

Baptist Progress

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Pastors Oasis in BRANSON, OCTOBER 3-5, 2016

DiscipleGuide
CHURCH RESOURCES

By **JONATHAN WILSON**
DiscipleGuide

Most pastors are overworked, underappreciated and underpaid. In addition to their responsibilities of preaching and leading, they weep with those who hurt, plead with those who wander, pray for those who struggle and nurture those who have been wounded. Many spend late hours visiting hospital rooms and shut-ins before returning home to prepare for Sunday. Often they carry home the strains and struggles of the entire congregation, placing a heavy load and much stress on their marriages and families.

That's why DiscipleGuide offers the Annual Pastors Oasis conference in Branson, Missouri. This yearly getaway provides pastors and their wives with a much-needed respite. For 2016, the conference will focus on coping with the strain of ministry and protecting ministry marriages. The goal is to help save marriages, reinvigorate families, and extend pastorates.

Ultimately, the conference benefits more than just the pastor's family; it also benefits the pastor's church. As goes the health of the pastor, so goes the health of the church. Please pray for Pastors Oasis Oct. 3-5. Visit discipleguide.org/pastorsoasis for more information.



**SHOW YOUR PASTOR
APPRECIATION**

**PASTORS
OASIS**

**HEALTHY
PASTORS =
HEALTHY
CHURCHES**

**OCTOBER 3-5, 2016
BRANSON, MO**

**MORE DETAILS
DISCIPLEGUIDE.ORG/PASTORSOASIS**

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www.bmatexas.org



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Baptist Progress

MINISTRY • CONNECTION

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS:

Transitioning to Small Groups

WHEN: Thursday, Sept. 22, 2016; 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: BMA of Texas Building, Waxahachie

WHO: Dr. Blanton Feaster, education pastor, Farley Street Baptist Church, Waxahachie

Understanding Generations

WHEN: Thursday, Oct. 20, 2016; 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: BMA of Texas Building, Waxahachie

WHO: Jerry Burnaman, manager, Baptist Missionary Loan Association

Baptist Progress Ministry Connection Conference

Baptist Progress & Ellis-Hill Baptist Association Ministry Connection Conference

WHEN: Monday, Nov. 14, 2016

WHERE: Farley Street Baptist Church, Waxahachie

WHO: Brian Free & Assurance in Concert; Speakers include Jonathan Falwell, John Bisagno and Jerry Jolly

To register for any of the workshops or the conference above, please go to <http://www.baptistprogress.org/registration.html>, email editor@baptistprogress.org or call 972-923-0756. The conference and all workshops are free, but registration is required. Seating is limited, so reserve your place today!

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State Meeting

HOTEL INFORMATION

The following hotels have rooms blocked for the 116th Annual Session of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas Nov. 14 and 15, and have guaranteed room rates as specified below. However, it is the decision of the church as to which hotel in Waxahachie that you choose to use.

When making reservations, please specify that you are with the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas in order to receive the group rate. You must bring a copy of your Texas hotel tax exempt certificate with you. The hotels will not be able to provide one.

LaQuinta Inn & Suites (\$69.00 per night)

311 Stadium Drive
Waxahachie, TX 75165
(972) 937-5525
Continental Breakfast Included

Comfort Suites (\$86.99 per night)

131 RVC Plaza
Waxahachie, TX 75165
469-517-1600
Continental Breakfast Included

Holiday Inn Express & Suites (89.99 per night)

984 US Hwy 287 Bypass West
Waxahachie, TX 75165
(972) 938-3300
Continental Breakfast Included



Church Health

Spiritual growth campaigns

By LARRY BARKER

There is wisdom in having a focused intentional spiritual emphasis in your church. A church wide campaign can help everyone focus on personal and relational renewal. When our hearts get right with the Lord and we are living in unity with our church family it causes us to recommit to the mission of God. A coordinated spiritual emphasis can renew, refresh, and recharge a church in rediscovering its purpose. Here are some steps to help you think through what a spiritual emphasis campaign might look like:

First, seek God about what spiritual growth emphasis you believe that He desires to be your focus. Is He calling you to bring attention to faith, hope, grace, or something else? There is no shortcut to discerning the mind of God. Plan a prayer retreat and ask Him what He wants your church to accentuate during this time.

Second, decide how long an emphasis you should have. There is wisdom in a 6 - 8 week campaign by ensuring it is not too long nor too short. We are told that it takes 7 weeks to develop a habit and this reinforces that principle. Consider how this will unify the entire church while spotlighting a particular priority.

Third, make sure you challenge your people by utilizing all of their different learning styles. Be sure to appeal to and plan to reach the visual, auditory, oral, or kinesthetic learner. A campaign can bring all of these learning styles together through a planned process that drives the learning home with a synchronized approach.

Fourth, get every class and group to buy into the vision of a church wide campaign by casting a clear vision. It has been said that if there is a mist in the pulpit there will be a fog in the pew. You will not have any problem with most but the late adopters may need a little more time to get onboard. Communicate clearly the value of a campaign and ask them to give it a chance to work and you will evaluate afterwards.

Fifth, be sure to begin promoting this at least 4 – 6 weeks before you begin. Have your small group leaders to begin talking about the next series and emphasis. Have testimonies from members whose lives were transformed through other campaigns. This celebrates the process and encourages your people to give their entire attention to this spiritual renewal time.

What does a campaign look like? How does it unify the church, revive the body, and bring about spiritual renewal?

First, preach a sermon series on the spiritual emphasis. This speaks loudly to the auditory learners and there is power in the preached word of God. This is a great starting point to help everyone focus on the same thing whether it would be spiritual gifts, evangelism and outreach, or prayer and spiritual disciplines.

Second, read the same daily assigned scriptures. These can be written devotionals or challenge the congregation to



S.O.A.P. the passages through journaling. They will need to be taught and shown what this looks like to help them understand how that can reinforce this spiritual renewal emphasis.

Third, discuss the sermons and scripture reading in your small groups or Sunday school classes. This gives your oral learners the opportunity to talk it out in a group setting. You can develop questions for your group facilitators to use during this time. Also, be sure to ask several to be ready to share what God is saying to them personally during this time.

Fourth, as a church, work on memorizing certain passages that emphasize that week's focus. Memorization uses the eyes and the ears because most people can memorize better by saying it out loud over and over. It is also biblical because David said he hid God's word in his heart so he would not sin against God.

Fifth, take advantage of as many visual tools as you possibly can. Use power points in your messages, print memory verses in your bulletin, advertise the campaign on your website and Facebook. You can also find videos to show to your small groups that give great support to your emphasis. The more people that can "see" it, the better.

Sixth, provide a service opportunity that will apply the spiritual truth being focused upon during the campaign. If the emphasis is living on mission then what could your church "do" that would implement this truth. Brainstorm ways for them to show their commitment in practical ways in the neighborhood and community.

A spiritual growth campaign has been defined by Rick Warren as "a short intentional focus on spiritual growth." He also says "the idea of a campaign is the secret sauce of Saddleback's growth." He gives three reasons for campaign's effectiveness. It uses multiple learning styles (Hear It! Read It! Discuss It! Memorize It! Do It!), it uses multiple reinforcements, and it unifies the entire church.

It will be well worth the time and effort to plan a campaign that will focus the entire church on a theme that God has placed upon your heart. It must be something you are passionate about and promotes spiritual renewal through a planned synergy of studying and talking about the same spiritual focus. You cannot push all of the time but there are seasons where you as a church much turn up the heat and intensity.

Healthy churches prayerfully consider how they can unify the entire congregation through a spiritual growth emphasis that utilizes everyone's learning styles. It also capitalizes upon unifying everyone so that healthy interaction and discovering spiritual truths happens as a group. Plan a campaign and equip your people to experience spiritual renewal!

Larry Barker is the pastor of Cornerstone, Jacksonville. He also serves as the operations director for North American Missions. For more information or to contact him, visit www.bmmissions.org.



BMA of America News

Open letter to all BMA Churches

By **STEVE CRAWLEY**

Lifeword Executive Director

Lifeword, your partner in gospel media programming around the world, is reaching more people every year because of BMA churches. Your generous support has allowed Lifeword to broaden its broadcast footprint to thirty-eight languages and a potential listening audience of two billion! Lifeword is reaching more people every year because of your involvement in our unique media ministry. Moreover, the Lifeword Community Radio network has grown to forty-three stations around the globe and is ever expanding, paving the way for new mission churches.

Lifeword's most important day of the year is coming soon, so mark your calendars: **October 23 is 2016 Lifeword Sunday, an emphasis day for church members to learn about, pray for and give to Lifeword Media Ministries.** To show our appreciation, one pastor will receive a 60-inch TV just for registering to participate at lifeword.org/lifewordsunday/.

For thirty-five years BMA churches have used the Walk for the World as a catalyst to raise needed broadcast funds. The Walk still works well for many churches, but we realize that every church has its own unique way of plugging into this effort. What's most important is that all churches find a way to support Lifeword in a way that works best for them.

To help you do this, we have sent Lifeword Sunday packets to all BMA churches. Packets include the 2016 Lifeword video (to be shown on Lifeword Sunday), a poster, and a bulletin insert sample which can be ordered for your entire congregation when you register. Detailed information about Lifeword Sunday, church registration, T-shirts and guidelines for the TV drawing can be found at lifeword.org/lifewordsunday/.

Lifeword is an extension of your church. Thus, your investment in this ministry means you have a part in every believer who comes to Christ through the broadcasts and programming. Thanks again for your confidence and for partnering with us in fulfilling the greatest cause on the face of the earth.



Liberty Association hosts Lifeword Rally

By **CHARLES JOHNSON**

Rosewood, Gilmer Pastor

JUDSON—First, Judson was the site for the Liberty Association's rally for LifeWord Media Ministries Aug. 18.

Luis Ortega, broadcast representative of LifeWord, was the main speaker. He gave an inspiring message in both personal testimony and from Romans 10. He told of his difficulties growing up in his native land in the mountains of central Mexico but how God had used these circumstances to prepare him for his present ministry.

He shared how his parents, siblings, and himself were divinely delivered and saved through the persistent invitations to attend a Bible study after they moved to Houston, Texas. The teens who invited them are now

affiliated with LifeWord.

Bro. Ortega made it plain how special it is for people to hear the Gospel in their native, "mother-tongue" language. He now travels all over the world setting up low power FM radio transmitters through which many remote places hear about Jesus for the first time.

A generous offering was received for LifeWord from the fourteen Liberty churches present at the rally. First, Judson provided a delicious buffet meal in their family life center for the messengers after the service.

The next meeting of the Liberty Association will be the annual associational meeting at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church of Grice beginning at 3 p.m. Oct. 9.

Lifeword's new daily broadcast



By **HOLLY MERIWEATHER**

Lifeword

On Monday, Sept. 12, Lifeword will begin a new daily broadcast called Day by Day. This "social-media cast," as Donny Parrish calls it, will be aired at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Monday through Friday on Lifeword Media Ministries' Facebook page.

Lifeword has not had a daily presence in North America for almost twenty-five years when Station WWL in New Orleans aired the Harvest Gleaner Hour program on channel 870 AM. The fifteen-minute program included music recorded in the Conway studios and Bible teaching recorded in Red Oak, Texas, by Dr. Harold E. Henderson.

The long-format broadcast was suspended in the early 1990s due to cultural changes and cost-prohibitive airtime. Lifeword has always adapted to changing media, so the ministry made the decision to expand its footprint globally to those who had the greatest need for the gospel.

Now, the advent of the internet and social media has allowed Lifeword to

reenter the American media scene with this short-format program. The Stories series, Facebook videos of changed lives due to the gospel, has been successful, so Parrish had the idea of a daily broadcast that "hearkens back to the Day by Day program, which was written by former Lifeword Executive Director George Reddin."

Donny says, "We want to be an encouragement to people in BMA churches all over the world. We'll be sharing the exciting things going on around the world from our missionaries and Lifeword. And we want to share the exciting things going on in our BMA churches as well. It will be three-and-a-half minutes of encouragement from God's Word and God's people and we invite people to share the videos on their own social media."

To see and share Day by Day, like Lifeword Media Ministries' Facebook page. To let Lifeword know about your church's ministries and outreach, tag Donny Parrish in your posts.

Lifeword

MEDIA MINISTRIES

BMA of America News

Paschal Lectures at BMA Seminary, September 13, 2016



By **DR. CHARLEY HOLMES**

BMA Theological Seminary President

BMA Seminary is pleased to announce the annual William N. Paschal Memorial Bible Lectures. The lectures will be held in the Dorman Memorial chapel on the Jacksonville campus and are scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2016. Sessions will be held at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

This year's lectures will be presented by Dr. Thomas J. Nettles, Senior Professor of Historical Theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. The focus will be A View of Landmarkism from the Perspective of a non-Landmark Baptist.

In conjunction with the lectures, the seminary will be offering a three semester hour motion course, Special Studies in Church History (CH 431/CH 631).

Students will need to attend both lectures and a meeting on campus on Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2016.

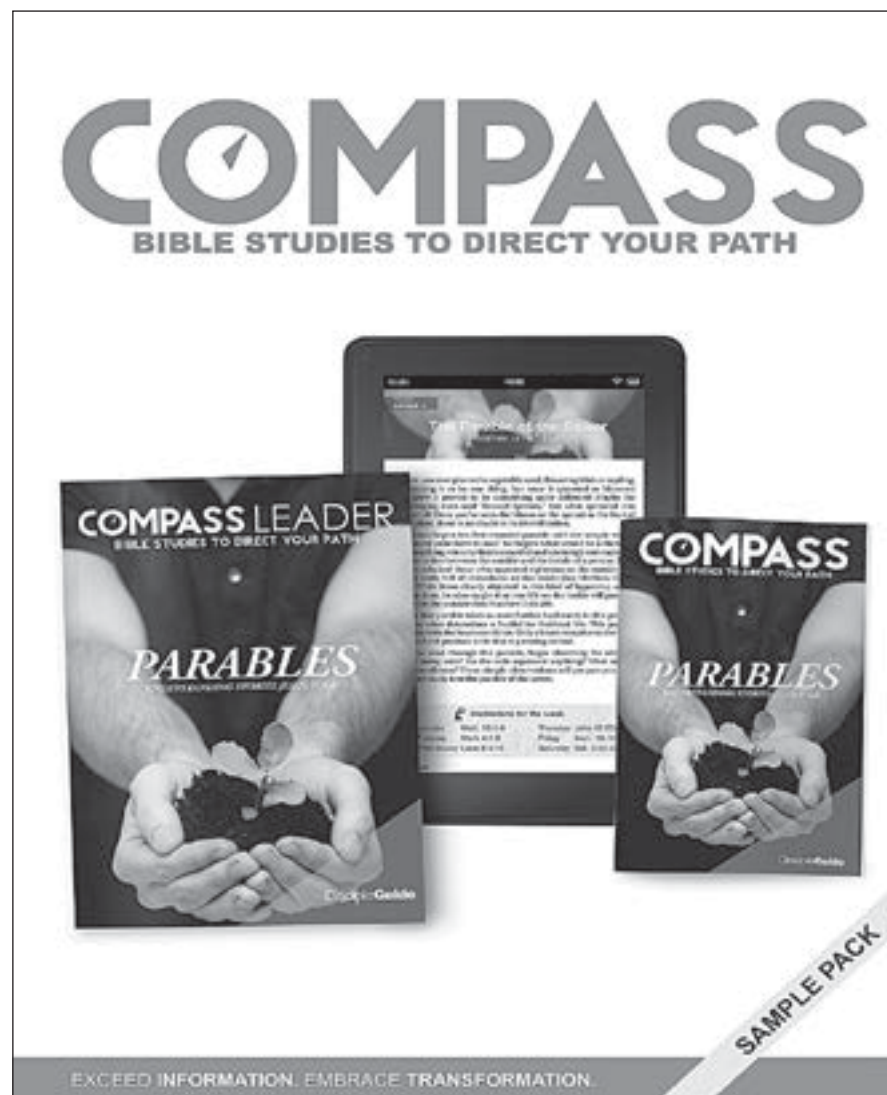
In addition, they must also be prepared to conduct reading and research in conjunction with the course.

For more information, call the Dean's office at 800-259-5673, or email bmats@bmats.edu.



▲ **Dr. Thomas J. Nettles**

Exceed Information: Embrace Transformation: Improvements to Compass Aim for Life Change



By **DR. SCOTT ATTEBERY**

"I'll skip Bible Study this week. It's not like it will make a difference anyway." Not make a difference? Surely that can't be right. Unfortunately, for many church members, that's an accurate description.

According to several studies over the past two decades, weekly Sunday school classes have had very little impact on the way members live. For many churches, Sunday school has become a come-and-go, take-it-or-leave-it meeting. Simply put, many Sunday school and small groups don't really make a difference.

DiscipleGuide aims to help churches revitalize Bible study groups and Sunday school classes through improvements to Compass Adult Bible Studies beginning in December of 2016. The DiscipleGuide team has worked diligently for over two years to enhance the curriculum to bring about greater

gospel transformation in the lives of small group and Sunday school class members.

Because the Word of God changes lives, every church must intentionally teach and disciple members to grow strong in Scripture. Small group leaders and Sunday school teachers have a powerful opportunity to impact lives. For this reason, a church's choice of curriculum is of utmost importance.

The updated Leader Guide will provide greater preparation tools for each lesson. In addition, each study guide will deliver interactive, practical discussion questions to help group members apply biblical truth immediately.

To request a Compass sample packet, including lesson samples and helpful leader videos, call 800-333-1442 or visit discipleguide.org/sample today.

First Baptist Church of Palmer WILL HAVE *Revival* services, SEPT. 25-28.

*Evangelist David Crain
of Grand Saline, Texas, guest speaker.*



SUNDAY SERVICES WILL BE 10:40 a.m. AND 6 P.M.
MONDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY WILL BE 7 P.M.

BMA TEXAS

MISSIONS

Your Church's Mission Movement in Texas



By HEITH MITCHELL

I want to introduce you to an opportunity to really help the expansion of our Hispanic Church Planting efforts across the state. At the start of each new Hispanic Mission that is begun (typically alongside an existing congregation)



neighborhoods are canvassed and people are invited. One of the most effective ways this is done is to invite people to a block party with Hispanic music, food, games, and a gospel presentation. In order for this to be more reproducible, Bro. Amulfo, our Texas Hispanic Mission Coordinator, would like a trailer loaded with block party supplies that could be used as a launch and outreach tool by each of our Hispanic Missions. I thought about each of you and wanted to give you an opportunity to give to this ministry. You may have some of these items you could donate or you might want to purchase them or donate the money. Here is a list of needs.

- 16' Box trailer with drop down ramp door

EQUIPMENT

- Propane Grill with Bottle
- 2-Crock Pots
- Popcorn Machine
- Snow Cone Machine
- Cotton Candy Machine
- Utility Carts
- 2- Ice Chest
- 2 - 32 Gallon Trash Barrels
- Griddle
- Electric Skillet
- 2 - 5 Gallon Drink Coolers
- 6 - Plastic totes
- 4 - Light folding plastic tables
- 30 Folding Chairs
- Extension Cords
- Power Strips
- Tarps
- 2 - Pop up Canopies
- First Aid Kit
- Fire Extinguisher
- Portable Generator (6,000W minimum)
- Tool Box with tools

- Floor Jack
- Upright Dolly

GAMES

- 2 Inflatables (Jump house, Slide, etc.) w/blowers
- 12 Carnival Games (Bean Bag toss, Ladder toss, etc.)
- Footballs, Soccer balls, Frisbees

SOUND

- Portable Sound System
- 2 Speaker Stands
- 2 Mics with stands and cords

If you want to contribute call the missions office and ask for David or email him, 972-923-0757 or david@bmatexas.org

Thank you for your faithfulness!

Heith Mitchell is the director of BMA of Texas Missions. Contact him at hmitchell@bmatexas.org or 972-923-0757. Visit www.bmatexasmissions.org.



116th Annual Session of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas



Follow Jesus, Focus on Others

NOVEMBER 14-15, 2016

FARLEY STREET BAPTIST CHURCH • WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS

including the first ever Ministry Connection Conference with speakers

Jonathan Falwell, John Bisango and Jerry Jolly

and performances by

Brian Free & Assurance

Breakout Sessions:

WEB/ SOCIAL MEDIA with Jason Collins

PASTORAL HEALTH with Henry Horton

ACTIVATE with Todd West

MISSIONAL CHURCH with Larry Barker & Heith Mitchell

First Baptist Judson

2038 FM 1844 • Judson, TX

Pastor Bro. Tim Smith

Homecoming

Celebrating 134 Years

Sept. 11, 2016

Sun. School 9:30 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

Nursery Available

Special Music

Covered Dish Lunch

Everyone invited

Rivers of blessing

(The M.S. Arrington River Boat of the BMA in South America)

By **BUDDY JOHNSON**

There is bad news and good news concerning the Arrington riverboat in South America. The bad news is that its hull rotted and the motor ruined. During the past ten years, the Arrington has made many trips up and down the Mamoré River in Bolivia. From the Chapare River at the southernmost point to Guayara-Merin at the northernmost point there are many river villages that have been contacted as a direct result of the ministry of the Arrington.

Through the years, many medical teams, flood relief teams, and evangelical teams have traveled the hundreds of miles up and down the Mamoré. Pastor and boat Captain David Flores reports that there are believers in 37 different villages who are direct results of the ministry of the Arrington. Along the river, several church houses have been built and the pastors of these churches have been trained as part of the Arrington ministry. Our River Bible Institute in Belencito has been built, commissioned, and is being used to train young men to evangelize up and down the Mamoré River.

Sadly, this entire ministry came to a splashy halt as the Arrington motor became useless, and the boat slowly filled with river water. After much prayer and discussion, we decided to sell the boat and purchase one or two smaller boats with which we could continue the ministry. In order to sell the boat, much needed repairs had to be made. The boat was lifted out of the water with hydraulic jacks and placed on stumps of large trees that had been cut for this purpose. More than fifty 2x12x20 hardwood boards were cut from jungle trees with chain saws by our brethren in Belencito. The rotting hull was repaired and coated anew with tar to make it floatable once again. While this was happening, the crew repainted the boat inside and out. Also, plans were being made to replace or rebuild the straight six-cylinder Volvo diesel motor.

The problem with the motor is this: The cooling system had been taking in water from the river, and over the years the algae and minerals in the river water corroded and destroyed the cylinder walls of the motor. We decided to rebuild the motor and install a radiator for the cooling system. The drive shaft, U-bolts, etc. were all rusted and in need of replacement. However,

before all this work began, David received an invitation from people who lived along another huge river, the Intenis, which intersects the Mamoré and comes from deep within Brazil. As he made contact with several new villages along the Intenis, God began to refresh his vision for the Arrington River Boat.

Instead of selling the boat, we decided to repair and renovate it and begin a completely new era in Brazil. Several of our men along the river are bilingual and speak both Spanish and Portuguese. They, along with David, have made contact with several villages in Brazil and already have several believers along the new river. In early July, I visited the boat to accompany David and the crew on the “maiden voyage” of the newly repaired boat. On the trip, we found that the radiator was too small to continually cool the motor, and the air flow was not sufficient to cool the water as it circulated through the radiator. David and his mechanical abilities solved the problem by circulating the water with a lot of coolant through a barrel filled with clean water. After a few adjustments, the motor was tuned up, smoothed out, and fully functional.

Here is the good news. Many new churches are being started in the northwestern waterways of Brazil. A new era of ministry is now being realized, and soon the Brazilian Association will have a ministry begun by Bolivian missionaries. God is exciting many people with his vision for the villagers along the Intenis River in Brazil.

Here is our dilemma! The funds which were available for the ministry of the Arrington have been depleted! The necessary repairs cost almost \$12,000.00. As the ministry continues along the rivers of Brazil, we desperately need to replace these funds and spend our time and efforts evangelizing the river people in Brazil. Our plans are to invite the leaders of BMA Brazil to help with this ministry as funds become available. As you read this article and view these photos, will you pray for the future of this worthy ministry? Will you consider a gracious one-time or monthly offering to help us reach this new area with the gospel? May God receive all the glory and may we rejoice in his blessings.



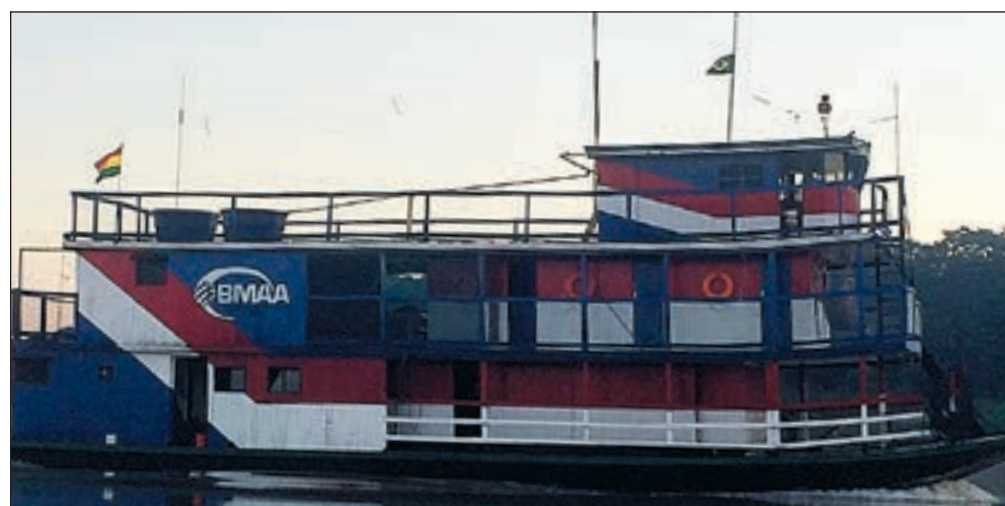
▲ The First Arrington



▲ Motor before repair without the radiator



▲ New motor with radiator and barrel
(Pastor David Flores)



▲ Newly repaired and repainted Arrington

Texas Baptist Home for Children

Who will fill their shoes?

By **EDDIE MARSH**

Texas Baptist Home President

Who will fill their shoes? This is a question that has been asked for many years. The question is always in the context of someone who had performed a task or service for many years, but for some reason would no longer be able to do so.

In a memorial service following the tragedy at Columbine High School, a minister stood to eulogize a young lady who had lost her life during the attack. According to all accounts her predator had ask her if she was a Christian. She said "yes." At that point he shot her and died a martyr's death. In mentioning the event that had cost her life, the minister posed, what could be viewed as a rhetorical question. "I wonder who among us would be willing to take such a stand." A young lady from the congregation pondered the question and then stood. (Sometimes it only takes one.) One by one other students began to stand as an unashamed act of proclamation of their faith.

On occasion a letter or card will arrive at the Baptist

Home that informs our staff that a dear Saint, who has faithfully supported this ministry for years, has gone home to be with the Lord. On other occasions, the letter or note comes from a supporter who expressed that due to living on a fixed income and limited funds they will no longer be able to support on a regular basis. We appreciate each one who has supported this ministry and many have done so at a sacrifice, therefore, when they are unable to continue we are eternally grateful for what they have done in the past. Many lives have been salvaged because of the sacrifice of others. It is now time for others to step up and "fill the shoes" of those who are now unable to continue. It is always exciting to see how God meets this need.

God always provides for His ministry. Evidence of that is the response that has been received from churches and individuals for the Back-to-School Campaign. We are so grateful to each one who has given and the methods God has used. Churches have provide collection boxes, a

Sunday School class purchased and filled 50 backpacks, checks have arrived designated for school supplies and anything else pertaining to the needs of the children. Thank you for stepping up and "filling the shoes" of those who have given in the past.

A very fine young Christian woman is one whose dad pastors one of our BMAT churches, felt a need to give a helping hand to those who are on the journey of private infant adoption. Due to her fund raising efforts and those who helped her, ten of the couples who are either now on the waiting list or have been matched with a birth-mother will receive some help with the expense that is involved with this process. She saw "shoes that needed to be filled" and she stepped into them.

I look forward to meeting many of you at your local association meetings this Fall and share how God is using you to make a difference in the lives of children who need a safe place to live.

CHURCH NEWS

NAT, CUSHING had a back to school special and Jersey Sunday Aug. 14, 2016. Everyone wore their favorite team jersey. Members gave backpacks with school supplies to all youngsters present, with a snack of cookies, cake and pigs in a blanket between Sunday school and the worship service.

LOCAL ASSOCIATION MEETING SCHEDULE

DATE	ASSOCIATION	MEETING PLACE
Sept. 17	Tarrant County	Sheppard Drive, Euless
Sept. 24	Ellis-Hill	Farley Street, Waxahachie
Sept. 25	Tryon County	Woodland, Splendora
Sept. 26	Dallas County	CrossRoads, Rowlett
Oct. 1	Mt. Olive	Bethel, Clayton
Oct. 1	Original Bethlehem	Beech Grove, Jasper
Oct. 1	Trinity River	Calvary, Centerville
Oct. 2	Gulf Coast	Circle Drive, Bridge City
Oct. 8	Central West	Central, Bronte
Oct. 9	Landmark of Montague County	Union Hill, Bowie
Oct. 9	Liberty	Antioch, Gilmer
Oct. 9	Van Zandt	Tundra, Canton
Oct. 10	Cherokee	Calvary, Jacksonville
Oct. 11	Wood County	Hubbard Chapel, Quitman
Oct. 13	Harris County	Suburban Wood, Humble
Oct. 13	Angelina	Johnson, Zavalla
Oct. 15	Plains	LakeRidge, Lubbock
Oct. 16	Central Texas	Antioch, Fairfield
Oct. 16	Navasota River	Harmony, Normangee
Oct. 18	Houston-Anderson	First, Slocum
Oct. 20	Landmark Nacogdoches County	Mahl, Nacogdoches
Oct. 23	Polk	First of Providence, Livingston
Oct. 31	Smith	First, Omen

Online giving
to BMA of Texas now available

We have exciting news!

The BMA of Texas is now setup for easy online giving!

Simply follow the Donations option at

www.bmatexas.org to get started.

If you have questions, just give us a call at 972-923-0757.

ONLINE GIVING
now available



Auxiliaries

Time—a very small word

By SHARON COLE

Time, what a small word which has such a big effect on our lives. We all have the same amount in each day, but all of us feel like we do not have enough of it. Are we using our time wisely? It seems that recently I have been asking myself that question. We all can get so busy with “stuff” that we lose focus on what we really should be using our time for. God has given several scriptures in His Word that talks about time. Here are a few of them.

“*To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven.*” God has a design for each one of our lives. Ecclesiastes 3:1

We are to glorify Him in everything. Each one of us are in different seasons of our lives and God has a purpose for you wherever you are in your life. Are you fulfilling His purpose for you?

“*So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.*” Psalm 90:2

Each day that God gives us is a gift from Him. If we take advantage of the days that we are blessed with, it says in the scriptures that our hearts will become wise. Are we using the time that we have in a way that God can develop in us a wise heart?

“*Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*” Ephesians 5:16

As you know, our world is filled with evil. God gives us the days we have here on earth to help Him bring others out of that darkness into His light. Are we redeeming our time by reaching a lost world for Christ? Ultimately that is what God calls us to do. If we are using our time for this purpose, our

days are truly being used wisely! My challenge to you and for myself is for us to take a look at how we are spending our time. Hopefully, we can find ways to change the way we use the days that God has blessed us with so we can bless others. Time well spent for God is never wasted. May God bless you. (Sherry Decker, Texas WMA President)

ADD TO YOUR FAITH

Have you checked out the new Bible study book written by Jackie Ricks? It is based on the WMA motto: 2 Peter 1:5-7. Mrs. Ricks examines each characteristic mentioned in the passage similar to the way she treated the qualities in the virtuous woman passage in her Bible study, *Profiles of Virtue*. Then she looks at a Bible woman's life, discussing that particular virtue. Some of the women are Rahab, Anna, Deborah, and Mary of Bethany. Finally, Mrs. Ricks discusses a modern woman she has known who exemplifies the same characteristic. There will also be a worksheet packet for those who prefer not to write in their books or for those without their own book when studying in a group. You may order this book from Jackie Ricks by phone, text, or e-mail at 903-245-5715 or jdbricks@att.net and the price is \$10 with tax included. Price from Amazon.com or createspace.com is \$9.99 plus tax, shipping and handling. Of course the digital version is only \$2.99 plus tax. Other books you will find valuable to your spiritual growth are: *Profiles of Virtue*: 1-5 copies, \$9.99 each. *Profiles of Virtue* reproducible worksheets, \$5 per set. Also available is *People Are People*, a biography of the life of Dr. John and Shirley Ladd, former missionaries to Mexico.

For more information of other books Mrs. Ricks has available contact her at the options above or : Mrs. Jackie Ricks, 612 FM 49, Mineola, TX 75773.

DISTRICT NEWS

The HOUSTON-ANDERSON WMA met July 9, 2016 at Antioch Baptist Church, Palestine. Teenager, Erica Thompson, welcomed us with President, Sherry Lasiter presiding. For “Share Time” Mrs. Lasiter read a poem with the theme: John 3:16. Guest speaker was Texas Baptist Home President, Bro. Eddie Marsh and his wife, Lynda. He spoke about the programs, needs and adoptions of the children. Next meeting will be with Piney Creek Baptist Church, Kennard September 10, 2016 at 10am. Guest speaker will be Kristi Key, Texas GMA/YLA Promoter.

The WOOD COUNTY DISTRICT WMA met July 8, 2016 at Myrtle Springs Baptist Church, Mineola with 28 present. The decorations were in our national colors. Myrtle Springs received the attendance banner. An offering of \$101 was received for our project: Texas Baptist Home for Children. We are also helping Jacksonville College purchase some heavy equipment. The program was presented by Charlotte Johnson, Texas WMA Asst. Corresponding Secretary and National WMA Second Vice President. Our next meeting will be October 14, 2016 at Central Baptist Church. New officers were elected with Jackie Ricks being the President. Our theme will be “My Cup Runs Over” taken from Psalm 23:5.

PROJECT UPDATE

As of this writing the Texas WMA Project total is \$7,470.30. You have an opportunity to be a blessing to Jacksonville College and receive an even bigger blessing yourself by supporting the Texas WMA Project. We are raising funds to help purchase a front-end loader tractor/mower for the College so that their landscape work and other maintenance needs can be made easier. You will have the opportunity at the Texas Ladies' Retreat Sept. 17 at Cornerstone, Jacksonville as you shop at the “Tractor Shed Shopping Spot.” Many items will be for sale such as: handmade crafts, quilts, knitted/crocheted items, handmade aprons, T-shirts, ceramics, painted projects, baked/canned goods, crosses, jewelry, wreaths, candles, ornaments, stockings, and even items that are not homemade. Come expecting a blessing and shop with a special occasion in mind while you are supporting the project. All proceeds will be going to support the Project. Everyone who attends is welcome to bring an item with the price marked of its value.



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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.



EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 17, 2016

Texas Women's Retreat
WHEN: 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
WHERE: Cornerstone Baptist Church, Jacksonville

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

76th Anniversary Homecoming
WHEN: 10:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.
WHERE: Central Baptist Church, Mineola, Texas (602 N. Line Street)
WHO: Jim Parker, guest speaker
Lunch with singing by Tender Mercies, 1:20 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

80th Anniversary Homecoming
WHEN: 9:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
WHERE: Woodland Baptist Church, Gilmer, Texas (6049 FM 3358)
WHO: Message by Riley Pate (age 17) (Dinner at noon in the fellowship hall; Singing from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.)

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

Pastor Robbie Caldwell's Anniversary
25 years as pastor of New Harmony, Tyler
50 years in the Gospel Ministry
WHEN: 11 a.m. with lunch to follow
WHERE: New Harmony Baptist Church, Tyler

SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

Baptist Progress Ministry
Connection Workshop:
Transitioning to Small Groups
WHEN: 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
WHERE: BMA of Texas Building, Waxahachie
WHO: Dr. Blanton Feaster

OCTOBER 16, 2016

Homecoming
WHERE: Security Calvary Baptist Church, Cleveland
WHAT: Celebrating 67 years of faithful worship, fellowship, food and Gospel music, featuring the Ducette Family.

OCTOBER 20, 2016

Baptist Progress
Ministry Connection Workshop:
Understanding Generations
WHEN: 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
WHERE: BMA of Texas Building, Waxahachie
WHO: Jerry Burnaman, manager, Baptist Missionary Loan Association

OCTOBER 31, 2016

BMA of Smith County
WHEN: Supper at 6 p.m.,
Meeting at 7 p.m.
WHERE: First Baptist Church, Omen

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PERSONNEL & POSITIONS

AVAILABLE MINISTER

DR. BLANTON FEASTER is available for pulpit/worship supply, as well as educational training. Contact him at 972-935-2986 or blantonfeaster@yahoo.com.

ROGER MANNING is available for service as pulpit supply, interim, or permanent pastoral duties. His injuries suffered in a motorcycle accident on Dec. 7 are healed and he is now anxious to serve and preach God's Word. Roger was ordained in the Southern Baptist denomination and has over seven years preaching experience. He lives in Waxahachie and can be reached at roger@rogermanning.com or by calling 402-510-3019.

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

PASTOR—Union Hill, Brownsboro is seeking a pastor (full time or part time). For more information about UHBC, go to uhbconline.org. Send resume to PO Box 316, Brownsboro, Texas 75756 or email uhbco@embarqmail.com.

YOUTH—New Harmony, Tyler is seeking a full time youth minister. Talents or abilities desired. Education and experience in Theology and Counseling. Bilingual plus, but not required. Remit resume to New Harmony Baptist Church, 10251 FM 724, Tyler, Texas 75704, fax 903-593-2500, email nhbc@nhbc.us. For questions or information, call our office 903-593-5811.

YOUTH/STUDENTS—Farley Street, Waxahachie is seeking a student pastor. Send resume to resume@farleystreet.com.

PASTOR—Lost Prairie, Groesbeck is seeking a bivocational pastor. Send resume to 514 FM 3371, Groesbeck, Texas 76642.

PASTOR—Bauman Road, Houston is seeking a pastor. Contact Danny Koonce at 281-652-7821 or dannykoonce@gmail.com.

PASTOR—Bethel, Livingston is seeking a pastor. Send resume to David Chalker at 8715 FM 350 N, Livingston, Texas 77351, cavanaugh@eastex.com or 936-646-3444. ^{8/17}

MUSIC/YOUTH—New Salem, Henderson is seeking a bivocational music/youth minister. Send resume to Chris Proctor, 1105 Moore Street, Jacksonville 75766, chris.proctor@bmat.edu or call 903-284-9023. ^{9/7}

YOUTH/STUDENTS—New Beginnings, Venus (Johnson County) is seeking a bivocational youth/student minister. Send resume to Pastor Brian Merchant, 628 Cordes Drive, Venus, Texas 76084, pastorbrianmerchant628@gmail.com or call 817-291-6727. ^{TFN}

YOUTH/STUDENTS—Calvary, Jacksonville is seeking a youth bivocational youth pastor. Send resume to Michael Mathis at mathi1314@gmail.com or call 903-625-0776. ^{8/3}

ASSOCIATE/STUDENTS—LifeHouse Fellowship, Wills Point is seeking to fill the position of Associate/Student Ministry. This is a full time position, part-time possible. Send resume to Tammy Cunningham, P.O. Box 1486 Canton Texas 75103, or lifehousefellowshipnew@gmail.com. For information or questions you can call Mike Stone at 903-279-5868. ^{TFN}

PASTOR—Opelika Missionary, Brownsboro is seeking a pastor. For more information, call 903-469-3692 or 903-515-2288. ^{TFN}

YOUTH—First of Cross Roads, Athens is seeking a full-time youth minister/associate pastor to develop and oversee a program for youth to win the lost to Christ and help Christians mature in Him. Additional responsibilities include aiding the pastor in his duties. Parsonage available. For information or to apply, contact Frank Upchurch at lindaupchurch15@gmail.com. ^{8/3}

PASTOR—Enon, lola is seeking a bivocational pastor. Parsonage available. For information, call 281-731-7850. ^{TFN}

PASTOR—Ashmore, Loop is seeking a pastor (full-time or bivocational). Send resume to Ashmore Baptist Church c/o Tom Ingle, PO Box 346, Loop, Texas 79342, ashmore4u@outlook.com or call Tom Ingle 806-928-8843/Loyd Halbrooks @ 806-759-2095.

PASTOR—Myrtle Springs, Quitman is seeking a pastor. Send resume to Myrtle Springs Baptist Church, 2185 FM 2225, Quitman, Texas 75783. ^{TFN}

PASTOR & STAFF CHANGES

DOCK LAZARENE is the new pastor of Glen Fawn, Cushing.

MATTHEW LOAFMAN is the new interim pastor of First Missionary, Cleburne.

SHAUN GEORGE is the new pastor of Richmond Road, Texarkana.

CHURCHES IN REVIEW

AUGUST 21, 2016

Church	SS	Worship	Additions
Anthony Drive, Ennis	58	98	
Calvary, Ennis	29	33	
First, Blooming Grove	202		2 by baptism, 1 by statement
First, Crandall		118	1 by baptism, 2 by statement
First, Palmer	63	99	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	18	40	
Harvest, Lufkin	55	77	
Jackson, Joaquin	64	136	
Little Flock, Lufkin	12	15	
Nat, Cushing	18	22	
New Hope, Mineola	56	111	
Olde Tyme, White Oak		72	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	54	62	
Pine Brook, Tyler	36	60	
Rosewood, Gilmer	132	275	
Round Prairie, Fairfield	94	198	
Yellowpine Macedonia, Hemphill	77	22	

AUGUST 28, 2016

Church	SS	Worship	Additions
Anthony Drive, Ennis	58	98	
First, Blooming Grove	221		1 by baptism
First, Palmer	59	103	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	21	36	
Harvest, Lufkin	28	56	
Jackson, Joaquin	86	140	
Little Flock, Lufkin	10	10	
Nat, Cushing	17	17	
New Harmony, Tyler	317	393	
New Hope, Mineola	54	114	
Olde Tyme, White Oak		54	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	57	59	
Piney Creek, Kennard	13	23	
Rosewood, Gilmer	131	311	2 by letter
Security Calvary, Cleveland	23	42	

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

Sunday School Lessons

Titus—Work

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: September 18, 2016

TEXT: Titus 1:5, 6, 12, 13, 16; 2:1, 9-14; 3:8, 14

PAUL'S CREDENTIALS

Once again, the Apostle Paul gives his standard greeting in the beginning of the Epistle to Titus, calling himself an apostle of Jesus Christ and a slave to God. His ultimate objective to the churches to whom he writes, and to the church leaders is to instruct them in holy living, to be confident in their faith, to reinforce the truth of the gospel, to dispel false teaching, and to emphasize the truth of the absolute integrity of God.

INSTRUCTIONS TO TITUS

Paul considered Titus, as he did many other church leaders where he ministered, his “son in the faith,” always praying for grace and peace upon his life. Ministers today should follow Paul’s example, and help and strengthen young ministers in the work. His instruction to Titus as a man of God is most urgent for the man of God today — fidelity in marriage, void of anger, arrogance, violence, abuse of strong drink or money hungry. He is also to instruct his children in how to live a righteous life. (I Timothy 3)

CHAPTER 1

Paul left Titus with a network of churches on the Isle of Crete, to complete his work. The instructions included, ordaining elders, - 1:5; guarding his own

personal life - 1:6-9; guarding the flock from false doctrine — 1:10-16.

CHAPTER 2

The aged men and women are to teach, and model sobriety, and family faithfulness to the younger men and women. They are to teach them to exemplify a life of chastity, maturity and a “pattern of good works.” 2:2-8. They are to be an example of godly speech and integrity in the workplace - 2:8-10. They are also to live a life of self-denial, and to shun the ways of the world, and to give no one a reason to question their holy life.

CHAPTER 3

Paul re-emphasized the doctrine of salvation by faith without any admixture of works - 3:5; to avoid becoming entangled in fruitless and pointless debate - 3:9-11

APPLICATION:

A holy and upright lifestyle, — one which displays hospitality, soundness in the faith, and that life to others, is the basic message Paul sent to Titus.

Paul Gauntt is the pastor of First, Palmer. He served for a number of years as the BMA of Texas Department of Church Ministries director. He has served several churches as pastor, and is a correspondent and featured article writer for Baptist Progress. Contact him at pop.gauntt@gmail.com.



Philemon—Equality

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: September 25, 2016

TEXT: Philemon 8-21

Paul wrote this brief epistle, possibly in 62 A.D. to an influential member of the church at Colosse, to:

(1) Give thanks for Philemon’s faith and witness; (verse 4-7)

(2) Alert him to his new-found friend in the faith, Onesimus, Philemon’s slave who escaped from him and also stole from him; (verse 8-11)

(3) Issue a plea to Philemon to welcome him back not only as a slave, but as a Christian brother; (verse 12-21)

Through God’s providence, Onesimus met up with Paul, who was under house arrest in Rome. Paul already had a close relationship with Philemon, noting how he had been blessed by him. (verse 7)

Paul led Onesimus to Christ (verse 10) and saw in him the makings of a great Christian servant. No matter how vile a sinner a man may be, a child of God is able to see in him, a great future spiritual leader.

(verse 11) Paul was emphatic in explaining that he would rather Philemon received his slave willingly rather than the pressure of obligation.

Paul presents a great metaphor of Christ’s “imputation” in verse 18, when he offers to repay Philemon for Onesimus’ debt to him. The sins of mankind are too great for him to offer payment to God — therefore the righteousness of Christ must be imputed unto man if he is to have eternal life. Paul offered to credit Onesimus’ debt to his own account. That’s imputation.

One cannot finish reading Philemon without being reminded of the Christian’s God-given ability to forgive for offenses of the past, noting that he considered Marcus, who had bailed on him during his first missionary journey, a fellow laborer (verse 24) Paul may have inserted Marcus’s name in the close of the letter to remind Philemon that he, too, can forgive Onesimus.

Hebrews—Superiority

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: October 2, 2016

TEXT: Hebrews 1:1-3; 7:19; 8:6; 9:232; 10:34; 11:16-35

There has been much debate over the author of the book of Hebrews. No one knows for sure, but if it was not the Apostle Paul, it had to be someone who was influenced by him due to the style.

Since the reference to Jewish ritual of sacrifice seemed to be in practice, (10:1-2, 11) the date of the writing was likely somewhere between AD 64 to AD 69.

Hebrews presents Jesus as the High Priest in the life of the believer. No longer does one have to appear to the high priest under the old system of worship, because now a child of God is his or her own believer-priest. (4:14-16) The book begins by declaring Jesus Christ as superior to all the Old Testament types. He is better than the angels, 1:4; 2:18; better than Moses; 3:1-19; He offers a better rest (4:1-13; superior to the high priest in Old Testament system of worship.

The writer draws the distinction between the faithlessness of the Israelites in chapter three, during “the provocation.” They provoked God

to wrath when they looked back longingly for Egypt; when they murmured against Him by murmuring against Moses. Consequently, Their faithlessness and refusal to rest in the Lord cost all of them the privilege of entering the promised land with the exception of Joshua and Caleb, and everyone under the age of 20.

The writer uses the provocation to begins chapter 4 with a warning of the consequences if a believer refused to rest in the Lord.

The message of the superiority of Christ had to be comforting to these persecuted Christians who were converted from Judaism, and were under the heavy hand of the emperor of Rome, Nero.

The writer of Hebrews emphasizes the truth of one and only one Person being worthy of the primary place in our lives. While we may not practice bowing to graven images in our churches, we can still idolize our material things, and our climb up the social or corporate ladder. Jesus Christ far supersedes all of that. When we give Christ His rightful place in our lives, we will find ourselves living in his abundance, and in His joy.



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