

Baptist Progress

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Sunday, November 23, 2014

Overall Goal: \$125,000

Goal Per Church: \$1,500

The offering benefits Baptist Missionary Loan Association, Baptist Progress, Jacksonville College, State Missions and Texas Baptist Home for Children.

Mail offerings to BMA of Texas,
P.O. Box 73, Waxahachie, Texas 75168

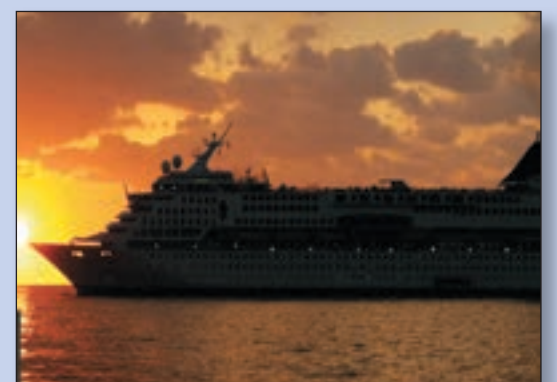
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BMA of America News

Morality and patriotism

By **DR. JOHN M. ADAMS**
MAC Executive Director



Looking for a good catalog of “helps” related to morality and patriotism? Visit our website: www.macbma.net.

Our link can also be located at www.bmalife.com as well as other BMA departmental websites. Categories at www.macbma.net include:

- Dr. Adams’ personal notes and article archives.
- Moral Action purpose statement (why we exist).
- A bibliography about the Executive Director.
- The Moral Action Board of Trustees.
- Action Alerts.
- A fast search engine on biblical questions located on gotquestions.org.
- “Bible Gateway” to search for a word or passage in the Bible.
- A great search site is “Scribd” (www.scribd.com) which includes a personal digital library for new books and articles.
- A free copy of “What One Person Can do To Fight Pornography”

Locate the section “Issues Dealing With Sexuality” and “Church Safety and Security” This is a great resource for pastors and churches.

A great concern of Dr. Adams is the “Reconstructing American History” Click on the download file to read this startling report of our country’s history.

Take time to read Dr. Adams’ article on “What happens if we Christians do nothing.” The church should encourage its members to be actively involved in Moral and Social issues facing our society today!

Our contacts are located on the webpage, as well. You can locate me with concerns or questions. Also, if in the area, come by and visit the Moral Action Display at 6080 Hwy 363, Mantachie, Mississippi (Tupelo area). We are here to serve you.

Seminary dean earns PhD

JACKSONVILLE, Texas—The Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary would like to recognize the outstanding accomplishment of Dr. Philip Attebery. Dr. Attebery has completed all requirements to earn his Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Leadership Studies from the Gary Cook School of Leadership at Dallas Baptist University.

His dissertation was a qualitative research project entitled “Describing the Assimilation Experiences of New Converts: A Phenomenological Study.” The project focused upon adult converts recently baptized by churches in the BMA. In addition to research findings, the study included recommendations for churches and pastors.

In addition to the Doctor of Philosophy degree, Attebery holds a Master of Divinity, BMA Theological Seminary, 1990; and Doctor of Ministry, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1995.

Dr. Philip Attebery, dean of BMA Seminary, is continuing seminary excellence through education, discipleship and leadership.



▲ **Dr. Philip Attebery**

Evangelistic International Ministries News and Invitation



By **MICHAEL N. GOODWIN**
EIM President

What a year this has been for EIM! We have seen thousands of souls saved and countless lives changed because of the amazing things God has done and continues to do through our ministry. We provided food and shelter to victims in the Philippines after a devastating typhoon. We have been able to spiritually feed many young, hungry pastors in Tanzania with God’s Word through our pastoral training program. We have stirred hope and love in the hearts of children in Honduras through our Shepherd’s Bag™ ministry. We traveled the mighty Amazon in Peru to take the gospel to a people who had never before heard the name of Jesus. God has blessed the preaching of his Word in drawing many unto Himself and saving souls. What a privilege and a blessing to be a part of the work of God and the spreading of the gospel!

In Matthew 28:19, Christ has given all believers the mandate to make His glory known by taking the gospel to the nations. As 2014 is drawing to a close, we are looking for volunteers to help us continue to fulfill the Great Commission that Christ set forth.

Pastors, we want to encourage each of you to prayerfully consider joining us in training pastors in Tanzania as well as on evangelism trips. We also want you to encourage your church. We want to put as many adults as we can on the mission field. On many occasions, we have been asked, “What are the trips on which adults may participate?” Please encourage adults of your church to join us on any of the Shepherd’s Bag™ trips or Overseas Bible Schools. Below you will find a list of dates and locations we have scheduled for 2015. Partner with us as we fulfill our call to spread the Gospel! To sign up, just visit our website www.eimworldwide.org and click on the “serve with us” tab.

2015 Shepherd’s Bag™, OBS, and Evangelism Schedule

- Feb. 16-20 – Honduras (SB Team)
- March 23-27 – Honduras (SB Team)
- June 12-20 – Honduras (OBS Team)
- July 6-10 – Honduras (SB Team)
- July 24- Aug. 1 – Romania (OBS Team)
- Aug. 17-24 – Peru (Evangelism)
- Oct. 12-20 – Ghana (Evangelism)

These trips have been endorsed by the BMA of America Missions Department. We are looking forward to another fruitful year, and we give God all the glory!



Family Matters

Sibling Rivalry Series: Part Two Fighting within the home

By DR. TRAVIS PLUMLEE

It is actually normal human behavior for siblings living under one roof to have arguments and fuss with each other. However, parents have the right and the responsibility to have house rules to prevent kids from dismantling the home and each other. This is part of the paradigm of parenting. You have to teach your children how to get along with others and how to treat others and basically play nice in life. This all begins by teaching them how to treat their brothers and sisters. So when your kids fuss with each other, you don't have to freak out and think you have a horrible family and you have failed as a parent. Just tell yourself that you have to tackle this like all other parenting issues. You can't ignore it. You have to deal with it straight on. But you will be ineffective if you let your self-esteem be tied in to the issue. This is not about you and your worth as a parent. This is about teaching your children

about relationships, selfishness, anger and how best to wrong a right.

Scripture is the best training tool you have for wrong behavior. The Word of God, spoken into a child's life, has a way of changing hearts more than anything. The Word of God is alive and powerful. I would start by teaching the "golden rule" found in Luke 6:31. I would also teach them Ephesians 4:32. You might think about putting this up on the refrigerator as a household verse or family verse. *"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."* Of course, all parents must have their children know and understand Ephesians 6:1-2. Sibling rivalry violates both principles of honoring and obeying your parents.

You can't play judge all the time. Most of the time you

will not be present to see who starts it, who hits who first etc... Tell them to play or co-exist cooperatively or discipline will be forthcoming. When you punish one child over the other, you run a great risk that one or both of the children are lying, one simply is the better actor/actress, and you end up showing partiality and favoritism. This always causes sibling rivalry to explode out of control as soon as a pattern of favoritism is shown. If they can't solve problems on their own and work out their disagreements, then all will be punished. I used to tell my children, "If peace is not established soon between the two warring parties, then the entire nation of Israel is taking a nap."

You can separate them. If they share a bedroom, or even if they don't; you must teach them to respect their sibling's privacy and need for space. Each child is allowed to have their own stuff and the other kids must respect that. They must learn to ask for

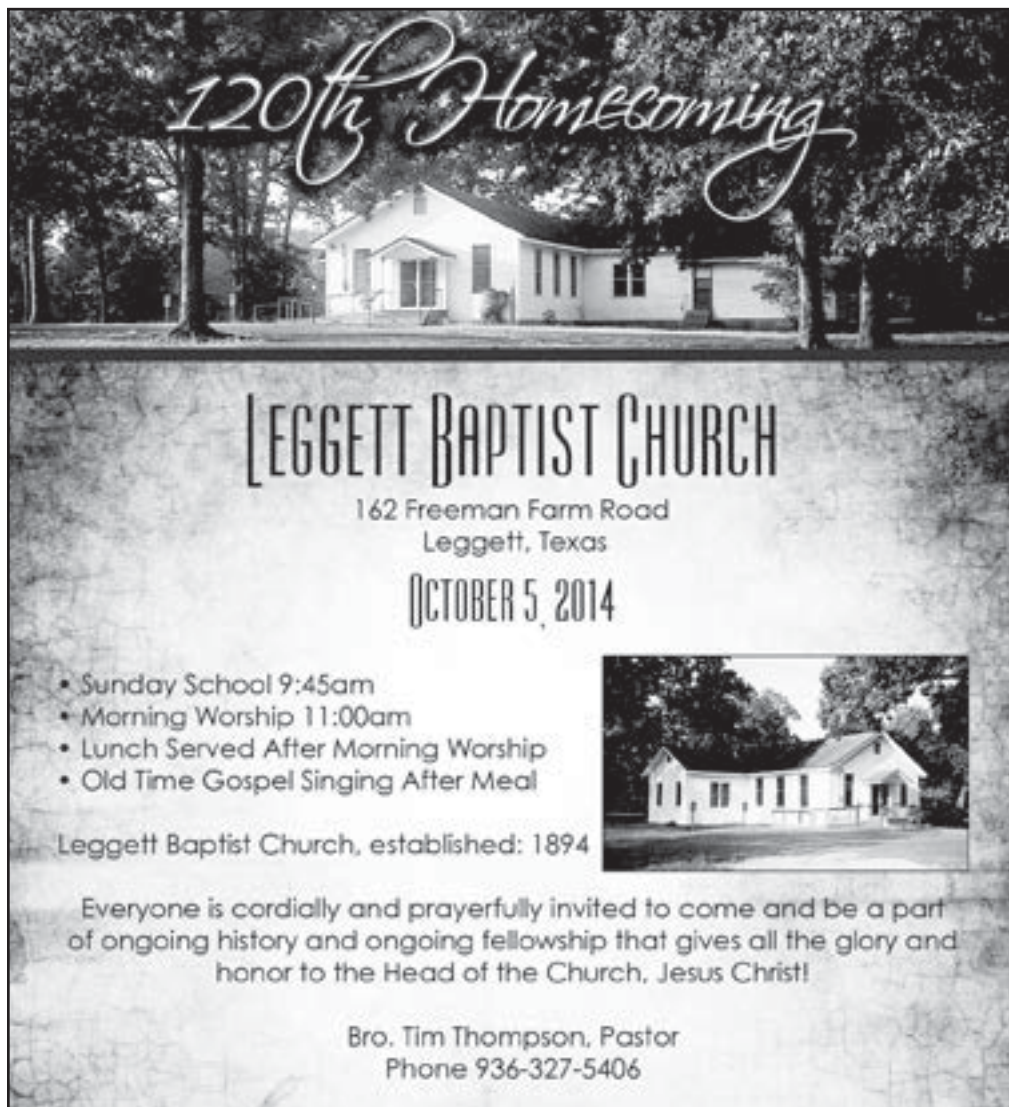
permission to play with something of someone else's. On a more dramatic note, you can always put a piece of masking tape down the floor of a shared bedroom to allow each child to have their own space. Doors and closets are public spaces. If they still fight, use the masking tape across their mouths! No—I am only teasing.

Teach them that if they can't resolve the problem on their own, it is okay sometimes to seek out a third party authority figure for assistance in problem resolution—namely you, the parent. They should be encouraged not to tattle on every little thing. But sometimes if they can't agree on how to play with something, then they should come to you. Hitting, slapping and throwing things are 100 percent never allowed. This is critical. You must never allow your children to hit each other. This is a form of family violence, and that is never acceptable. This is not something to act as if it is no big deal. It is a very big deal. They must be taught how to handle their anger without violence or they will get in trouble with it later on in life as well. Part of parenting is to teach your children how to handle their emotions, and anger is just one of them. Pray and ask God to develop the fruit of the spirit of temperance (self-control) in them.

Another option is to assign a shared chore after every episode of fighting and arguing. They have to both set the table and clean the kitchen. They have to rake leaves and take turns holding the bag open etc... Try and make it a chore where they have to use each other to complete the task. More fighting here can cause there to be more chores, less freedoms and even grounding until they learn to get along. They must always verbalize in front of you forgiveness. It doesn't matter if they feel like it. They must learn early on to give and receive forgiveness. They don't say, "I'm sorry," but they say, "Please forgive me" to each other.

Remember that you are often the object of sibling rivalry. They need more structured attention from one or both parents. The less direct involvement with them, or an unfair system of justice in the home, and sibling rivalry explodes. The Holy Spirit can guide you with wisdom and direction. Just ask God. Fervently pray for the Prince of Peace to speak peace to those in the home. Jesus can speak peace to any situation.

Dr. Travis Plumlee is a full-time professional speaker and leads Family Ark Ministries. He is national board certified as a therapist/specialist in various areas of human behavior. For more information or to contact him, visit www.travisplumlee.com.



120th Homecoming

LEGGETT BAPTIST CHURCH
162 Freeman Farm Road
Leggett, Texas
OCTOBER 5, 2014

- Sunday School 9:45am
- Morning Worship 11:00am
- Lunch Served After Morning Worship
- Old Time Gospel Singing After Meal

Leggett Baptist Church, established: 1894

Everyone is cordially and prayerfully invited to come and be a part of ongoing history and ongoing fellowship that gives all the glory and honor to the Head of the Church, Jesus Christ!

Bro. Tim Thompson, Pastor
Phone 936-327-5406

EVENTS

OCTOBER 4, 2014
Texas WMA Retreat
@ Rosewood, Gilmer

NOVEMBER 4-5, 2014
Annual Meeting of the BMA of Texas
@ Keltys First, Lufkin

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PERSONNEL & POSITIONS

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

PASTOR—Grace Temple Ministries, San Angelo is seeking a senior pastor.

PASTOR—Bethel, Orange is seeking a pastor. Send resume to 2906 Western Avenue, Orange, Texas 77630, lday1939@sbcglobal.net, or call 409-883-4822. 10/17/14

YOUTH—Farley Street, Waxahachie is receiving resumes for the position of student ministry pastor. Send resume to resume@farleystreet.com.

MUSIC OR MUSIC & YOUTH—First, New Caney is seeking a bivocational music or music & youth minister. Send resume to Pastor Jonathan Fitzgerald, P.O. Box 1027, New Caney, Texas 77357 or to fbcnewcaney@att.net, or call 281-399-9930. (TFM)

CHURCHES IN REVIEW

SEPTEMBER 14, 2014

Church	SS	Worship	Additions
Anthony Drive, Ennis	73	110	1 By Baptism
Cedar Creek, Teague	13	19	
Farley Street, Waxahachie	431	499	
First, Blooming Grove	200		
First, Palmer	40	67	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	17	32	
Jackson, Joaquin	68	114	1 By Letter
Lighthouse, Rowlett	16	40	
Long Creek, Sunnyvale	63	81	
New Harmony, Tyler	303	378	
New Haven, Dallas	26	43	
Omen, Arp	25	47	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	51	54	2 By Statement
Pine Brook, Tyler	33	78	
Rosewood, Gilmer	111	189	1 By Baptism
Sand Flat, Grand Saline	70	89	
Security Calvary, Cleveland	14	35	1 By Statement
Simmons Hill, Diana	27	51	
Temple, Mexia	37	43	
Tundra, Canton	73		

DEATHS

MILDRED HINES

Funeral services for Mildred Hines, 78, of Lincoln, were Sept. 23, 2014 at Beacon, Bryan. She ministered alongside her husband, Bro. Dewey Hines, who pastored churches in Normangee, Houston, Jasper, Carthage, Bronte, Iola and Roswell, New Mexico.



JAMES PREWITT

Funeral services for James Earl Prewitt, 71, of Waxahachie, formerly of McCrory, Arkansas, were Sept. 15, 2014 in the Pat Boze Memorial Chapel of Wayne Boze Funeral Home in Waxahachie. Among other children, Prewitt was the father of Bro. Jason Prewitt, Daniel Springs Camp Director-Elect.



Due to spacing limitations, death announcements, wedding anniversaries, etc. are reserved for BMA ministers and their family members.

SEPTEMBER 21, 2014

Church	SS	Worship	Additions
Anthony Drive, Ennis	71	101	
Cedar Creek, Teague	13	23	
Farley Street, Waxahachie	444	546	
First, Crandall	68	106	
First, Palmer	38	64	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	17	34	
Harvest, Lufkin	25	30	
Jackson, Joaquin	73	134	
Little Flock, Lufkin		20	
Long Creek, Sunnyvale	53	65	
New Harmony, Tyler	327	424	
New Haven, Dallas	35	60	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	43	62	
Pine Brook, Tyler	38	87	
Rosewood, Gilmer	106	166	
Temple, Mexia	31	40	1 By Baptism
Tundra, Canton	71		
Woodland, Splendora	47	60	
Yellowpine Macedonia, Hemphill	15	17	

For publication, statistics for Churches in Review must be received by Monday at 5 p.m. on Monday.

The next issue of *Baptist Progress* will include recommendations and proposed budgets from departmental trustees and other committees. All content is due Monday, Oct. 6 at 5 p.m.



Department of Social Sciences

By **DR. MIKE SMITH**

The Department of Social Sciences offers courses in history, government, geography, and humanities. Studying the social sciences provides us with an understanding of the past and the present. These studies help us to appreciate the complex world in which we live and to cope with the problems and possibilities of both the present and the future. In particular, the social sciences help students develop essential skills such as evaluation, synthesis, analysis, and interpretation.



▲ **Dr. Patricia Richey**

John Adams, our second president, said, "I must study politics and war that my sons may have liberty to study mathematics and philosophy."

Dr. Patricia Richey is chair of the Jacksonville College Department of Social Sciences. She received her B.S. and M.S. degrees from Stephen F. Austin University, and her M.Ed. and Ed.D. degrees from Texas A&M Commerce. Patricia has done postdoctoral work at numerous institutions including the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary in Jacksonville.

Patricia was born in Nacogdoches and attended kindergarten through graduate school all in the same town. She has been married to Nolan Richey for 37 years, and they have 3 sons and 4 grandchildren. Nolan has served on staff at First Missionary Baptist Church in Terrell and at Calvary Baptist Church in Mesquite, and he has pastored Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Scurry. For the past 21 years, he has been pastor of his home church, Concord Missionary Baptist Church in Omaha. Patricia serves in numerous ways at the church, including being church pianist. She says, "I enjoy teaching at Jacksonville College because of the Christian atmosphere. There is a sense of teamwork and cooperation among faculty, staff, administration, students, and alumni that I have never experienced at any other institution." She enjoys cooking, gardening, and riding 4-wheelers.

Pray for all our staff as they fulfill our mission of challenging minds and transforming lives.

Dr. Mike Smith is the president of Jacksonville College. Contact him at msmith@jacksonville-college.edu or 903-589-7106. You may also visit the Jacksonville College website, www.jacksonville-college.edu



▲ **Rev. James Schoenrock (on left) visits with Bro. Mike before Chapel on September 17. During the Chapel service, Bro. Schoenrock spoke about the history of B.J. Albritton and Albritton's relationship with Jacksonville College.**



▲ **On Constitution Day, Buddy Aultman, along with a vocal and instrumental ensemble, led in patriotic singing in Chapel.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Manley Distinguished Lecture Series

Speaker: **Dr. Jim Richards**

Part 1: October 28 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Part 2: October 29 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Southern Gospel Music coming to Northside, Garland

By **JERRY FULTON**
Baptist Progress Editor

For the third consecutive year, Northside, Garland will host an afternoon and evening of singing with five groups scheduled to appear Saturday, Oct. 11. The event is called Southern Gospel Roundup, and has become quite popular in the area.

Prior to their move to Garland, Pastor and Mrs. Ken Williams served at a church in Arkansas. It was there that the couple became acquainted with *Heaven's Echoes*, a Southern Gospel Quartet that began from their home base of Plumerville, Arkansas in 1983. Pastor and Mrs. Williams have been friends with the group for 15 years.

One day, in conversation, Mrs. Williams and the lead singer of *Heaven's Echoes*, Judy Biggers, spoke of how great it would be to have an all-day singing at Northside, Garland. From their brainstorming session, the ball

began rolling, and the first concert was put together. Since then, Southern Gospel Roundup is greatly anticipated by members of the church and others.

In addition to *Heaven's Echoes*, the 2014 Southern Gospel Roundup will feature *Made By Mercy*, *Ransomed*, *The Hooten Family* and *N Him*.

A matinee will be from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and an evening service will be from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Fried chicken will be served from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., with all proceeds going to Evangelistic International Ministries (EIM).

EIM ministers globally to the whole person through physical, emotional and spiritual support. The ministry has saved communities by developing infrastructure and livelihoods and by delivering urgently needed food and medicine. Founded by former BMA of America Missionary Rocky Goodwin in 1998, EIM currently

ministers in 15 countries through feeding programs, Bible distribution, Shepherd's Bags, medical and evangelical teams, discipleship training, the BMA of America Barnabas Touch Ministry and pastoral training. EIM is supported by donations from individuals and churches.

Mike Goodwin, president and program director of EIM, will serve as the master of ceremonies for Southern Gospel Roundup, and will preach during the morning worship service at Northside, Garland Sunday, Oct. 12. From there, *Heaven's Echoes*, the Williams and others will leave for a cruise, during which the Williams will celebrate their fortieth wedding anniversary.

Everyone is encouraged to join Northside, Garland for Southern Gospel Roundup, as the Lord is praised through Southern Gospel Music.

Southern Gospel Round-Up
Northside Baptist Church
2510 Glenbrook Rd Garland, Texas

Saturday, Oct. 11, 2014 - Singing Starts at 1:00 pm (matinee service) and 6:00 pm (evening service)

Emcee
Mr. Mike Goodwin

Made By Mercy

Ransomed

The Hooten Family

Heaven's Echoes

N Him

FREE ADMISSION

A Love Offering Will Be Taken

For More Information Call:
972-495-2986 or
501-977-6525

Dinner will be served from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm!

Donations from dinner will be given to Evangelistic International Ministries.



Christian Living

Keep it simple

By LARRY BARKER

There is much being written today on how to keep it simple in your life and how to simplify your ministry. The truth is that simplicity is not an easy matter in a complicated world. There are no shortcuts to simplified living, and while it may be simple, it is not easy. It is far more than better scheduling and reorganizing your priorities. We will never be able to remove all the things from our lives that are competing for our attention. Keeping it simple requires a process of uncluttering our souls. Make no mistake, action is required, discipline is necessary, and it is hard work.

Jesus had a way of simplifying what was really important and what we needed to focus on the most. He tells in John 15:5, *"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."* Simple enough, don't you think? While the principle is uncomplicated the implementation is difficult! When we remain in Him and He remains in us we will be fruitful! The question then is, "How does that simple principle become so complex in our daily lives and in our churches?" Abiding requires endurance by stubbornly not allowing anything to distract us from our focus on Jesus!

When we abide in Him we get up close to Him and remain there. It means that we are depending totally on Him. We are so close that we can hear His heartbeat, hear His still small voice, and we feel His presence in our lives. Jesus emphasized this simple principle to Martha in Luke 10:41-42, *"And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one*

thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." Martha was distracted by much and she was worried and upset about many things. Doesn't that sound familiar?

The passage in John 15 gives us at least three results that come from abiding in Him. When we keep it simple and focus on Him these three results will be the natural outcome of continually dwelling in His presence.

First, there will be the removal of dead branches! John 15:6 says, *"If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned."* When you get up close you immediately see your sin and iniquity. What sins are there in your life or in your church that by simply abiding in Christ become apparent? There is simplicity in Christ (2 Cor. 11:3).

The second result of abiding in Christ is the removal of fruitless branches! John 15:2a says, *"Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away."* It is easy to become distracted with all of the "stuff" and activities going on in our daily lives. It gets more difficult all the time to remain focused on what is really important. Multi-tasking may be the goal today but spending time with Jesus has always been His goal. If you are not careful your activity for Jesus will cause you to miss out on your adoration of Jesus! What fruitless items need to be removed from your life and from your church? If it is not bearing fruit why are we doing it?

Thirdly, the result of abiding in Christ will involve the pruning of even fruitful ministries! John 15:2b says,

"and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit." This is simply saying, "There is always room for improvement and none of us or our churches have "arrived!" There are three basic things every church should be leading their people to be involved in: going, growing, and serving. How are we as individuals and churches doing in these areas? What is keeping us from living as missionaries in our zip codes? What is stopping us from making disciples who make disciples?

Simplifying is not easy but it is necessary! In Phil. 3:13 Paul says, *"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do."* He had a focused determination to fulfill God's calling on His life and he would not allow anything or anyone to stand in the way of the "simple," yet difficult, mission God had given him. Simple can also be defined as plain, clear-cut, unpretentious, and uncomplicated. The problem is not the "simple" commands He has given us as His followers but, rather, how we have complicated our fulfilling of those commands.

Healthy churches realize that the fastest way to become unfaithful and unfruitful is to become unfocused.

Larry Barker is the operations director for North American Missions. For more information or to contact him, visit www.bmaamissions.org.



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Mission Life

Our Mission: Multiplying Churches

By JERRY BURNAMAN

Years ago I listened to a tape recording of Dawson Trotman's sermon, "Born to Reproduce." He founded the Navigators and became known worldwide for his expertise and enthusiasm for evangelism and reaching the world for Christ.

He said that he was in a park, in London I believe, resting before an evening speaking engagement. While observing the people, a young couple walked by pushing a new baby buggy. The couple was rather well dressed and all smiles because of the birth of their little one.

A little while later another young couple came down the walk pushing a baby buggy. They were not so well dressed and the buggy was worn, had wobbly wheels, apparently a used one purchased at some used merchandise store. But they also smiled with joy because of the birth of their baby.

Mr. Trotman made the observation that whatever our socio-economic situation is, we are born to reproduce. God's original order is to "be fruitful and multiply."

Multiplication cannot occur if you are (1) not married, (2) have a disease causing sterility, or (3) suffer from immaturity, (i.e., children cannot reproduce).

Do you get the idea that every born again Christian is meant to be fruitful and multiply? When believers have a passion for reaching people with the gospel and make an effort to witness to their acquaintances, neighbors and friends, then the church will grow and multiply.

Churches that do not reproduce are either immature, sick spiritually or have no relationship with Christ. Every born again Christian that is part of the family of God is meant to be fruitful and multiply.

It is my prayer for all BMA churches to be multiplying churches. What does multiplication look like?

Multiplication is essential in order to make significant impact on the community. A local church can start another church. If it lacks sufficient resources, partner with other churches and with BMA of Texas Missions to secure resources for multiplication.

Many of our church have areas in their facilities that could be used for other groups to meet. It is possible to multiply by having an alternate service, another church—a Hispanic church is a good example.

In our metropolitan areas where there are many nationalities, it's possible to have an Arabic, Chinese or Korean church meeting in the same facilities. There are many other nationalities than those I've mentioned. A good example of this is Northside Baptist Church in Garland. They have their regular church meeting and at various times Arabic and Hispanic churches meet. If you are interested in alternate services or having another church meet in your facilities, there are several pastors with experience that can give you information and some advice.

Multiplication represents biblical principles. God's kingdom is like mustard seed, always spreading. Once the seed is planted and takes root, it takes over and is all-encompassing. Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and sowed in his field, which indeed is the least of all the seeds; but when it is grown it is greater than the herbs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and nest in its branches" (Matthew 13:31-32).

It is possible to have a church without the kingdom. However, you won't have a kingdom without multiplying churches. Church multiplication is a high priority and is the "Acts" plan of expanding the kingdom in communities where the gospel constantly moves forward.

Multiplication is the hope for future generations. Without multiplication, a mission movement cannot be sustained and the institution will die. It grieves me because of the decline in the number of churches in the BMA of Texas. In the 1970's we had about 521 churches in our association, now there is about 425, a decline of 96. We need REVIVAL!

There are negative opinions about denominations and their institutions. However good or bad, institutions hold the historic values of people who brought us something we desperately need. Where institutions go wrong is when they make sacrosanct the methods, practices and process as opposed to biblical principles.

The highest demonstration of maturity for a local church is when it multiplies. There is no sustainability or future without the multiplication of churches. Only something alive can reproduce, and it will do so only if it is healthy.

Our Vision

To have an Aggressive Mission Movement
Among BMA Churches of Texas by:
Healthy Pastors
Leading Healthy Churches
To Plant New Healthy Churches

Jerry Burnaman is the executive director of State Missions and the Baptist Missionary Loan Association. Contact him at jerryburnaman@yahoo.com or 972-923-0757.



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Auxiliaries

Showing love to your pastor and deacons

By SHARON COLE

In 1983, the Texas WMA decided to honor pastors during a special week, March 4-10, 1984. Several years later, since it is National Clergy Appreciation Month, it was changed to the month of October. On Oct. 12, 1986, Deacon Appreciation Sunday was established and thereafter observed on the second week of the month. Some churches do it for the entire month of October, others do it on only one Sunday, while others do it randomly throughout the year.

Whenever you as a church or individual choose to honor the men God has chosen to lead your church is entirely up to you. The point is to recognize, at some time, these dedicated, faithful servants of the Lord. These men serve our churches and our Lord tirelessly; often with little or no thanks or compensation. Their time is rarely their own.

How often do we really let him know how much we appreciate him? We probably do not show our appreciation as often as we should. Do we compensate them for their hours of planning, counseling and preparing for and conducting weddings and funerals? Nowhere in scripture does God put these duties on a pastor. Neither should he have to mow the grass at the church, check the bathrooms or sweep the floor.

The pastor is admonished in Acts 20:28 to be overseer and feed the flock (church) of God. To do this he must pray, study God's Word, and pray some more. Consider the hours a pastor sits at the bedside in a home praying with a seriously ill person, consoling the family. Consider the trips he makes to out of town hospitals comforting church members and even those who are not church members.

As churches, we place so many responsibilities on our pastors that many times, they cannot even meet the needs of their own families, physically or financially. Pastors need time for their own wife and children. How many times has your pastor given up precious time with his own family, even on holidays, to be at the hospital with a dying church member? How many times has your pastor had to cancel his own plans, because someone in the church needed him for something?

Let us take this opportunity to show these men that we love them and truly do appreciate their service to God and us. The apostle Paul wrote to the church at Thessalonica, giving them this charge in I Thessalonians 5:12-13: *"And we beseech you, brethren, to know them who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you, And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves."*

Acts 6:3 says, *"Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom..."*

If your church has faithful, active deacons, you are blessed. Many churches do not have men qualified or willing to fill the office. Deacons are often left out of our appreciation times but need to be honored as well. Often their work is done behind the scenes but they are a great help to the pastor and the church. They are often called upon to take care of last minute things before worship

service such as, solving plumbing problems, changing light bulbs, setting up chairs for an over-flow crowd, etc. They also serve at the communion table. They are to do a lot of the physical things around the church for which the pastor does not have time, nor should he be expected to do.

Deacons are to visit the sick and widows so that the pastor can devote his time to prayer, Bible study and preaching the Word. God qualifies these men for the service to which they have been called. They, as well, deserve the appreciation, encouragement and recognition for their service to the Lord. There are a number of ways we can show our gratitude to our pastor and deacons as a church and individually. Remember the wives and children of these men who stand by them, often forgotten, while their husbands and fathers are doing what God has called them to do. As our pastors and deacons age, they become unable to do the necessary, physical things around the house.

If you ask any pastor or deacon what you could do for them, they would tell you, "Pray for me." Lift him up daily to God, praying that he would be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading. Pray for his health. Pray that God would give your pastor divine wisdom and leadership skills and souls for his labor.

Some other things that you can do for him include:

- Power-wash the eaves of his house
- Do yard work.
- Change the oil in his car.
- Give him a gas card
- Give him a gift certificate to a Christian book store.
- Give him a gift card to his favorite restaurant or clothing store.
- Give him tickets to a gospel concert or a pro-ballgame.
- Give him a paid vacation to his favorite place.
- Raise his salary with the cost of living/
- Invite him and his family to your house for dinner.
- Have an old fashioned pounding for your pastor.
- Contribute to a missions project in his honor.
- Buy library books for the church in his honor.
- Plan a church-wide banquet at the church.
- Give or send encouraging cards of appreciation.
- Be faithful in church attendance.
- Make a gift basket with his favorite snacks.
- If you don't give tithes and offerings, begin now.
- Be a friend to your pastor. Their wives need friends too.
- Remember his birthday and anniversary with a card.
- Let your pastor know his sermons have fed you.
- Let him know you are witnessing, visiting new people and inviting people to worship services.
- Volunteer to teach or help in a class.
- Monetary gifts are always welcome

Maintain maintenance on the parsonage. Do not wait until the pastor moves before painting, replacing worn carpeting or flooring? Keep the house for God's servant as well as you keep yours.

Most of the things suggested for your pastor can also be done for your deacons. Set aside a special time to honor them. Remember,

your pastor is human just like you. He has needs just like you. He has a higher calling than his flock, yes, but the flock should realize that he needs time for himself and his family too. Give him the respect he deserves. Always speak well of your pastor and your church and remember, the most important thing you can do is pray for him.

Sharon Cole is the editor for the Texas WMA. Contact her at S9Co@aol.com. For more information on the Texas WMA, visit www.texaswma.com.



Sunbeam Project 2013-2014

By SHERRY LAMINACK
National Sunbeam Promoter

The Sunbeams of the BMAA collected \$2,904.05 for the National Sunbeam Project for the year 2013-2014. Our project was Shepherd Bags. Trophies were given to the top three contributors at the National GMA Camp in June.

We feel this is a very worthwhile project. EIM reports that 1 in 3 bags results in the salvation of a soul. We are excited to be involved in such a ministry. Our project for the year 2014-2015 continues to be Shepherd Bags. If your group of Sunbeams would like to get involved, please start collecting for this goal. Your offerings need to be received by May 31, 2015. Trophies are given to groups raising \$500 or more and certificates are given to groups raising \$100 or more. Please make your checks payable to the National WMA and designate National Sunbeam Project in the memo of your check. Send your money to:

Mrs. Pat Duncan
PO Box 30
Hardy, AR 72542

I am challenging 50 Sunbeam groups to raise \$200. Our goal is \$10,000. Please accept the challenge and help us meet this goal. If you do not have Sunbeams and would like information about the material, please contact me at jaslaminack@cox.net. I would be happy to share this information with you.

2013-2014 Trophy Winners

First Place - Myrtle Springs Baptist Church, Quitman, TX - \$952.52

Second Place - Lynchview Baptist Church, North Little Rock, AR - \$803.57

Third Place - Denver Street Baptist Church, Greenwood, AR - \$516.50

Sunday School Lessons

Saved by God's grace

By GARY HOUSE

DATE: Oct. 5, 2014

TEXT: Ephesians 2:8; Titus 3:5-7; Acts 16:29-32; 1 John 2:1-2

LESSON IN BRIEF: Salvation is by grace through faith.

What is the most crucial teaching in all of Holy Scripture? Without doubt, it is the doctrine of salvation, for upon that issue the sinner's hope for the forgiveness of sin, as well as his hope for heaven and eternal life depend. Yet, confusion reigns regarding the meaning, the manner and the means of salvation.

What does Salvation really mean?

1. When one is saved, he is rescued-delivered—first, from the penalty of sin, which according to Romans 6:23 is death, the eternal separation from God.

2. Salvation also means to be set free, as implied by the term redemption, the "buying out" or releasing from bondage. The believing sinner is liberated from the captivity of sin. Recall that in the previous lesson we learned that all men are born wrong with God. But when one is saved, sin is no longer the primary factor in his life—Forgiveness is.

3. Salvation is the merciful work of God. God does not give sinful man what he deserves as a sinner (Titus 3:5). Salvation is God-given, God-empowered and God originated. God's goal is our salvation—to make us right with Him (Romans 3:21). God doesn't overlook man's sin, nor does He compromise His standard of complete perfection (Romans 3:23). Instead, He assumes our sin, places it on Himself, and bears the penalty for it. Through trusting solely in the gracious provision of God's Sacrifice on the Cross,

Jesus Christ, the guilty sinner is declared to be in right standing before God. In other words, God cannot see the sinner's sin through the blood of Jesus Christ: thus, He declares that believer to be justified, or no longer guilty, before Him.

THE MYTHS CONCERNING SALVATION.

In a nutshell, there are but two doctrines regarding salvation. Salvation is either by human achievement or divine accomplishment. Either God saves a man, or man saves himself.

Many religions teach that a man can be made right before God by who he is, what he does, what he knows, or what he feels. Man does not deserve salvation; man cannot produce salvation. Self-salvation simply does not work. Why? Because man is spiritually bankrupt. He has nothing to offer God. He has nothing with which to buy his way into heaven. Salvation comes from heaven downward, not earth upward. Salvation is wholly the provision of God apart from human works or merit (Ephesians 2:8-9.) All man can do is accept God's free work of grace. The emphasis is not on what we do for God, instead, it is on what God has done for us.

THE MAXIMS (TRUTH) ABOUT SALVATION (Ephesians 2:8.) The whole process of salvation is wrapped in the grace of God. It is the foundation stone upon which salvation is built. Grace has been defined as "God's unmerited favor in behalf of the sinner." Grace is the divine work of God in a man's life which produces a spiritual life that man could never produce in himself. Grace is God's provision for man's need.

There is nothing man can do to administer grace. God did that two thousand years ago. He looked down on this world of wicked, hell-bound and hell-deserving sinners, and said, "I'm going to pour out my grace. I'm going to send my Son. And He did. *"The grace that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men"* (Titus 2:11).

Salvation is accomplished by Christ's death (1 John 2:1-2.) The message of salvation by grace through faith is anchored to the blood of Christ. It is based upon the fact that *"Christ died for us"* (Romans 5:8). Jesus died in our place for our sins. He paid the bill we owed before God for our sins—a price we could never pay—so that our sins might be forgiven. A chorus we often sing summarizes the truth so well:

"He paid a debt he did not owe; I owed a debt I could not pay; I needed someone to wash my sins away. And now I sing a brand new song: Amazing Grace; Christ Jesus paid the debt I could never pay."

Salvation is received by man's faith (Acts 16:29-32.)

The Word of God plainly teaches that only GOD can save a man. Man's only part in salvation is described in the word "faith." Saving faith is that belief which has as its object the person and work of Jesus Christ. In the exercise of saving faith, man receives Christ and rests upon Him alone for salvation.

Salvation is not a mixture of grace and works; it is either grace or works (Romans 11:6.) Salvation is either a gift or it is earned. When a convicted sinner places his trust in God's provision, (Jesus Christ and His substitutionary death) God bestows upon him that

which he does not deserve and can never earn—the gift of eternal life.

Salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone (Ephesians 2:8). One must trust Christ completely in order to be saved. One cannot trust Jesus Christ 95 percent and something else 5 percent. One must trust Him 100 percent.

THE MAGNITUDE OF SALVATION. God says, "What I've done according to my grace, and given as a free gift is guaranteed." How do we know? The Bible assures it (John 5:24, 10:28 and 1 John 5.) Eternal life is the guarantee of God. God put his seal on it. Salvation gives one Peace with God (Romans 5:1-2) a place with God (John 14), and makes one a child of God (John 1:12) entitling him to the inheritance of the Father.

Salvation is free, but it is not cheap. It cost God the fellowship of his only begotten Son. It cost Jesus the agony of the cross. Yet, salvation is offered freely to all (Isaiah 55:1-2; 45:22; Romans 10:13). Salvation by grace makes possible the very highest motivation for works and service. If salvation is all of God, and none of me, then I owe everything to Him. As an expression of my gratitude, I want to serve Him in every way possible (refer to Ephesians 2:10).

Salvation is, provided by God's grace, accomplished by Christ's death and is received by man's faith. Salvation sets a sinner free; it puts joy in the soul and takes away the fear of death. When one is saved and knows it, and knows how and why he is saved, he understands the peace and joy of knowing God.

Set apart for God

By GARY HOUSE

DATE: Oct. 12, 2014

TEXT: Hebrews 10:12-14; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-7

LESSON IN BRIEF: Every believer in Christ has been set apart unto God. That is what makes each one a saint.

Because some have perverted the blessed truths concerning holiness or holy living, many have cast them aside. These terms are synonyms for sanctification, which means: *"to be set apart."* The term, "holiness," scares most people; because some have abused or perverted the blessed truth that the believing sinner is separated from sin and unto God. As we consider this great doctrine, may we remember that Holiness is not an exclusive rite for an elite corps of martyrs and super Christians, but is the everyday business of everyday Christians.

THE MEANING OF SANCTIFICATION.

The synonyms are holy (holiness) and saint all of which come from the same Greek word, which means, *"render or declare sacred, holy or consecrated."* The term implies three main ideas: **(1) Separation** from things profane (evil); **(2) Consecration**, dedication of the life unto God; **(3) Purification**, wherein the believer so lives as to bring his desires and actions into obedience to Christ. **The emphasis is being set apart for service rather than sinless perfection.** Some hold that the doctrine means that a person can and ought to be perfectly free from sin in this life. That idea has no real scriptural foundation. (See 1 John 1:8). No man, except Jesus, made such a claim in the Bible.

In salvation, we receive what God does for us, while in sanctification, we discover what **God does in us.**

The Bible meaning of sanctification. There are two senses in which the word is used and applied. **(1) It may refer to relationship—**Set apart for God. Things were sanctified (vessels, Sabbath); people were sanctified (Exodus 13:2). In like manner, the Christian is sanctified in that he is a person set apart for God. **(2) It may refer to character. To make holy.** Holiness means being one who reflects the character of God. It is first and foremost a quality of life which results from trusting and obeying Jesus Christ. It is the result of God's character rubbing off on our character.

THE STEPS IN SANCTIFICATION.

Sanctification is an experience. This is the divine side or positional sanctification, which is provided through Jesus Christ. Positional sanctification does not depend upon our spirituality. It has nothing to do with what we do and everything to do with what Christ did on Calvary. 1 Cor. 1:30 tells how God has made holiness possible for us.

We cannot be holy in and of ourselves. But we can constantly hold on to this: Jesus Christ is my sanctification, my righteousness. At the moment of regeneration, the old life of sin was crucified, and a holy disposition was given. That is the start of sanctification; it becomes the possession of every believer at the moment of saving faith.

Sanctification is a process. Progressive

sanctification is the human side of the action. Regeneration is a birth; sanctification is a growth. It is growth in Christian life and character. When one becomes a Christian, he is a babe in Christ; he must grow and develop into full Christian stature.

After God accepted us into his family by faith, He said to us, "Now, I'm going to teach you how to live as a member of the family of God." Then He said to everyone *"Be ye holy as I am holy."* Positional sanctification took place the moment we came to know Christ as Savior, but progressive, or continuous, sanctification will take place every day of our lives. In the process of doing day by day what God teaches us, we become holy. 2 Peter 3:18 says, *"But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."*

Sanctification is an attitude of life, a readiness to serve, regardless of the cost, the place or the type of service. The complete holiness that God wants us to attain does not happen instantly. It is a characteristic that grows day by day as we die to self and become-alive to Christ. God molds us and shapes us, through experiences, some of which are painful, to become like Him. As we open our lives to God, His Word and The Holy Spirit, we become holy as He is holy.

The final step in sanctification awaits every believer. It will occur when Christ

returns for his Church. See 1 John 3:1-3. When Jesus returns for us, we shall be like Him. Only then will we be as pure as God is. This is the supreme goal of every born again believer. Until then, He intends for us to grow toward Christlikeness. How shall we pursue this holiness? 1 Timothy 4:7 *"Exercise (discipline) thyself unto godliness."*

There is no power in the world quite like that of a holy life. Leonard Ravenhill put it this way: "The greatest miracle that God can do today is to take an unholy man out of an unholy world and make him holy... and then put him back in an unholy world and keep him there."

Every Christian should examine himself in the light of the Doctrine of Sanctification. Have you devoted your life in unconditional surrender to the Holy Spirit in the kingdom of Christ? Do you feed daily on the Word of God? Are you available to any call of God upon your life? Christ can answer every need of his kingdom through the separated, holy lives of His followers.

Gary House is the writer of the Sunday school lessons for Baptist Progress. He serves as pastor of Tundra Baptist Church in Canton. Contact him at Tundraparson@aol.com.



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Monday-Wednesday: 7 p.m.

Todd West, evangelist

Steve Colburn, music

Grady Cashion, pastor

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