal. Just as fresh air is essential to healing of our broken bodies, so the fresh air of acceptance of ourselves is indispensable to personal recovery.

Christ delivers

The old law-way of attaining righteousness was to know the will of God and to do it. The spirit-way is to receive righteousness and participate with God in doing. Since Christ delivers, God no longer condemns me. Why do I keep on with my self-condemning? There will be no good accomplished by continually reminding me of how miserably I have failed.

Christ has completely accepted me. Now I must come to terms with my true condition. We need to trust the God who has taken us in. He is greater than we are and our confidence is in him, not in our getting ourselves right with him. "This world is passing away, but the one who does the will of God abides forever" (1 John 2:17 NASB).

The Outlines of the International Bible Lesson for Christian Teaching, Uniform Series, are copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education. Used by permission.

Telling others about Christ

Oct. 24, 1976

Acts 1:6-8; 4:5-31; 11:19-21

Being a member of the Lord's redeemed family does obligate us to share Christ and his saving power with others. Unfortunately, too many Christians look at their responsibility for sharing Christ as "optional equipment" in their commitment. Jesus says witnessing is mandatory in the Christian's life, "As the Father hath sent Me, so send I you."

Power for witnessing (Acts 1:6-8)

Too long we have emphasized the task of witnessing and neglected the dynamics whereby the Christian bears testimony. Our focal point of challenge has been the command, "Go ye and make disciples." We have said very little about the source of power, "Lo, I am with you." It is at this point where much of the witnessing breaks down. Many know and believe Christ's command, but know nothing of the dynamics of the Holy Spirit's energy to act upon the command. Many experience guilt feelings when the subject of witnessing is brought up, yet they make no effort to correct the matter.

Most Christians act as if they believe the church's source of power for evangelism lies in the facilities, the budget, teaching programs, and the popularity of the church in the community. These things have their place, but there is no power in them to do the work of evangelism.

The church at Laodicea gloried in its material resources saying, "I am rich and increased with goods, and have need of nothing" (Rev. 3:17). The Lord said, "... and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked."

We are dependent upon the ministry of the Holy Spirit to accomplish our task of evangelism. Jesus promised us this power in Luke 10:18-21.

The Holy Spirit is always involved where there is life. We see him at work in the creation as he "moved upon the face of the waters." The angel testified to Mary of the work of the Holy Spirit, "The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God" (Luke 1:35). Finally, Jesus explains how men experience the new birth and are made new creations, "That which is born of

the Spirit is spiritual." The Holy Spirit is always associated with life.

Convicts the sinner (John 16:7-11)

The Holy Spirit brought Saul to the place of repentance. He caused the woman at the well in Samaria to be deeply convicted of her sins. The dying thief was convicted by the Holy Spirit and was saved. Every New Testament conversion experience was preceded by Holy Spirit conviction. There is no genuine work of evangelism without this ministry of the Third Person of the Trinity.

Illumination of the redemptive power of Christ (John 16:13-14)

After the Spirit brings a sinner under conviction, he is ready to hear about the Good News. He guides the sinner "into all truth" and that truth is centered in the Person of Christ. The Holy Spirit reveals to the sinner that Christ died for his sins. We can tell an unsaved person about Christ's death, but the Holy Spirit must make it real to his heart before he can ever see the truth.

Until the Holy Spirit empowered Philip's witness, the lost Eunuch did not understand what he was reading in Isaiah 53. Cornelius could not be saved by a vision or an angel. God empowered Peter with the Holy Spirit and sent him to Cornelius, before he could be saved. No amount of preaching or persuasive arguments will ever cause a sinner to see what Christ has done for him apart from the illuminating witness of the Spirit.

Boldness in witnessing (Acts 4:16-20; 19:31)

Sharing Christ will always meet with resistance by satanic powers seeking to stop the spread of the Gospel. Jesus said, "A servant is no greater than his master ... they persecuted Me." In reality, when we witness to the saving power of Christ, we are attacking Satan's strongholds (II Cor. 10:3-5; Eph. 6:12) and he does not yield ground easily. When a church is involved in evangelism, it is involved in the battle between the forces of darkness and light.

The threat (17)

Peter and John were threatened "that they speak henceforth to no man in this

Name." They were not just depending on a "silent" witness. It was their vocal testimony that brought the threat. To the enemies of Christ, the spread of the Gospel was a threat. They desired "that it (the Gospel) spread no further among the people."

The name that stirs opposition (18)

There is authority and power in the name of Jesus. That name which is above every name, describes the person who has power to redeem lives. The opposition was not directed to a cause or a program, but rather toward the name of Christ.

Demonstration of courageous convictions (19-20, 29, 31)

Witnessing was so much a part of them, that to the early church it was as natural as breathing, "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Boldness like that caused the gospel to spread like a prairie fire throughout the ancient world. Even the enemies of Christ could not help but respect such courageous convictions (21). The world will let a church do secondary things with little resistance, but such is not the case with evangelism. They stoned Paul for witnessing in Lystra. When the Holy Spirit fills us, then we too will speak, "the Word of God with boldness."

Opportunities for witnessing (Acts 11:19-21)

The resistance and persecution acted as the catalyst in scattering the precious seed of God's Word. It broadened their opportunities for witnessing to people that they would not have been able to reach otherwise. As a result of being arrested and thrown into prison, Paul was given free passage to go and preach to those in Rome. It is interesting to notice that it was mainly the rank and file of the church that were scattered. The "hand of the Lord was with them" which means his power was manifested in their witnessing.

Do you look for opportunities for witnessing when you are going through adversity and problems? Have you ever considered that God arranges your circumstances and that he may be giving you an opportunity to witness that you might not have otherwise? We need to ask God for the wisdom to see beyond our own difficulties and to recognize that he may have a divine appointment between ourselves and some lost person.

This lesson treatment is based on the Life and Work Curriculum for Southern Baptist Churches, copyright by The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

HOLY LAND

\$799

9-Day. Dec. 28-Jan. 5 from Dallas.
Write: Dr. Weldon Estes, Enchanted
Tours, 4219 Oak Arbor, Dallas,
Texas 75233. (214) 330-7111.

Wash That POLLEN Right Outa Your Eyes

Better than any eye drop, LAVOPTIK washes away itchy pollen. Laboratories can count the extra grains removed by LAVOPTIK Eye Wash. Available at all leading drug counters everywhere.

Ministers world open golf championship

Oct. 31, Nov. 1-4, 1976
Alhambra Golf Club
Orlando, Fla.

18 hold-par 72 Championship Golf Course



World Inn Orlando is proud to present the first, "MINISTERS WORLD OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP".

World Inn Orlando invites Ministers and Laymen from all over the Southeastern United States to join in the First Golf Tournament of its kind.

Win a BEAUTIFUL TROPHY FOR First and Second Place and Flight Play!

While Dad plays golf the family may enjoy a holiday at Walt Disney World and other Central Florida Attractions.

Golfers may also visit the Walt Disney World Classic being played from Nov. 1 through 7.

INDIVIDUAL PLAN INCLUDES

Lodging at World Inn Orlando
\$18 single
\$20 double, triple, quad
\$30 Entry Fee includes your golf cart

(Practice rounds are not included)

LIMITED TO THE FIRST 144 GOLFERS

For reservations or information
Toll Free Write number outside Fla.
1-800-327-0502

WORLD INN ORLANDO

I-4 & 33rd St.
Orlando, Fla.
32805



MOTOR LODGE

A smile or two

Husband: "I've just discovered oil on our property!"

Wife: "Marvelous! Now we can buy a new car!"

Husband: "No, we'd better get the old one repaired. That's where the oil's coming from."

Patron to waitress: "The menu says that today's businessman's special is a variegated gastronomical conglomerate. What's that?"

Waitress: "Hash!"

A Sunday School teacher asked each of her class to recite one verse of Scripture. One little boy responded as follows: "Go ye into all the world and spread the gossip."

"Poise" is keeping talking while somebody else picks up the check.

A sheriff was taking a prisoner to jail. A gust of wind came around the corner and blew off the prisoner's hat. He immediately lunged after it."

The only people who listen to both sides of an argument are the neighbors.

Camel salesman to customer: "One lump or two?"

For sale

**100 pews, various lengths,
solid oak with pads
excellent condition**

Available Dec. and Jan.

Immanuel Baptist Church

1000 Bishop, Little Rock

Phone: 376-3071

Clean used church buses

J & M Motors

Hwy. 65, South
Conway, Ark.

329-6634 or 329-5814

PEW CUSHIONS

Comfort and beauty. At prices your Church can afford.

For free estimate contact

FLOWERS CUSHION SERVICE

P.O. Box 587 Keene, Tex. 76059

Phone: A-C 817 645-9203

Attendance report

Oct. 10, 1976

Church	Sunday School	Church Training	Church Adds.
Alexander, First	102	56	
Alpena, First	72	16	
Batesville, First	300	104	2
Berryville			
First	184	70	
Freeman Heights	186	60	
Biscoe, First	110	54	3
Booneville			
First	264		
South Side	106	77	
Bryant, First Southern	172	114	4
Bentonville			
Central Avenue	92	38	
Mason Valley	81	47	2
Cabot, Mt. Carmel	258	112	1
Camden			
Cullendale First	525	177	1
First	495	104	2
Cash, First	98	76	
Charleston, First	200	80	2
Crossett, Mt. Olive	368	157	
Dell	126	53	
El Dorado, West Side	400	390	1
Elkins, First	114		3
Forrest City, First	593	154	
Ft. Smith			
First	1307	259	8
Grand Avenue	969	246	5
Mission	14		
Temple	156	71	
Trinity	140	49	1
Gillham	87	49	1
Grandview	65	64	
Greenwood, First	368	171	
Hampton, First	155	70	
Hardy, First	143	76	
Harrison			
Woodland Heights	106	65	
Eagle Heights	258	106	
Hatfield	96	48	
Hot Springs			
Lakeside	173	55	1
Memorial	102	40	
Park Place	273	67	
Hughes, First	167	55	
Jacksonville			
Bayou Meto	195	91	
First	401	78	
Jonesboro			
Friendly Hope	125	85	
Nettleton	291	120	1
Kingston, First	73	68	
Lavaca, First	294	110	
Little Rock			
Crystal Hill	151	52	
Life Line	533	114	
Martindale	118	35	1
Woodlawn	111	53	2
Magnolia, Central	629	192	1
Monticello, Second	301	102	
Mulberry, First	211	112	2
Murfreesboro, First	151	45	
North Little Rock			
Calvary	396	125	
Levy	389	84	6
Paragould			
Calvary	242	184	
First	419	79	1
West View	218	108	2
Paris, First	336	80	
Pine Bluff			
Centennial	146	74	
East Side	183	86	
First	664	122	1
Lee Memorial	208	110	
South Side	599	101	1
Tucker	19		
Sulphur Springs	173	110	
Watson Chapel	423	114	
Prairie Grove, First	145	58	
Rogers, Immanuel	500	92	3
Russellville, First	500	139	3
Sheridan, First	202	74	
Springdale			
Caudle Avenue	171	71	4
Elmdale	341	122	
First	1404		3
Texarkana			
Arabella Heights	105		8
Hickory Street	92		
Highland Hills	161	68	
Van Buren, First	558	173	
Mission	29		
Vandervoort	64	35	
West Helena Church	340	72	7
Wooster, First	119	62	
Wynne, Harris Chapel	81	52	
Yellville, First	161	67	3

Baptist agency opposes public programs for TM

WASHINGTON (BP) — Transcendental Meditation (TM) is a religion, and, as such, should not receive public funds or be promoted by public programs, according to a policy statement by a Baptist agency here.

The Baptist Joint Committee on Public

“the No Establishment Clause of the First Amendment forbids government sponsorship, financial support, or active involvement with religion by whatever name called, by whomever conducted, and by whatever means propagated, and requires government to observe a posture of strict neutrality which neither advances nor inhibits religion.”

In other actions the Baptist Joint Committee heard staff reports on “One Nation Under God,” trends toward silent prayer and meditation in public schools, Sun Myung Moon’s Unification Church, and CIA use of missionaries.

“Perhaps no single phrase in our national liturgy is used more often to describe the nature and destiny of America than ‘One Nation Under God,’ James E. Wood Jr., the joint committee’s executive director, declared in his report. “At the same time, no phrase is used more often to mythologize and sanctify this nation before the world — whether right or wrong, good or bad, just or unjust,” he said.

Every nation is “Under God,” the Baptist executive pointed out. However, he said, “unfortunately, the phrase, ‘One Nation Under God,’ has also come to be used as a basis of American nationalism. As such, it stands always as a potential threat to the free exercise of religion and the separation of church and state.”

“It may well be that the most important problem confronting the church in our public life today lies in the widespread use of religion for political purposes,” Wood continued. “God and religion are not national resources which our nation can possess or contain within our national life; nor is God some national resource we can harness or use to serve our ‘national interests’.”

The churches must insist on the exercise of “the prophetic role of religion,” he said. “The Baptist Joint Committee does not exist to serve the national interests of either the United States or Canada, but rather to give authentic Christian witness to matters affecting public policy, as the exercise of our religious liberty.”

In a report on silent prayer and meditation in public schools, W. Barry Garrett, director of information services for the Baptist Joint Committee, reported a slackening effort in Congress for a constitutional prayer amendment but a rise on the state level to provide

for periods of silent prayer and meditation in public schools.

Nearly 30 states have undertaken steps or are in the process toward some action that will get religion back into the classroom, according to Garrett’s study. It has been reported that 15 states have taken some kind of action, most of which are variations of the silent prayer and meditation periods.

Such laws for silent prayer and meditation are usually pushed and supported by those who want religious exercises back in the schools, even though they deny that they are religious in nature, Garrett observed.

On the other hand, such proposals are usually opposed by civil liberties unions who claim that they are merely ruses to circumvent the Supreme Court decisions of 1962 and ‘63, he said.

The Baptist Joint Committee has in the past taken strong positions opposing governmentally approved, sponsored or authorized religious exercises in schools. The committee has opposed constitutional prayer amendments on the ground that the First Amendment is adequate to guarantee the free exercise of religion and to prohibit an establishment of religion.

In his report on the Unification Church, Garrett scored the “Moonie” movement as heretical and sub-Christian and urged the churches to educate their members about the true nature of this new religion. However, he insisted that Baptists should be alert to defend the right of free exercise of religion on the part of the followers of Sun Myung Moon.

In spite of the strong reactions against the Unification Church, Garrett pointed out that so far the courts have not ruled that the practices of the Moonies violate the U.S. Constitution and that the Internal Revenue Service has not yet changed its tax status as a religion.

While in Washington, the members of the Baptist Joint Committee met with State Department officials for an “off the record” session on the CIA use of missionaries in American foreign policy. The committee earlier issued a policy statement decrying the mixture of American policy and the missionary enterprises of the churches. The Ford administration has said that CIA use of missionaries will be limited to debriefing sessions occasionally with missionaries on furlough.

Address change ????????
Two weeks before change of address send name label below and new address to:
ARKANSAS BAPTIST NEWSMAGAZINE
P.O. Box 552
Little Rock, Ark. 72203

Affairs said that TM embodies both transcendent values and engages in ritual practices which are widely recognized aspects of religion.

Because of the religious nature of TM, the committee pointed out “that advocates and adherents of TM should be afforded all First Amendment guarantees enjoyed by other religions, but should be subject to the same limitations imposed by the ‘No Establishment Clause’ of the First Amendment.”

This action is in harmony with a resolution passed by the 1976 session of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). The SBC statement on TM asserted that