

ONE LORD ONE VOICE ONE VISION

# ONE

MAGAZINE

The Magazine for Free Will Baptists

JUNE-JULY 2010

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## LAYMEN: The CORE of the Church

Eat, Drink, and  
GET MOTIVATED

Silent Wounds

CORE VALUE



THE ROLE OF  
Emotions in Worship



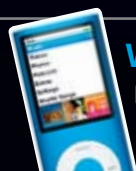
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# ONE

MAGAZINE

TO COMMUNICATE TO  
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UNIFYING VISION OF OUR  
ROLE IN THE EXTENSION  
OF GOD'S KINGDOM.



30



32

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# FIRST GLIMPSE

## Good People



**WE SAT TOGETHER ON STACKS OF** moving boxes and looked around our new home in disbelief. Peeling paint, cracked plaster, sagging light fixtures, missing windowpanes...what had we been thinking? Our eyes met, and I shook my head slowly, saddened by the fear on my wife's face. I didn't even know where to start.

The crunch of tires on the gravel drive seemed loud in the stillness. I stepped to the window to see a convoy of vehicles pull into the yard. With a relieved smile, I turned to my wife. "The Cannons are here."

They came armed with toolboxes, paintbrushes, a portable radio, and tons of energy and excitement. While the ladies toured the house, chattering about the "possibilities," the guys went to work. Eight hours and two coats of paint later, the small, run-down house had become a cozy cottage. What a difference one family makes!

*Good people.*

"Six a.m.? You've got to be kidding!"

I couldn't help but grin. In spite of his grumbling, I knew I could count on Dale to be there...early. For 10 years of youth ministry, he grumbled his way through a thousand different tasks, from cleaning up after messy relay races and running the church sound system to driving a van packed with kids across the endless miles of western Kansas and eastern Colorado on a summer missions trip.

He never encountered a job too boring, a task too menial, or

a kid he couldn't put at ease with his constant stream of banter. Working happily behind the scenes, he grumbled his way into the hearts of a generation of young people. I couldn't have asked for a better assistant.

*Good people.*

Last year, my church celebrated 350 years...of marriage! Seven couples passed the 50-year milestone. At first glance, they have little in common, with a wide variety of backgrounds, occupations, and educational experiences. But they love God, they love each other, and they love the church. When they married, they signed on for the long haul, and with each passing year, they matured into the foundation of a thriving, giving congregation.

They aren't perfect, and life hasn't always been easy. They've fought illness, grieved over children and grandchildren, and attended the funerals of friends. They've battled cancer, strokes, emphysema, and diabetes while enduring a handful of wars and economic recessions.

In spite of it all, they made time to relocate and rebuild the church, attended faithfully, served as deacons and trustees, gave generously to missions, taught Sunday School, played the organ, went on visitation, made repairs, and—most important—passed their faith to the next generation.

*Good people.*

Don't let anyone fool you. Today's church is alive and well. And it has a lot to do with the faithfulness of the congregation. I, for one, am grateful for...

**Good people. ONE**



ERIC THOMSEN  
MANAGING EDITOR

Photo: Mark Cowart

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## LETTERS

### Have something to say?

Say it! The editors of *ONE Magazine* look forward to hearing from our readers. Your feedback, comments, and suggestions are necessary and appreciated. Email [editor@nafwb.org](mailto:editor@nafwb.org) or send correspondence to:

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Just wanted to say what a blessing *ONE Magazine* is to me. I doubt if you really know how valuable the magazine is to those of us who by time and distance are limited in our exposure to the ideas and experiences of others among our movement.

For me it is a lifeline, both denominationally and spiritually. I am always challenged and encouraged by the articles. It is something I can put in the hands of anyone I'm seeking to reach or minister to with pride and confidence. Thank you for your hard work and faithfulness. God is using *ONE* in ways you would never imagine in places you've never heard of (like Potneck).

**Steve Phillips (TN)**

I want to thank you and commend you for the article about Robert Perry (When Roots Run Deep, February-March 2010). I have known Robert for over 30 years. He is a godly man, a great leader, and always an encourager to preachers.

Robert has been aggressive in sharing the gospel and very generous in helping people with their physical and financial needs, as well as their spiritual needs.

**William Smith (GA)**

**TO OUR READERS:** Perhaps you know someone who would like to be added to the *ONE Magazine* mailing list. Call 877-767-7659 or visit [www.onemag.org](http://www.onemag.org) for a subscription. The subscription is free, although donations are always accepted and appreciated.



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# Why Not Invite Someone to Church?

BY RICHARD ATWOOD

I STILL THINK CHRISTIANS INVITING OTHERS TO CHURCH IS A GREAT WAY TO EVANGELIZE.

MANY HOME MISSION CHURCHES HAVE SEEN GROWTH USING THIS METHOD. SOME CHURCHES, HOWEVER, SEE FEW VISITORS FROM WEEK TO WEEK. PASTORS EVEN NAG THEIR CONGREGATION AT THE END OF EVERY SERVICE BY SAYING SOMETHING LIKE, "NOW BE SURE TO INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH THIS WEEK," BUT THEY JUST WON'T DO IT. *Why?*

I can think of a few reasons.

## 1. Many Christians have few friends that don't go to church.

*Some solutions:*

**Think harder.** Most people know someone who isn't saved or in church—family members, co-workers, neighbors, facebook friends, the person who cuts your hair, etc.

**Build relationships with unsaved people.** Take time to get to know them. Listen to what they have to say and share funny stories. Look for a chance to tell your story of what it's like to have God in your life.

**Remember that many people are interested in God or church but don't know where to go.** They may be glad to get an invitation.

**Start sowing seed thoughts about God.** Distribute tracts. Let the people know about something good that happened recently at your church. **Thank God for good things.** Let them know that you will pray for them and about their problems.

**Go around doing good things.** Jesus did that (Acts 10:38). When people see God at work in your life, they will be more open to talk to you about God and church.

PEOPLE INVITE THEIR FRIENDS TO PARTIES, TO WATCH THE SUPER BOWL, TO GO PLAY GOLF, TO GO OUT TO EAT. IF THEY THINK IT WILL BE A GOOD EXPERIENCE FOR THEIR FRIENDS, THEY WILL INVITE THEM TO CHURCH, TOO.



## 2. Some people don't want anyone else in church.

Does that surprise you? They may not admit it, even to themselves, but they like the way things are, and they do not welcome change. They think that more people coming into the church might cause less room for parking, destroy the "family" feeling, bring new ideas to the table, put new people in leadership positions, and crowd the sanctuary or meeting place. They might even lose their favorite places to sit. Does any of this sound familiar?

## 3. Some people feel their church is okay for them, but not sure how an unchurched person would feel about it.

*What can the church do to make it easier for members to invite others?*

Start on time and end about the same time each week.

Help people find their way around with the use of signs, greeters, and

welcome centers.

Welcome people, but don't overdo it by hugging strangers or having a 10-minute-long greeting time.

Periodically have a big day or special event where everyone invites their friends. Serve food. Don't go too long. Announce a new sermon series starting next Sunday. Find a way to follow up.

Don't embarrass guests by having them stand or tell their name or wear a visitor badge.

Put yourself in the place of a visitor. How would you like to be treated? Do that. Brainstorm with others and get their ideas on how new people would like to be treated.

Plan the service with the goal of a worshipful atmosphere.

Preach truth with love, passion, illustration, and application. Don't be boring! Aren't you sick of boredom in churches? Well, so is everyone else!

Encourage unity in your church. No-

body wants to invite people to church where there are divisions and strained relationships.

Have a plan to help people build friendships in church.

Give everyone a card where they can list three to five friends who aren't in church. Ask them to pray for them and then to follow-up with acts of kindness. Strive to build a relationship with them and invite them to come with you.

People invite their friends to parties, to watch the Super Bowl, to go play golf, to go out to eat. If they think it will be a good experience for their friends, they will invite them to church, too. **ONE**

ABOUT THE WRITER: Richard Atwood is director of missionary assistance for the Home Missions Department. Read more about Free Will Baptist Home Missions at [www.homemissions.net](http://www.homemissions.net).

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## SHORT-TERM MISSION...

### *Lifetime Impact* BY KEN AKERS



HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU HEARD A MISSIONARY speak and thought, "I wish I could go." But for various reasons, you don't feel God calling you to move to Africa, Japan, or some other location across the globe.



Not long after my wife Sandra and I were married, we heard about the need for an optician to go to Africa as a medical missionary. As a Christian optician who wanted to share the gospel, it seemed like a logical choice. But when I checked into the position, nothing came from it. Looking back over my life, I realize it wasn't what God wanted.

While I have always been willing to go to the mission field, I never felt God leading me into a missions career. Besides, I didn't have the education or speak another language. (As an eastern Kentucky native, I am still working on English.) Eventually, I concluded that God didn't want me anywhere but where I was.



## SHORT TERMER

Then in 1995, I had an opportunity to go on a short-term mission trip to Russia. It was both life-changing and eye-opening. The next year, I went to Mexico twice on mission trips. Through these experiences, I began to see that I didn't have to move to a foreign country to be involved in missions. By going and spending a few days or weeks, I could make a difference.

Not only did I share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, I was an encouragement to full-time missionaries and people in the local churches. And I found out I could even bless the folks back home by allowing them to become part of the ministry by supporting the trips financially.

Since those early experiences, I have been blessed to take a number of trips to many different fields. Then in 1999, I was introduced to missionaries in Haiti. God had spoken to me through every field I visited, but He gave me a special love for Haiti and the Haitian people.

On one of the first trips to Haiti, I asked our missionary host how he thought a Vacation Bible School would go over. Ten years later the week-long event averaged 566 Haitian children each day! While I don't pretend that going for a week or two is the same as

lice harassed us on several occasions. Once, armed soldiers stood in front of our bus so we couldn't leave for our next destination.

On my most recent trip to Russia, our passports were taken and kept overnight—not good! That same year, on a trip to Cuba, government officials met us at the gate and refused to allow us to leave the airport. Our passports were confiscated, and we were put on a plane out the country the next morning. We never even left the secured area.

I've spent numerous nights on the ground or the hard floor of an airport. I've been hexed by a Haitian voodoo witchdoctor and walked to the top of "Terrible Mountain," only to rest my weary bones on the bare floor of a mud hut.

## LIFETIME IMPACT

But I have also been blessed to see people on the streets of Russia respond to the preaching of God's Word. I have seen demons cast out of young men in Haiti and later rejoiced to see them accept Christ as Savior. I have witnessed discouraged pastors rejuvenated and excited by our visit, and I smiled back at members of international congregations who were encouraged to learn that people half a world away are praying for them and supporting them.

the morning church service, a lady approached with the missionary. She and her family had hosted us in her home, and I knew she spoke English. At first, I couldn't understand why she wanted someone to interpret. The missionary explained that she wanted to tell me how she felt in her own language so she could use the right words.

With great emotion, she thanked me for coming. She said she didn't understand why anyone would leave family behind, spend money to travel, and work as hard as we had for someone they didn't know. She called our team a miracle from God. I can't tell you how I was humbled by her words.

I will be the first to tell you that a short-term missions trip is not the easiest way to spend "vacation" time. It is hard work, often uncomfortable, and sometimes difficult. Yet God has a way of sending blessings when and where you least expect them. Every time I go on a short-term mission trip, I go with the intentions of blessing others. But I have never returned without receiving a blessing myself.

You can get involved in short-term missions in a variety of ways. Free Will Baptist International Missions ([www.fwbgo.com](http://www.fwbgo.com)) sends teams periodically. Teens and college students can get involved in E-TEAM (Teens Equipped and Active in Missions) or CMP (College Missions Program). Master's Men ([www.fwbmastersmen.org](http://www.fwbmastersmen.org)) sponsors short-term mission trips, and other Free Will Baptist organizations like Impulse International (OH) and Bridge Builders (OK) regularly take trips.

Ask God what He wants you to do. Maybe He wants you to become a career missionary, but perhaps He just wants you to go for a little while. **ONE**

ABOUT THE WRITER: Ken Akers is director of Free Will Baptist Master's Men. Read more about his organization and their mission at [www.fwbmastersmen.org](http://www.fwbmastersmen.org).

**Every time I go on a short-term mission trip, I go with the intentions of blessing others. But I have never returned without receiving a blessing myself.**

moving to the field, short-term missionaries can make a difference.

## THE DANGER ZONE

Short-term missions work is not without challenges. On my first trip to Russia, the military and the local po-

Don't get the wrong idea! You don't have to sleep in a mud hut or climb a mountain on every mission trip. In France, we stayed with missionaries and church families in their beautiful homes and were treated like royalty. On our last day in France, as we made preparations to leave following

Take an unforgettable trip with a Free Will Baptist relief team.

# HELP AND HOPE FOR HAITI



**I WILL NEVER FORGET MY REACTION** when I heard about the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12. I thought, “The quality of life in Haiti is already terrible! How can it get any worse?” After 10 years of annual missions trips to the island, I knew that a major earthquake in the poorest country in the western hemisphere could only result in calamity.

When denominational leaders asked me to head up Free Will Baptist relief efforts on the island, I was glad to accept. We chose to partner with Mountain Faith Mission located in Saut D’Eau, just north of the capitol city of Port au Prince. The independent, evangelical mission started by Lee and Molly Carroll in 1948 has a long track record of service through an orphan-

age, bakery, school, trade school, and medical clinic. They also sponsor annual Vacation Bible Schools attended by thousands of children.

As money and supplies poured in, we began to make plans for a series of trips, the first to provide immediate relief and medical aid, and additional trips to help the mission rebuild destroyed facilities.

## A LOGISTICAL MIRACLE

For three frustrating weeks I tried everything to get relief workers into Haiti, but a series of cancelled flights from airports up and down the east coast left us fuming, anxious to provide help and supplies to these people in need. Just when we had reached the end of our rope, God opened the door

to make the trip in the strangest of ways.

One of the nurses on the team was sharing her frustration about the situation with a patient. To her surprise, he responded, “I think I can help.” He went on to explain that he was a pilot, about to head back to Haiti in a private jet to retrieve a group of doctors he had delivered several weeks earlier. To her delight, he invited some of our team to join him. We quickly accepted, and the trip was underway!

## THE MEDICAL TEAM

I met Oklahoma team members Linda Peters and Courtney Garner for the first time at Nashville International Airport. Linda is a retired nurse from Pryor First FWB Church and Courtney

BY KEN AKERS



is an LPN from Rejoice FWB Church in Owasso.

After a quick lunch, we dashed off to Chattanooga to catch the plane.

The helpful pilot, whose name was Roman, helped us load our luggage, supplies, and equipment on the nine-passenger corporate jet. After a sleepless night, we were in the air by 5:15 a.m. Finally! We were on our way to Haiti.

## ON THE GROUND

As we neared the Port au Prince airport, we peered anxiously through the windows to see the damage from the air. After a safe landing, we made our way through the airport with little trouble. We were surprised to see that life had returned to “normal” in the Haitian capitol. Accustomed to desperate circumstances, it appeared the Haitians had adapted to the situation and the bustling streets reflected “business as usual.”

The two-hour ride to the mission compound in Saut d’Eau was uneventful, and we arrived in time to participate in evening worship services where two people were saved.

The next morning, after a worship service where I spoke to an audience of 500 about the goodness of God in the face of disaster, I evaluated the damage to the mission’s facilities. The boys’ dorm at the orphanage and the metal working shop had been destroyed. In addition, large portions of the security wall around the compound had collapsed.

Thankfully, no one died in Saut D’Eau, although nearly everyone was affected by the quake. Most lost

friends or family members, and many had no place to live. The nurses went into action immediately. Some worked with Dr. Charles, medical director at the mission, to treat rashes, infections, various wounds, and other lingering effects of the quake.

The rest of the team set up a temporary medical clinic in an unused chapel, using donated medical supplies and equipment. But before the clinic could open, the hardworking team had already treated 40 patients!

## INTO THE CITY

The next morning, patients had already lined up at the entrance to the clinic waiting for medical attention. It quickly became apparent that we would need more medicine and medical supplies, so I headed back to Port au Prince with Dr. Charles to find a pharmacy.

While in the city, I also planned to go to the airport to greet the rest of the team—volunteer workers from Kentucky who would repair the damage to the mission and nurse practitioner Greta Minton, and LPN Tina Walker, both from McMinnville, Tennessee.

The pharmacies were a hub of activity as thousands flocked to one of few sources of medicine. We stood in line for hours watching people receive medicine and supplies for a myriad of ailments. They brought their own bottles and jars of all sizes, from a gallon jug to a baby food bottle.

After purchasing supplies, we met the volunteers at the airport (minus 14 pieces of luggage) and began the two-hour trek back to the compound.

As we wound our way through the

rubble of downtown with its vast tent cities and crumpled buildings, I was struck again by the attitude of the Haitians. While it was obvious that a major catastrophe had occurred, they were no longer mourning. They had moved on. For the most part, routine had returned.

I was reminded that Haitians are familiar with problems, hardship, and suffering, as much, perhaps, as any people on earth. They have little expectation of happiness, little to anticipate. Endurance has become their way of life.

And that is why the Gospel of Jesus is just as important as medical supplies, care, and food. The Haitians don’t just need temporary relief. They need eternal relief as well—the hope of Heaven and the assurance of a loving God.

## HEADING HOME

The following morning, I left the relief team hard at work and began the long trip back to the States. I was tired but happy, glad to be part of the rebuilding efforts in Haiti—efforts that may last for years to come.

I will always be grateful to the Free Will Baptists who shared their time and money to bring hope and help to the people of Haiti. **ONE**

EDITORIAL NOTE: At press time, Free Will Baptists had given a total of \$79,133.81 toward relief in Haiti. This does not include donations to regional relief efforts by the Gateway FWB Church in Virginia, Impulse International in Ohio, or Arms of Compassion in Oklahoma. Thank you for your generosity.

Congregational leaders are essential.  
You might even call them the “core of the church.”



# Core Value

BY BOB LEWIS

**“I love the ministry... except the part where you have to work with people.”**

**So goes the old joke among preachers. I wonder sometimes if we are always joking.**

From the standpoint of a preacher who soon will mark 40 years from the first sermon I preached, I have to say that most of the folks I have pastored have been a tremendous blessing to my wife and me.

The truth is, lay people are the heart and core of the church. I challenge every lay person who reads this article to focus on what a tremendous blessing you can be to the kingdom of God, though you may not have a calling to “professional” ministry.

Take, for example, the young couple who left Nashville, Tennessee, many years ago, with no job prospects, and moved more than a thousand miles away from everything they knew to help our family plant a Free Will Baptist church in Colorado Springs.

They were there to provide encouragement, special music in our services, babysitting, help knocking doors, and anything else they could do. What a difference they made in the ministry! Their efforts helped accomplish God’s

will in that corner of the world.

In addition, a young Air Force lieutenant and his wife poured their lives into the Colorado Springs church, and years later, when they could have gone anywhere in the world, they came back to that church. Decades later, they still have the same servant hearts and continue to make their lives count for Jesus.

When we moved from Colorado Springs to Grand Junction to start a new church, God used many lay people in the ministry. Mike and Cathy moved across the state with us. Bob and Besie, a couple in their 70s, drove 50 miles each way to join us in our work.

When Keith and Linda made things right with the Lord, they moved to a location directly across the street from our church. Soon, the church became the central focus of their lives. I don't know what we would have done without them. From lawn maintenance to cleaning and changing the marquee on

the church sign, they worked tirelessly. Above all, they were, and still are, our friends.

After spending our entire ministry in church planting, Brenda and I were a little hesitant about the thought of accepting the pastorate of a church that started in 1880! We had heard too many stories about the "set in their ways" and "we ain't never done it that way before" kinds of churches that can make a pastor consider a career change.

Not to worry. Even before we arrived at the church, we received sweet cards of encouragement from the folks in Tennessee. They helped unload our moving van, and then a steady stream of people began to appear at the parsonage door with country sausage, canned goods, and more. It was an old-fashioned "pounding," more modernly referred to as a pantry shower.

Knowing how much I love the outdoors, my church family has allowed

me to hunt deer on their farms and fish in their ponds. Our church has only one deacon, but he is the best. He visits with me every week, keeps up with the sick and needy, and stands beside me in every suggestion I make for the church.

Some members of the church who make the most difference have no clue they are doing so. Sure, pastors are important, but they have little hope of accomplishing great things for the Lord without a group of people who will stand behind them. So, take a look around your corner of the world and ask why the Lord has put you there. Become a part of that core group of lay workers in your church. Life is too short not to make yours count for the Lord! **ONE**

ABOUT THE WRITER: Three-time former home missionary Bob Lewis pastors Oaklawn FWB Church in Chapmansboro, TN.

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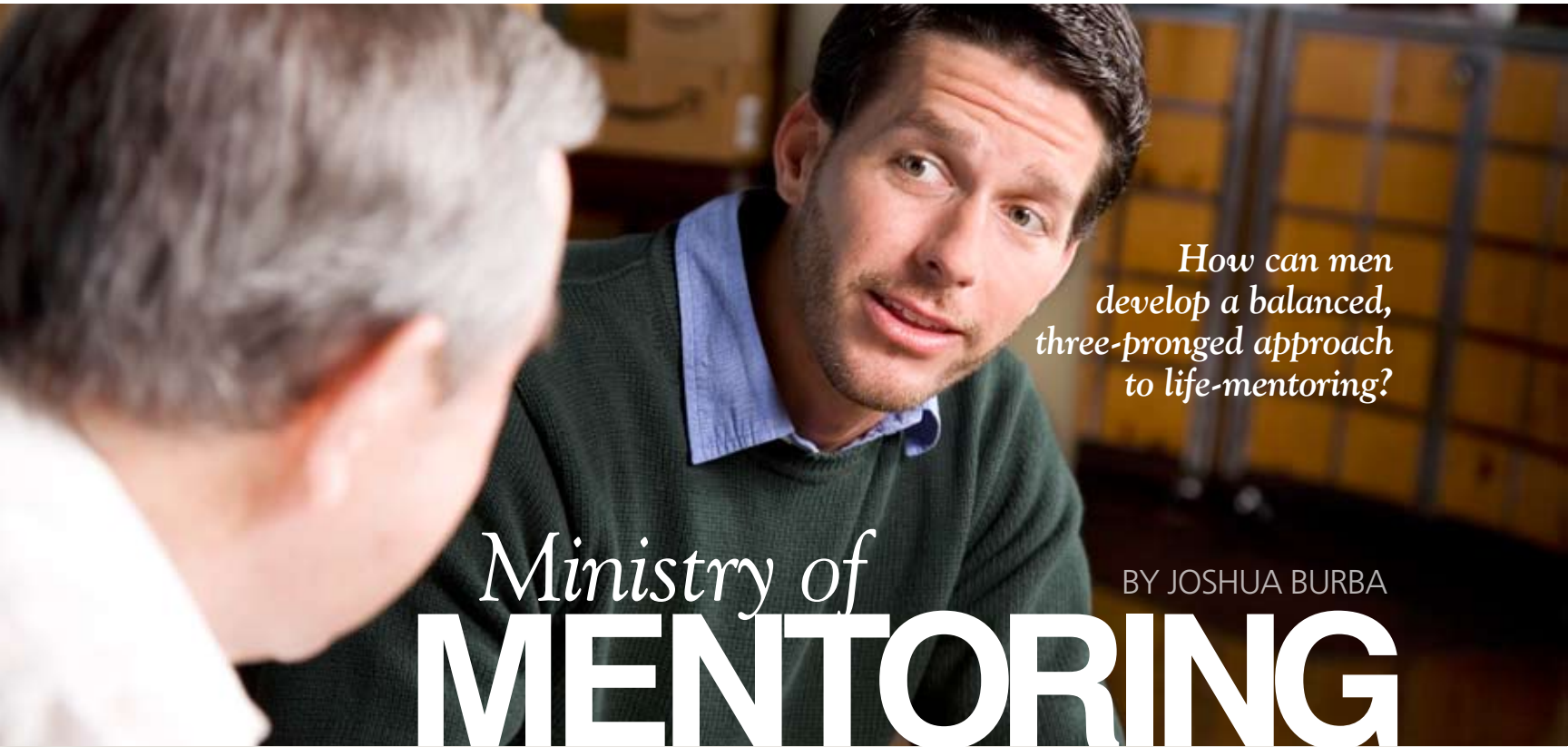
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*How can men develop a balanced, three-pronged approach to life-mentoring?*

# Ministry of MENTORING

BY JOSHUA BURBA

As anyone blessed with a mentor knows, mentoring empowers men to reach their God-given potential. Bible teacher Howard Hendricks wrote the book on mentoring. While speaking at a rally for men, Hendricks reminded his listeners of three types of individuals they need in their lives. He said, “You need a Paul, you need a Barnabas, and you need a Timothy.” Let me tell you about three such men in my life.

## Paul

By Paul, Hendricks refers to someone more spiritually advanced than you. He meant someone who will boost your walk with Christ, answer questions and listen to problems, and raise the bar of expectation to give you a target. God gave me such a man in my late teens, and he mentored me into my mid-20s. He took me under his wing and filled the missing gaps in my life.

He was especially helpful in demonstrating how a husband interacts with his wife. Because of God’s grace and my mentor’s example, I know how to be a godly husband for my wife. Even though my mentor is now in his 70s, our friendship remains strong, and I thank God that this Paul invested his life in me.

## Barnabas

By Barnabas, Hendricks means a person on your level spiritually and emotionally. This person is often someone near your age, with similar life conditions to your own, who helps you address ideas, problems, questions, and practical issues of life. A Barnabas holds you accountable and challenges sin in your life. He speaks hard truths to you.

God gave me a Barnabas like that. We are both married and in our early 30s. We frequently enjoy deep conversations about anything from theology to politics, and all points in between. He teaches me to think before I speak, and he sharpens me as iron sharpens iron (Proverbs 27:17). As the saying goes, “When iron sharpens iron, sometimes sparks fly.” This rings true in all relationships, including

ours, but those times only tighten and deepen our bond. I praise the Lord for this Barnabas in my life.

## Timothy

By Timothy, Hendricks refers to someone less spiritually advanced than you whom you take under your wing and mentor. This person comes to you for advice, for answers to his questions, and for direction as he matures.

God has blessed me with a Timothy. I befriended a young man while living in Romania in 2007 and took him under my wing. Though we are now separated by the Atlantic Ocean, he often calls me regarding major life decisions, to discuss theological issues, or just to talk. Due to his growing maturity and godliness, I anticipate seeing God use him greatly. I am so glad that God gave me a Timothy.

## Balanced Approach

Spiritual well-being depends on surrounding ourselves with these three types of men at all times. Regardless of age or spiritual maturity, we all need someone wiser to advise us, someone on our level to shoot straight with us, and

someone to pour ourselves into as well.

I like the way Robert Coleman said it, “The wandering masses of the world must have a demonstration of what to believe. They must have a mentor who will stand among them and say, ‘Follow me. I know the way.’”<sup>1</sup>

## Final Challenge

What about you? I challenge you to find a Paul, Barnabas, and Timothy. If you need a Paul, look first to your parents or an older member of your church. If you want a Barnabas, reach out to a sibling or develop friendships with those your age at church.

If you need a Timothy and are a parent, invest yourself in your children, making disciples of them before they leave the nest. If this is not possible, reach out to a young person needing direction.

The point is—do something, and do it now! Take up the challenge today and embrace a balanced approach to mentoring in your life. **ONE**

1. Robert Coleman, *The Master Plan of Evangelism* (Grand Rapids: Fleming H. Revell, 1993), 100.

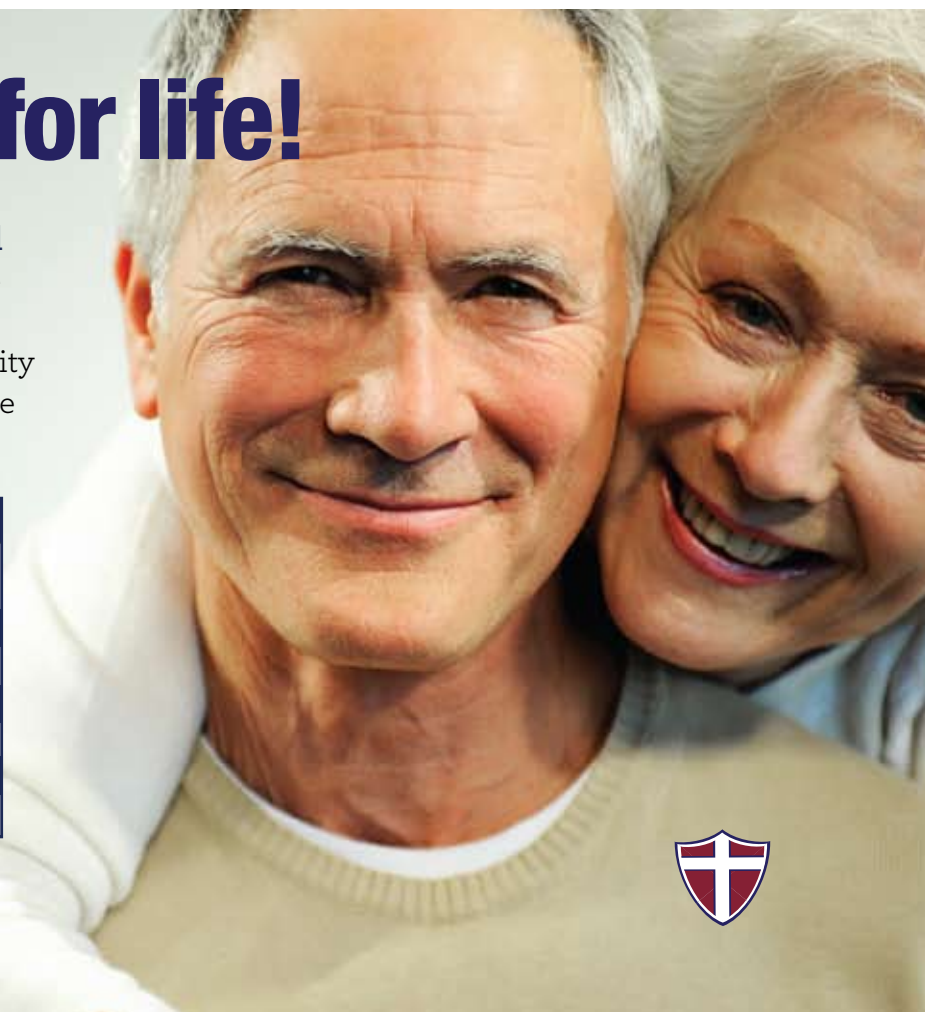
**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Joshua Burba is a May 2010 Christian Education graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College. He and his wife look forward to life after college.

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85	8.1%	9.12%	85/85	7.0%	7.79%
90	9.5%	10.79%	90/90	8.3%	9.30%

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*A biblical and theological approach to worship.*

# THE ROLE OF Emotions IN WORSHIP

BY KEVIN HESTER



**EMOTIONS ARE PART OF WHO AND WHAT WE ARE.** They provide assistance as we interact with our environment. They help us analyze situations and communicate with others. But unchecked emotions can confuse reality and destroy effective interaction with others. While our emotions must be tightly controlled, without them we will not get anywhere. Emotions drive us and encourage us to do what reason says we must do. You might be surprised to learn the Bible speaks frequently about our emotions.

## BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES ON EMOTIONS

We were created as emotional beings, which means that emotional life is one of God's creations. In Genesis 2, Adam's disappointment with not finding a helpmate is almost palpable, and we get a sense of overwhelming joy when he wakes from sleep and exclaims, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh." It is for this reason that man was to "hold fast" to his wife.

**Emotions Are Good.** Since human emotions are an aspect of God's creation, they are good. Only after creating humanity did God look at all He had made and pronounce it very good. However, even good things can provide an avenue for sin when unchecked. The fall clearly impacted our interaction with our emotions, for in Genesis 4 we read the account of Cain's anger at his brother. This marks Scripture's beginning discussion of the human struggle with emotions. Sometimes they are inappropriate, as in the case of Cain's anger, but other times they are appropriate, as demonstrated by Cain's sorrow and fear in the face of judgment. Our task is to reason between the two.

**Emotions Reveal Aspects of God and His Nature.** There has been a great deal of theological discussion whether God feels emotively. Early theologians said no, arguing that for God to experience emotion would imply change. They argued that whatever constitutes the image of God in the human person certainly does not include emotion. But if we stop there, we miss something important. Whether God experiences emotion or not, Scripture often chooses emotional terminology to reveal some aspect of God's character. For example, in Genesis 6:16 "the Lord grieved in his heart that he had



made man.” In Psalm 2 and Psalm 37, God laughs at the wicked; and in Numbers, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Zechariah we read of the Lord’s anger burning against His people. The fact that Scripture uses such images to convey truth means our emotions are an avenue to understand aspects of God’s character.

**Emotions Must Be Controlled.** No matter what we say about our emotions, it is clear they must be controlled. Though emotional creatures, we are not simply emotional; we also have will and intellect. These aspects must work together appropriately if we are to honor God. Mind, will, and emotions are interdependent. Emotions provide the mind with data for analysis and judgment; intellect provides emotions with direction and perspective. Ephesians 4:26 commands Christians to be angry but cautions us to avoid sin in our anger. The two imperatives demonstrate the constant mental wrestling with emotions.

### EMOTIONAL BEINGS IN WORSHIP

**Created to Worship.** We were not only created emotional beings, we were also created for worship. The Westminster Shorter Catechism answers the question “what is the chief end of man?” with the dictum “to glorify God and enjoy him forever.” In order for us to understand how best to make use of our emotions in worship, we must first understand worship.

**Meaning of Worship.** Two biblical words are translated “worship” in most English translations. The first refers to bowing before God and indicates recognition of His glory and authority. This tells us worship is about God and what I bring to Him. Worship must be God-centered. Worship is never about me. Worship is not about how I feel or what I get out of the service, but how I honor God in the service.

The second term indicates the service and ministry we offer to Him, and reminds us that worship must be active. There are no spectators in worship. Worship is not entertainment but a spiritual exercise before God.

**Context of Worship.** God commands the Church to worship, and worship is vital for the spiritual health of believers. Consider Hebrews 10: 24-25 in this regard. “And let us be concerned about one another in order to promote love and good works, not staying away from our meetings, as some habitually do, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near.”

**Purpose of Worship.** The primary purpose of worship is to glorify God and express our love and thanksgiving for His redemption. This love should be extended horizontally as well as vertically. Corporate worship allows us to demonstrate love to one another, edify, and encourage one another in the Christian life. Worship both honors God and encourages and edifies fellow believers. Paul reminds us that when this is done correctly, in the right attitude, unbelievers will recognize God in the midst of His people, humble themselves before Him, and join us in worship.

**Principle of Worship.** If the primary purpose of worship is to glorify God, it follows that we glorify Him best when we worship Him the way He has commanded. God is not always pleased with our worship. Remember Cain’s offering that was unacceptable to God? Nadab and Abihu were consumed by fire for offering worship that God had not commanded. Ananias and Saphira were struck dead because they lied about their offering to the early Church. When writing to the

Corinthians regarding their celebration of the Lord’s Supper, Paul pointed out that many of them were weak and sick and some had died because they had acted inappropriately.

In contrast, God is pleased when we worship according to His commands. As Scottish reformer John Knox said, “All worshipping, honoring, or service invented by the brain of man in the religion of God, without His own express commandment, is idolatry.” The Reformed tradition refers to this as the regulative principle. Only those things commanded by God in Scripture are appropriate in worship. Our task is to ask the Scriptures what God wants us to do in worship. At the same time, there is room for human thought in determining what pleasing worship is, just so long as that thought is in accordance with God’s Word.

### BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES RELATING TO EMOTION IN WORSHIP

**Called to Worship God with Heart, Mind, and Soul.** The first and most basic principle of worship is that we should do it, and we should engage in worship with all we are and all we have. At least four times in Scripture, we are reminded to love God with all our hearts, our minds, and our souls. In each place, the directive occurs within context of worship. We are not simply allowed to engage our emotions in worship, we are called to do it. Each constituent aspect of our being was designed for and is properly used in the worship of God. To worship God with our mind alone, our emotions alone, or our bodies alone is an abortive act that dishonors the One who so fearfully and wonderfully made us.

WORSHIP IS NOT ABOUT HOW I FEEL OR  
WHAT I GET OUT OF THE SERVICE, BUT  
HOW I HONOR GOD IN THE SERVICE.

**All Things Done Decently and in Order.** At the same time, we are not allowed to give emotions free reign. Paul addressed a similar situation in 1 Corinthians 14, reminding us that God is a God of peace and order, and our worship services should reflect this. He reminds us it is only as we worship through our spirits and minds that we honor God. As we pray, sing, and proclaim God's Word, our emotions and minds are to be fully engaged. It is only in this way that the unbeliever will recognize God's presence and be called to believe and worship with us. To do otherwise is to edify only ourselves, which is at worst idolatry and at best a forfeiture of one of the basic principles of corporate worship. By doing so, we may endanger not only our spiritual health but our lives as well (See 1 Corinthians 11:30).

**Christian Liberty in Worship.** Another

reason we are not allowed unrestricted emotional release is the principle of Christian liberty. Christian liberty is less about what I get to do and more about what I could do but choose not to do because of my love and concern for others. To insist upon certain forms of emotional expression in a way that binds the consciences of other believers disobeys and disregards God's Word. In the gospel age, God alone has authority to bind our lives and worship. This is what is meant by the regulative principle. This (and the fact that the purpose of worship is to honor God and edify our brothers and sisters in Christ) is why we should heed the advice of the apostle: All things are lawful, but not all things are helpful. All things are lawful, but not all things build up. Let no one seek his own good but the good of his neighbor.

**Intentional Manipulation of Emotion in Worship Damages the Gos-**

**pel.** True worship is authentic worship, and any attempt at manipulation is not only contrary to Scripture but demeans the gospel. Paul made this point in 1 Thessalonians 2, when he reminded the church at Thessalonica that he presented the gospel to them without deception, flattery, or pretense, but out of love. He spoke to please God and not man. Whether singing the same lines over and over, or building terror in hearers during the invitation, artificial manipulation of emotions cannot be reconciled with Paul's image of a mother tenderly caring for her child.

### SIX MISCONCEPTIONS REGARDING EMOTION IN WORSHIP

**If You "Feel" Anything in Worship, It Is Fleshly and of the Devil.** If you feel

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## AS WE PRAY, SING, AND PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD, OUR EMOTIONS AND MINDS ARE TO BE FULLY ENGAGED.

something in worship, it may be 'fleshly', but we are called to use all aspects of our nature to worship God. Emotions are not of the devil. God made them. That is not to say they cannot be used inappropriately. We have seen that they can, but when emotions are authentic, directed toward God, and manifest themselves in congruence with the regulative principle, God is honored by them.

**If I Don't Walk Away from Worship Feeling Good, I Haven't Worshipped.** This concept is wrong on two counts. First, it demonstrates a level of individualism inconsistent with corporate worship. Worship is our service to God, not His service to us. Any benefit we receive from worship is a by-product and not the end goal. Second, whether or not I walk away from worship feeling good misses the point. Authentic, active, emotional worship only means that I will leave a worship service feeling. There are many appropriate emotions for worship. Joy is certainly one, but there are others: reverence in the presence of our Creator and Redeemer; sorrow for sin and fear of our Judge; love for God and for one another; peace in our reconciliation, and anticipation of God's promises fulfilled. Engaging emotions in worship means feeling, not necessarily feeling good.

**Display of Emotion in Worship Is Most Appropriate While Singing.** Something about music speaks to us on a visceral level, drawing forth a deep emotional response. Our emotions, coupled with our minds and wills, ought to be engaged by singing, but sometimes it seems as though many people flip the switch to "off" when the pastor stands to preach, as

people pray or as the offering plate is passed. We are called to fully engage all aspects of our being in all parts of the divinely instituted worship service. Emotions are not just appropriate in singing. After all, Scripture speaks of "cheerful giving," of crying out with our emotions in prayer, and directs us with thanksgiving to make requests before God. The Bible is replete with emotional responses to hearing the Word of God, including: fear, joy, and thanksgiving.

**Emotions Are Just About Feelings I Get and Not What I Do.** Emotions are expressions of our hearts, but mere emotion without will and action is simply tinkling brass or a clanging gong. Notice James' instruction on worship. He asks in 5:13, "Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone among you cheerful? Let him sing praise." Notice the way James equates feeling with doing. Both he and Paul point out that emotions should motivate us to action in worshiping and praising God. The actions discussed here are, as all legitimate worship, directed toward God. These acts of emotional worship are not for self but for God, and in their viewing, for the edification of all believers. There is no room for individualism in corporate worship.

**All Emotional Expression of Worship Across the World Will Be Homogenous.** While all people experience emotions, expressions of emotion are often culturally driven. While the regulative principle outlines the content and context of worship with norms that are universal, we must realize that application of these principles may sometimes have a different tone or feel. All Christian worship ser-

vices should have the same elements, but the expression of these elements may differ. The binding principle here is that all cultures must honor God in a way that is decent, orderly, and peaceful. Unbelievers from that culture who happen upon the service should find nothing there that seems out of place or irreverent. No emotional expression that draws the focus away from God or His message of redemption is ever appropriate.

**If That Person Were Really Worshiping, He Would Cry, Shout, Smile, Raise His Hands Like Me.** Although all persons experience emotions, not all experience or display emotions the same way. Some of this is associated with culture and some with upbringing. Some emotions are difficult to detect. Our role in worship is to actively engage and not to judge others for appearances that may or may not be indicative of their hearts. We must not bind the consciences of others by our own perceptions and experiences. Jesus condemned a judgmental character that defines spirituality by "what is or is not done" in the Sermon on the Mount. The principle of Christian liberty demands us to extend grace and acceptance to all brothers and sisters in Christ.

### CONCLUSION

In the midst of today's clamorous and discordant worship debates, consider a few clear points. God created us—emotions and all—with no greater purpose than to worship Him. Let us love and serve Him with all our hearts, all our minds, all our souls, all our strength. Stop looking around in worship and start looking to God. It is not about us. It is about Him. **ONE**

# NEWS at FWBBC

## Former FWBBC President Receives Educational Leadership Award



**Dr. Charles Thigpen**, former president of Free Will Baptist Bible College, received the prestigious Biblical Higher Education Award on February 19 during the 63rd annual meeting of the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) in Orlando, Florida. Thigpen is one of only eight recipients in ABHE history to receive the award that recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in advancing and assuring quality biblical higher education.

Dr. Randy Bell, director of the Commission on Accreditation, presented the award on behalf of the Board of Directors and said of Dr. Thigpen: "He was a true pioneer of the Commission on Accreditation, one of the people whose shoulders we stand on tonight."

Thigpen was a charter member of the commission when it was launched in 1974 by the American Association of Bible Colleges (now ABHE). He served as commission chair (1977-1978), member of the Board of Directors (1980-1985), and served on more than 30 accreditation teams, far exceeding the award requirements as one of the "long-time contributors to the association that are stellar and substantial." In addition to his extensive work with the Commission on Accreditation, Thigpen was elected president of the American Association of Bible Colleges

(1984-1986).

When accepting the award, Dr. Thigpen said, "My heart has always been in the Bible College movement." He was accompanied by his wife Laura and daughter-in-law Yvonne, president of the Evangelical Training Association (ETA). His son, the late Dr. Jonathan Thigpen, was president of ETA nine years before his death in 2001 at age 49.

Thigpen served 12 years (1979-1991) as the third president of Free Will Baptist Bible College. He and his wife joined the college faculty in 1948 and served in numerous roles until 1991, except for a brief Michigan pastorate in the mid-1950s. Prior to his presidential years, the South Carolina native held four major positions with the college: dean of men (1948-1953), registrar (1949-1953), dean of students (1957-1967), and academic dean (1957-1979). He also served as chancellor (1990-1991).

His broader responsibilities included six years as moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists (1954-1960), 15 years as promotional director for the Tennessee State Association of Free Will Baptists (1991-2006), seven years as a member of what is now the Randall House Board (1961-1968), and president of the Tennessee College Association (1990-1991).

President Matt Pinson and a delegation from FWBBC attended the ceremony honoring Dr. Thigpen. Pinson said: "Dr. Thigpen gave 40 years of his life as a champion of biblical higher education. No one is more deserving of this honor. He served FWBBC and the Free Will Baptist people with a professionalism and zeal shared by few others. I salute him today as a leader in Christian education." ■

## Students Enjoy Senior Days

**Fourteen high school seniors** arrived on campus February 11-13, for the final Senior Days of the 2010 spring semester. They came from seven states—Tennessee (5), Michigan (3), Florida (2), and one each from Ohio, Missouri, Indiana, and Arkansas. Eight have already applied to FWBBC, and three others are expected to apply.

"Coming from a state school, I'm not used to all this accommodation," said transfer applicant Brittani Sims (Allendale, MI). "I don't want to leave Nashville, and I can't wait to be here in the fall!"

Friday's schedule for the students included classes and chapel, a financial aid seminar to answer questions, a luncheon with President Matt Pinson, and sessions with academic advisors. Evening activities began with a Flames basketball game and closed out with Mosaic, a student-led activity group.

The three-day Senior Days schedule began Thursday and ended Saturday morning. ■

## Student Nominated for Grammy



**Matthew Munsey**, 25-year-old junior Missions major, was nominated for an award at the 52<sup>nd</sup> annual Grammy Awards held January 31 at Staples Center in Los Angeles, CA. The vocalist and instrumentalist plays mandolin in a five-man bluegrass gospel band called Barry Scott & Second Wind. The group was nominated for a Grammy in Best Southern, Country, or Bluegrass Gospel Album category.

The son of James Munsey, late Free Will Baptist missionary to Mexico, Matthew auditioned for the group three years ago and now travels weekends with the group performing in concerts and local churches.

“We were honored but surprised to receive the nomination,” Munsey said, “since this was our first album, and we give God all the praise for the unexpected national recognition.”

Munsey is a second-generation FWBBC student. His father graduated in 1981. Younger sister Rachel is a freshman Education major. Another sister, Laura, graduated in 2005.

Matthew received his first guitar at age seven, his first mandolin at age 11. He also plays the banjo and the bass. He grew up on the Texas/Mexico border playing and singing with the Munsey family, and traveled extensively to promote Mexico missions. He graduated from Tusculum College in 2007 with a bachelor’s degree in organizational management, before relocating to Nashville and enrolling at FWBBC to pursue a degree in Missions.

“My wife Juliana and I are excited about preparing to serve the Lord on the mission field,” Munsey said. “We don’t know where we will serve yet, but we will step through whatever door God opens.”

Matthew was elected 2009-2010 student body worship leader at FWBBC. He currently does 90% of the booking for Barry Scott & Second Wind, and maintains the group’s website ([www.barryscottonline.com](http://www.barryscottonline.com)). ■

## Carol Reid Writes for Christian Librarian Journal

**Carol Reid**, librarian at Free Will Baptist Bible College, wrote a 500-word article titled “Reflections on Mentoring” for *The Christian Librarian*, journal of the Association of Christian Librarians.

The article describes the influence of mentors in Mrs. Reid’s life as she transitioned from library clerk at FWBBC to Vanderbilt University graduate student to her current role as FWBBC librarian and mentor to those following in her footsteps.

“She let me see behind the scenes,” Carol writes about Judy Shrewsbury, her first library mentor at FWBBC. “She let me wade in the water to determine if this was a career I could survive. Her insights and openness about her work provided me a model and a mentor that were pointers to the Lord’s will for me.”

A member of the FWBBC faculty since 1988, Mrs. Reid was elected to consecutive three-year terms as president and vice president of the Foundation for the Advancement of Christian Libraries. She serves the broader professional community of Christian educators as secretary of the Association for Biblical Higher Education’s Commission on Accreditation.

A 1977 graduate of FWBBC, Carol holds the Master of Library Science degree from Vanderbilt University. She is married to Dr. Garnett Reid, chairman of FWBBC’s Biblical and Ministry Studies Department. ■

## Stevens’ Music Published

**Dr. James Stevens**, chairman of the Music Department at Free Will Baptist Bible College, received word that two of his pieces have been included in a new choral book/CD titled *One-Rehearsal Wonders, Volume 3*, by GlorySound (a division of Shawnee Press, distributed by Hal Leonard).

The choral items, scored for SAB and two-part choirs, are ideal for smaller choirs or ensembles. The first of Stevens’ pieces, “We come Together Here,” was composed with lyricist J. Paul Williams. The second, “In Your House, O Lord,” is a piece by Jay Turner that Stevens arranged under the pen name, David Wingate.

“These materials were composed for churches with limited rehearsal time,” Stevens said. “I am delighted that some of my work continues to be picked up by major music publishers. One of my goals is to create music that makes a difference in local churches. That’s where my heart is.”

Dr. Stevens is a frequent presenter at local, regional, national, and international music events. He recently participated in a one-day event hosted by Cookeville (Tennessee) area Free Will Baptist churches, featuring music workshops where he introduced new choral pieces and provided performance tips and practical advice for musicians. Churches or conferences may contact Dr. Stevens for workshops or other events at [jstevens@fwbbc.edu](mailto:jstevens@fwbbc.edu).

The well-known musician and composer has been a member of the FWBBC faculty since 2004 and serves on the Free Will Baptist Music Commission. ■



## PRAY

While this suggestion probably comes as no surprise, it's easy to get in a rut. Explore new and creative ways to keep the needs of missionaries in the forefront of your mind, in family devotions, and before your church.

**Use missionary prayer cards.** Rotate through the cards by praying for a different missionary each day or each

week. Choose a country and focus on its needs and missionaries for a full month. Hang a small corkboard in a high-traffic area of your home, and post the missionaries for a particular country each week.

**Sign up for Hotline.** Published each Wednesday, Hotline focuses on current and urgent needs. Sign up to receive a weekly email or visit the International Missions website ([www.fwbgo.com/](http://www.fwbgo.com/)

pray). While browsing the site, take a moment to review specific missionary pages. Make note of the prayer requests they have listed and incorporate them into your prayer time.

**Request missionary news and newsletters.** Written by missionaries, newsletters will give you a field perspective of missions work and keep you informed about upcoming events and answers to prayers.

## ENCOURAGE

Sharing the gospel is hard work. Add another language and cultural barriers to the equation, and it becomes incredibly difficult. Missionaries often pour their lives into a person or a group with few obvious results. The current global economic crisis has placed a financial strain on nearly everyone involved in missions. Knowing someone in the States is thinking about them, praying for them, and caring for their needs is extremely encouraging.

**Take note of missionary birthdays and anniversaries.** Send a card, jot a note and email it, or send a message on Facebook. Take special note of MKs birthdays. Send small gifts like Kool-aid, gum, or candy that may be hard to find in their host country. The small tokens of kindness will be greatly appreciated.

**Send a care package.** Take time to discover favorite foods that may be unavailable on a regular basis. Include current books or movies. Send age-appropriate toys or family games. Use your imagination. What would you want to receive if you were half a world away from home?

**Respond to missionaries concerning the news they post or the information they publish in their newsletters.** It's good to know someone is paying attention. Let them know if a particular item strikes a chord with you, challenges you, or moves you to prayer.

**Don't always expect a response.** Understand that missionaries are often overwhelmed with ministry, administrative, and family responsibilities.

## LEARN

The more you know, the more strategic your prayers can be, and the stronger your encouragement will be.

**Visit [www.fwbgo.com](http://www.fwbgo.com) often.** Read

news updates. Subscribe to missionary newsletters and read them. Take a couple of minutes to watch an IM-pulse video. All segments of the video magazine are on the website and can be watched online or downloaded to view or to share.

**Learn about the countries where Free Will Baptists missionaries are working.**

**Read missionary biographies or other books.** Releasing this month, *Into the Darkness* provides a bird's-eye view of Free Will Baptists' worldwide efforts for the last 75 years. Reading firsthand accounts from missionaries across the decades will help you understand and appreciate the challenges that missionaries continue to face today.

**Attend missions events at the National Association.** This year's convention schedule is filled with opportunities to learn more about International Missions and to meet former and current missionaries as well as international leaders. Tour a walk-through museum that highlights FWB mission history. Encourage children and preteens to participate in GPS (Global Purpose Seekers) events during NYC. Take a missionary or international guest to lunch. Ask them to tell their story of God's grace and provision.

## GO

You may not be called to career missionary service, but that doesn't mean you can't be a part of ministry on the field.

**Join the Go10 Walk for the World.** The walk is well underway. Students and adults have walked through Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, eastern Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, and New York over the past eight weeks and are now in western Virginia. Visit [go10walk.com](http://go10walk.com) to see when

the walk is coming near you. Sign up to walk or sponsor a walker. See how you can help. Funds raised for the Go10 Walk will be matched, up to \$500,000.

**High school students can participate in E-TEAM, a three-week program designed especially for them.**

Intensive training and full immersion into another culture will give high school students a revealing glimpse into the life and ministry of a career missionary.

**The Mission offers a variety of opportunities for college students calculated to give them maximum exposure to cross-cultural ministry in a condensed time period.** Students may participate in team projects or serve solo with a missionary family. Assignments vary from 10 days to two months. Rigorous training precedes the assignment.

**Short-term opportunities are available for adults who wish to use their professional skills and abilities in a cross-cultural environment.** Humanitarian, medical, and construction trips are ongoing. Volunteers open to longer terms of service may teach English or serve overseas as a missionary intern. Typically, interns minister for one to three years.

## ACT

Don't just read this article and lay it aside. Stop and think about what you can do today to participate in taking the gospel to those who have never heard it. What will you do this week? This month? This year? Everyone can be involved. Everyone has a role to play. Together, we can reach farther. Together, we can impact the world. Let's start today. **ONE**

ABOUT THE WRITER: Deborah St. Lawrence is communications manager for Free Will Baptist International Missions.



# WHY I'M WALKING

The Go10 Walk for the World is underway! Hundreds of young people have committed to take time out of their busy days and weekends to walk 10 miles. Their reasons vary as greatly as the students themselves. Some, like 18-year-old Eric Pirtle (Fredericktown, MO), plan to be missionaries themselves. “I am doing this because I feel called by God to be a career missionary,” Eric states. “I want to help missionaries already on the field, much like I hope people will help me when I go.”

Some students, like Kyle Berry (18, Smyrna, DE), were encouraged to participate by church leaders. “I was approached by my pastor, who challenged me to think about my responsibility concerning world missions. This is a way I can do something I enjoy and also help with a much greater cause as we strive together to reach the world with the gospel.”

Other students appreciate the “hugeness” of the Walk and want to be a part of it. “This is an exciting way to spread the gospel,” shares Destini Bailey of Gateway FWB Church (Virginia Beach, VA). “It’s so cool to be a part of a 2,500-mile journey with others who share the same passion.”

“I feel my purpose on this earth is to spread the good news,” says Carlos Castro (25, Collinsville, IL). Then, he intensified the challenge for himself, “God has blessed me with good health and the ability to run. Yes! I am going to run the 10 miles, not walk them. What better way to put my God-given talents to work?”


Thirteen-year-old Brandon Justice (Greenville, NC) focused on the heart of the Great Commission when he wrote: “I would like to help the many people in different countries

come to know God as good as I do.”

BriAnne Miller (17, Midway, TN) wants to make a difference, both at home and abroad. She thoughtfully wrote, “Wikipedia defines missions as ‘that which is designed to form a viable indigenous church-planting and world changing movement.’ As a member of a church planted firmly in community outreach, and as a member of a family who is already active in a form of missions (foster care), I volunteered to take on the Go10 challenge.”

She continued with a challenge to each of us, “I believe the more people who are aware of the world’s state presently and of how many Christians are sacrificing their stable home-life to reach out into communities and countries around the world, the more we can help. Do you believe?”

Do you? It’s not too late to participate.

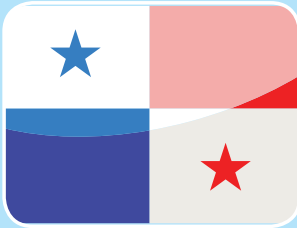
Pastors, consider the example of Kyle’s pastor and challenge your students to get involved. 

Visit the website ([www.go10walk.com](http://www.go10walk.com)) and choose to support a walker. Or, sign up to walk yourself. Will you Go10?



# NEWS

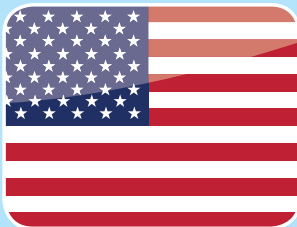
## around the world



**Chame, Panama**—Nearly 100 young people gathered on the Chame seminary property April 1-4, 2010, for four days of preaching, seminars, music, and recreation. Five teens accepted Christ as Savior in the final service Sunday morning. Many others rededicated their lives. ■



**Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil**—Almost 35 years ago, churches in the Minas Gerais mid-state region began a joint Good Friday service and fellowship. The annual fellowship time has grown from two churches and 40 people to 300 people representing nine churches this year. ■



**Nashville, TN**—Former missionary to Brazil, Carol Robirds, died unexpectedly Tuesday, March 30, 2010. Carol and her husband Don served in Brazil from 1964 to 1971, when Don was asked to join the office staff as director of communications. Carol served as his assistant several years. The funeral was held at The Donelson Fellowship in Nashville on April 2. ■



**Alpedrete, Spain**—An Ecuadorian lady accepted Christ during April in Alpedrete. Several members of her family are attending the church. ■



**Sapporo, Japan**—A girl recently accepted Christ as Savior as a result of the Monday evening youth group meetings at the Miharashidai Chapel in Hokkaido. ■

## Go10 WALK KICKS OFF



**Glennville, GA**—More than 120 people gathered at the First FWB Church in Glennville to kick-off the Go10 Walk for the World. "I wish everyone could have been here to see this," Go10 project leader Joe Wilson said of the event. The festivities began at Ebenezer FWB Church with a reception described by General Director James Forlines as "a feast prepared by the ladies of the Glennville and Ebenezer churches." Many in attendance visited Miss Laura Belle Barnard's grave in the church's cemetery.

Special guests included members of Miss Barnard's family and international missionaries from Georgia. The Ebenezer Church announced a \$13,000 gift to the Go10 Walk. In total, more than \$20,000 was pledged and collected during the two days.

Sixty-five walkers began the first segment of the Go10 Walk for the World, Monday, April 5. With local law enforcement escorting, the group left the Glennville Church accompanied by loud cheers and applause. Those interested can follow the Walk's progress on [www.go10walk.com](http://www.go10walk.com). ■

## Women of the Good News Retreat

**Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire**—The Bouna Free Will Baptist Church hosted the four-day women's retreat of the National Association of Free Will Baptist Women in Côte d'Ivoire (Women of the Good News), April 6-10. Registrants totaled 181 women. The extreme heat often forced them to meet outdoors under the mango trees.

The main speaker, Madame Mambo (wife of Jean-Luc, president of the national youth organization), is a modern-day African lady and high school teacher. Immensely qualified, she taught the ladies how to help with family and home expenses through pursuing a small business or working for someone, without neglecting the needs of the family. She shared practical advice about right and wrong ways to proceed. A second speaker, Madame Yéboua, spoke on "Being in Submission to Your Husband" and "What to Do When Your Husband Is Unfaithful."

Alice Smith thanked the ladies for their prayers for her mother and announced the probability of her retirement in 2011. On Friday afternoon, a soccer match was held between the women serving as officers and regular members. "The final score was 0 to 0," writes Alice Smith, "which probably means one of two things: each team was so good they couldn't be scored against, or each team was so bad they couldn't possibly score." The exhibition was heartily cheered and enjoyed by all.

During registration, the women were divided into four different groups. On Saturday, each group presented a song or skit based on the themes of the speakers. Prizes were awarded to the winning group. ■

## IM Board Meets in Annual Session

**Antioch, Tennessee**—The Board of Free Will Baptist International Missions met April 26-28, 2010, in Antioch, TN, with all nine members present.

The board gave considerable attention to the Mission's financial position. A drop-off in giving at the close of 2009, as well as challenges associated with currency devaluation, were reflected in the board's review of the preliminary audit. General Director James Forlines stated, "The board and administrative staff have plans in place to strengthen the Mission's financial position in 2010."

The 2011 framework budget was set at \$7.8 million. The board voted to terminate the benevolent Medicare health supplement program with a "buy out" for those currently receiving a monthly stipend.

The board interviewed and appointed new missionaries Jennifer S. and Heath and Joni H. All three will join Mick and Rachel D. to form a team to reach North African immigrants in Spain. Eleven missionaries were reappointed for another term of service.

The board received the resignation of Jim and Vicki Sturgill with honor. The Sturgills are retiring after 40 years of service in Brazil—the last 16 years in Belo Horizonte. Ledge and Sharon Ferguson requested to leave France a few months ahead of the end of their two-year term. The board granted their request.

The board also received the resignation of Mike Cousineau as administrative director of The Hanna Project. Mike and his wife Deleen served honorably 27 years as missionaries to Côte d'Ivoire. The board also received Deleen's resignation. Clint Morgan was selected to serve as interim director of THP. ■



## Four Baptized in Uruguay

**Montevideo, Uruguay**—Four people were baptized in Montevideo on a Saturday evening in March. According to Jaimie Lancaster, "A child's swimming pool served as a makeshift baptistry as four people symbolically went from death to life and publicly identified themselves with Christ." Five people worked through 30 weeks of discipleship classes, but health issues prevented one person from participating in baptism.

Pastor Gerardo Acevedo officiated the baptisms and was delighted to include his son David. The church also rejoiced when a person from the congregation accepted Jesus Christ during the invitation. ■



## The Archie and Sarah Mayhew Story

**SARAH MAYHEW LAID THE BIBLE** on her bed. She was finished reading through the New Testament for the first time, at the age of 26. With her whole heart, she desired to belong to the Jesus she grew to love as she read each page. She asked Him to be her Lord and Savior, and prayed for her husband, Archie, to be saved, too. Three weeks later, Archie also bowed his knee to Christ after reading through the New Testament. Within two years Archie felt God's call to preach and to missionary service.

Archie enrolled at Free Will Baptist Bible College. With a family to support, he entered night school. By God's grace and the Mayhews' teamwork, Archie graduated, and the family left for the mission field in 1969.

The Mayhews spent their first year in Lausanne, Switzerland, studying the French language. An innovator at

heart, Archie saw an opportunity for the gospel before ever reaching Ivory Coast. God gave him the idea for a tape ministry, with readings of the New Testament recorded in French on audiocassettes and distributed worldwide to French-speaking communities. It proved a tremendous success.

The Mayhews continued creative approaches to evangelism when they reached Bondoukou, Ivory Coast. While studying the Koulango language, they started a Sunday School and worship service in their home near the marketplace. Despite opposition, they slowly won the hearts of the villagers around them.

They returned from their first furlough with a renewed emphasis on village evangelism. Utilizing the cassette tape ministry, they traveled from village to village preaching the gospel. When it was time to move on, they left tapes of the messages for the new converts. "We only hear the missionaries

once," one of the men said. "With the tapes, we can listen again and again to the message, and understand it better."

Archie also teamed with an African pastor to record 16 messages in Koulango, to be broadcast over radio in Abidjan. Then God gave the Mayhews another creative outlet for ministry. They opened a reading room in Tanda, where nearby students were welcomed to come and read a wide assortment of Christian literature. "God sent us these students," Sarah said. "We just made ourselves available to answer their questions and give them directions on how to find Christ. We are standing and witnessing the salvation of the Lord."

In time, God led the Mayhews to focus on training African leaders to reach their own communities for Christ. Archie enlisted help from supporters in the States by coordinating prayer warriors with specific villages. They eventually returned stateside where Archie pastored several churches and served on the Board of Foreign Missions.

After a brief battle with colon cancer, God took him home at the age of 71. **ONE**



The Mayhews' story is an excerpt from *Into the Darkness*, a beautiful volume celebrating the 75th anniversary of FWB International Missions. The 196-page book is filled with short, compelling stories of those who yielded their lives to share the gospel with people who had never heard of Jesus Christ.

Order the commemorative, limited-edition for \$500. This book includes 32 additional pages of content, DVD of historic footage, an exclusive invitation-only reception with missionaries and international visitors at the 2010 National Association of Free Will Baptists in Oklahoma City, OK. Visit [www.fwb.go.com](http://www.fwb.go.com).



# SPANISH EXPANSION

BY LARRY POWELL

**THE FREE WILL BAPTIST HISPANIC MINISTRY IN THE UNITED STATES IS A RAPIDLY-GROWING SEGMENT OF OUR MOVEMENT. IT IS NO WONDER BECAUSE THE FIELD IS INDEED READY TO HARVEST. ACCORDING TO CENSUS INFORMATION, APPROXIMATELY 40 MILLION SPANISH-SPEAKING PEOPLE FROM MANY COUNTRIES HAVE COME TO LIVE IN OUR CITIES. SEVERAL RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS REPORT THAT THE GROWTH OF THE HISPANIC CHURCH IS THE "LEADING EDGE OF GROWTH" IN THEIR PRESENT DAY MOVEMENT.**

Every day and everywhere we find thousands of Hispanics working in various industries serving hometown USA. They labor in construction, agriculture, medical services, banking, and the educational system. They are the new face of business. The buying power of the U.S. Hispanic market is reportedly more than 228 billion dollars per year.

Because of this tremendous influx into our country, Free Will Baptist state leaders have organized outreach ministries to the Spanish-speaking community—people hungry for the gospel and Christian fellowship. Spanish-speaking missionaries are not starting

a single church but multiple churches in nearby towns and cities. Many pastors work through Spanish-speaking laymen to open their churches for Bible study during the week, on Saturday evenings, and Sunday afternoons. We estimate that Free Will Baptist Hispanic church planters have won many of their own people to Christ through this ever-expanding ministry.

The driving force behind the movement in North America is the Gwen Hendrix Free Will Baptist Hispanic Seminary in Inman, South Carolina. The seminary and its satellites have graduated 103 graduates who are hard at work in churches and missions across

the United States. Most students who attend the seminary are unable to pay for tuition, housing, and food. If you would like to help with this rapidly-expanding ministry, please send your gift to the Home Missions Department, designated for the seminary, and our department will forward the total amount to the school. Together we can win the Spanish-speaking people that God has allowed us to encounter here in America. **ONE**

**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Larry Powell is general director of the Home Missions Department. Learn more about the ministry of Home Missions at [www.homemissions.net](http://www.homemissions.net).

# Graduated

to a *New Mission*

BY PAM HACKETT



## WALKING INTO THE

auditorium of First Free Will Baptist Church in Inman, South Carolina, for a graduation ceremony was something I had done many times before. I had the privilege to teach for 20 years at Inman Christian Academy and participated in many graduations. But on this graduation day, I represented Women Nationally Active for Christ, accepting recognition for providing needed items from the WNAC Provision Closet to students at Gwen Hendrix Free Will Baptist

Hispanic Bible Institute.

As I took my place in the pew, my mind flooded with memories. I recalled previous graduations and proud moments of many former students. For years, Gwen Hendrix—the institute is appropriately named in her memory—and I directed musicals for graduation programs. I missed seeing her familiar face at the piano, but was thankful to see Earl Hendrix take his place on the platform in preparation for the service.

Larry Powell, director of the Home Missions Depart-

ment, was the key speaker for the ceremony. He challenged the graduates to be the salt of the world, flavoring it for God. He charged them to live pure lives in a sinful world and reminded them of the great task to spread the gospel (Matthew 5:13).

This graduation was quite different from other graduations I had attended in the auditorium. I could sense the intense burden of the students as they realized the magnitude of responsibility being placed on their shoulders. The need to train more Spanish speakers to minister in America is greater now than ever before. The United States ranks second in the world in Spanish-speaking population.

The students were deeply thankful for the educational opportunities provided for them by the institute. They were grateful for their redemption from the bondage of Roman Catholicism. They were earnest in their desire to be a part of the Great Commission, to share the gospel with those who desperately need freedom from the bonds of false religion.

Since opening its doors in 2004, the institute has had the privilege of seeing 103 students graduate. These young men and women are laboring faithfully in Mexico, El Salvador, Peru, Columbia, Chile, Guatemala, Costa Rico, Puerto Rico, and in churches across America.

Please remember to pray for this ministry and consider how God might use you to send out laborers into the fields ready for harvest. The work ahead is great, and we need your help in reaching the Spanish-speaking community. **ONE**

ABOUT THE WRITER: Pam Hackett and her husband Tim live in Spartanburg, SC, where he pastors Fairview FWB Church. Pam is a member of the Women Nationally Active for Christ's Executive Committee and has worked many years on the WAC local level.

# SILENT WARRIORS- SILENT WOUNDS

BY  
CH (MAJ)  
STEVEN  
SIMPSON

In communities large and small across the USA, soldiers are returning from war. Many of these soldiers will return to their communities and churches with wounds no one can see. Though they have not lost a limb, sustained terrible burns, or been shot up badly, their wounds are very serious. These wounds have always been a part of war. Soldiers returning from our nation's wars have known them well. In the Army, the phrase "Seeing the White Elephant" refers to a soldier who has seen combat and seen his enemy firsthand. That unique experience changes a person forever.

It is amazing how horrible human beings can treat each other, and war demands a steep price for those who experience it. The things you see, the things you smell, the fear you feel, the enemy who tries to kill you, death, grief, and sometimes injustice are all parts of a war. Approximately 30% of the soldiers and service men who return from war suffer from what psychiatrists call PTSD or Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Others suffer from combat stress endured in the war zone.

PTSD is characterized by the soldier whose mind gets stuck in the "fight or flight" mode, the survival mode God has given each of us. When you are afraid, your mind automatically produces "fight" (what is threatening you) or "flight" (get away from the danger). Some soldiers are unable to flip the switch of fight or flight when they return from war. They are stuck in the "on" position. Of course, our bodies are not made to remain in this mode all the time. This burst of adrenaline is only intended to help us survive what we perceive as a threat. It is a God-given impulse.

What are the symptoms of PTSD or extreme combat stress that pastors and leaders should be aware of? One of the most common is the "on pins and needles effect." The person becomes hyper-vigilant of his surroundings, even though he is out of the war zone. Again, think of this as the light switch being stuck in the "on" position. Other symptoms include a lack of emotion or extreme emotion. Often, married soldiers struggle to regain emotional bonds with



their spouses because they have turned off their emotions in the war zone.

While the spouse may expect the same level of emotion in the marriage to which they were accustomed, often the returning soldier is just not ready for that level of emotional intimacy during the first year after combat. It takes a soldier time to heal and return to normal life again, including their emotional life. Because of the horrors of having to kill another human being, or having to survive a fight to the death with the enemy, or just survive the experience, these effects get stuck in the human mind for a long time.

Other soldiers suffer deep grief from losing a buddy or a friend. To cover their grief, many turn to alcohol or drugs. Others turn to addictions such as gambling, sex, or other dangerous and reckless behaviors. The results are the same—big trouble. These symptoms may produce trouble in the marriage, trouble at work, and/or trouble just getting back to normal.

Free Will Baptist pastors are in a key position to help many of these warriors as they return from battle. The best thing you can do for soldiers in your congregation is to be a good pastor to them. Listen to them, pray with them and

for them, and be good to their families. Make them aware that help is available. Don't be afraid to refer them to professional counselors, as some of them will require that kind of attention. Refer them to the Veterans Administration hospitals when necessary.

If you and your congregation stand by them in their time of need, God will bring healing to them through you. Above all, don't be afraid to use your own feelings and pastoral instincts to help a struggling soldier. God will bless you both in the experience. Many soldiers are seeking real peace—a peace that can come only from God. Philippians 4: 6-7 says it well, "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." **ONE**

**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Chaplain Major Simpson serves the Lord and represents Free Will Baptists as a chaplain in the U.S. Army. He is currently stationed in Fort Eustis, Virginia. To learn more about the ministry of Free Will Baptist chaplains, visit [www.homemissions.net](http://www.homemissions.net).

*We pledge our Lives...*



The last lines of the Declaration of Independence read, "We mutually pledge our lives and our fortunes." The signers knew that their sacrifices would guarantee freedom for future generations of Americans. This Independence Day, why not pledge a portion of your fortune to the future of Free Will Baptist International Missions through a unitrust with the Free Will Baptist Foundation?

To learn more, contact the Foundation at 877-336-7575 or [www.fwbgifts.org](http://www.fwbgifts.org).



# EAT, DRINK, *and Get Motivated*

BY JOHN BRUMMITT



Diet has become one of the most dreaded words in the American vocabulary! But as we continue this series of articles about wellness, consider the following simple changes in diet that will lead to a healthier self.



Throughout the Old Testament, God gave the Israelites strict rules about the types of food and drink they were allowed to consume. From a nutritional standpoint, those guidelines include the same things scientists and doctors tell us we should eat today—things that are better for our bodies.

How then can we think that God is not concerned about the food we eat today? I have always found it odd that we ask Him to bless our meals, to make the food “nourishing to our bodies,” when we eat such things as fried chicken, potatoes, and biscuits.

While I believe it is possible for God to change unhealthy food to healthy (as he did in 2 Kings 4:38-41 when Elisha was called upon to save the people from the poisonous stew), I don't believe that gives us the freedom to eat however and whatever we want all the time.

### Addition by Substitution

Addition is easier than subtraction. Dieting is hard, and few people are successful. One reason is that we force ourselves to exchange the things we like for things we hate. Obviously, we would all much rather eat an Oreo cookie than a carrot stick. Unless we have super strong will power, a 180° turn will hardly last a month before we “fall off the wagon.”

If we eat healthy foods first, however, and still allow for a moderate number of Oreos, we are more likely to stick to our changes in diet. Visit [mypyramid.gov](http://mypyramid.gov) to find the foods you need daily to maintain a healthy diet. Set a goal to eat those items, along with whatever else you want. You will find that when you eat the healthy options first, you will remain full and

not crave unhealthy foods as often. Although you may not cut out the junk completely, you will reduce your intake.

### The Soda Solution

Another easy way to change our diets dramatically is to guard what we drink. The Institute of Medicine advises men to consume roughly 3 liters (13 cups) of total beverages a day. Women should consume 2.2 liters (9 cups) a day.

If your only choice of beverage is soda, the recommended amount will contain 1,190 calories, endanger your teeth, and strain your kidneys. Also consider the amount of sugar in the soda. One pound of sugar is equal to 3,500 calories. A day's worth of soda contains almost a third pound of sugar.

In contrast, water has no calories or sugar, and besides quenching thirst, it also removes toxins that build up in our bodies from daily activities. When we drink more water, weight loss accelerates. Studies show that people who drink more water are happier in general. The benefits of drinking water are not only limited to the body; they include mental health. So, drink your water, people!

### Find a Support Group

Another reason many of us fail to make long-term changes in our eating habits is that we feel as though we are the only ones trying to change. Instead of trying to do it all on your own, join a group that will be there for you when you want to order a large pizza for dinner or polish off a half-gallon of ice cream for desert. Tell your family and friends you are going to make these changes, and ask them to keep



**"THIS IS NOT MY BODY TO TREAT HOWEVER I WANT. IT WAS BOUGHT WITH A PRICE, AND THE LEAST I CAN DO IS RESPECT IT AND TAKE CARE OF IT."**

you in check.

If you can't find a group, start one. Many people are willing to do something; they just don't know where to start. Having a group to lean on, to share recipes with, and to share both struggles and successes will help you take better care of the temple God has entrusted to you.

When I was younger, I used to joke, “I don't worry about this body because I will get a new one when I get to Heaven.” Only in the last few years have I realized that this is not my body to treat however I want. It was bought with a price, and the least I can do is respect it and take care of it.

In the next article, we will turn our attention to the important roles that sleep and exercise play in our overall health and wellness. Americans don't get enough of either, and it is affecting the quality of our lives. **ONE**

ABOUT THE WRITER: A 2004 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, John Brummitt is CFO of the Board of Retirement where he began working in 2006. An avid runner and founder of a middle-Tennessee running club, he chairs the wellness committee for the Free Will Baptist National Offices.

*Evaluating Your Need for*  
**LONG-TERM  
CARE** BY NORMA  
JACKSON  
GOLDMAN



**WHEN YOU WOKE UP THIS MORNING**, you likely climbed out of bed, walked to your bathroom, took a bath or shower, dressed, and ate breakfast. These are called ADLs—the activities of daily living. If you're feeling great and your general health seems fine, you may wonder why you would even think about long-term care. If so, consider these facts:

An estimated 12.1 million Americans need assistance to carry out everyday activities.<sup>1</sup>

After age 65, Americans have more than a 70% chance of needing some form of long-term care (LTC).<sup>2</sup>

Americans are living longer due to advances in medicine and changes in life-style—healthier diets and exercise.

The over-65 population will double by 2050.

The over-85 group represents the fastest growing segment of the population (we didn't live that long in years past).

Annual nursing home costs range from \$40 to \$100,000, depending on the state in which you live.

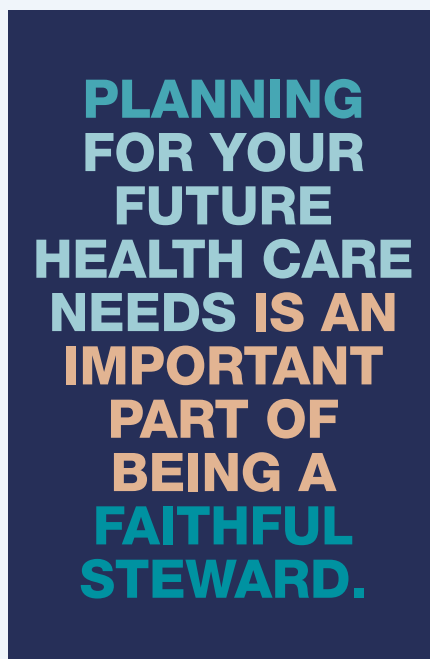
Home health care costs depend on the number/hours of visits per month, and range from \$22 to \$96,000 annually.

Changes in families impact this issue as well. In the past, families took care of aging relatives who lived close by or even under the same roof. Today, potential caregivers are in the workforce,<sup>3</sup> and many children of aging parents live far away. These factors contribute to the need for costly outside caregiving resources.

Long term care insurance (LTCI) can help cover the cost of care you receive at home from nurses' aides, home health aides, and therapists. It can also help cover services in an assisted living facility, and if you require skilled care, nursing home expenses can also

be covered. These medical and support services are primarily for people who suffer from (1) degenerative conditions (such as Parkinson's disease or stroke), (2) prolonged illnesses (such as cancer) or (3) cognitive disorders (Alzheimer's and dementia).

Having adequate LTCI can help you maintain your dignity and financial freedom and give you and your family the flexibility to make choices: what services you receive, where you receive them, and who provides them.



The first step in determining future needs is to realistically assess your general health and lifestyle and confirm your conclusions with your physician. Truthfully evaluate your eating habits, exercise program, positive mental outlook, and family history.

Second, find a trustworthy professional who can walk you through the four potential ways of paying for LTC: cash, Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance.

Work with a knowledgeable professional who has access to policies from

more than one insurer or at least comparison shop. Rates for similar coverage varies greatly—as much as \$700/year. Ask these critical questions:

How long has the company provided long-term care coverage?

Does the company have financial strength?

How often have premiums increased in the past 10 years?

Are discounted rates available for those in excellent health?

Does the policy offer options (home care, assisted living, and skilled care)?

What is the process for paying claims? What percentage of claims filed are actually paid?

Does the insurer offer inflation protection? For example, a \$130/day nursing home cost will increase to \$260/day in 14 years, assuming an inflation rate of 5%.<sup>4</sup>

What is the benefit of obtaining insurance now rather than later? Premiums increase as you get older—as in life insurance—and health conditions can change quickly and unexpectedly.

Planning for your future health care needs is an important part of being a faithful steward. Planning not only demonstrates care for your family but a proper reverence for your health and mental state and provides peace of mind for all who will be impacted by your decisions. **ONE**

**About the Writer:** Former magazine editor Norma J. Goldman enjoys a successful freelance writing career in her retirement. Learn more about the Board of Retirement at [www.boardofretirement.com](http://www.boardofretirement.com).

1. [www.Caregivers.org](http://www.Caregivers.org)

2. The American Society on Aging

3. With the US divorce rate at over 50%, many former caregivers now work outside the home. Economic forces result in a greater number of families with both parents working outside the home.

4. Long-term Care Learning Center

# The End GAME

*Lessons learned from the life and death of a father*

BY SEAN WARREN



**I thought it would be easy to write an article describing how my father passed the spiritual baton to me, and how I am trying to pass it along. It became, instead, an intensely personal reflection on my father's life and recent death.**

Oshall Warren was a man of humble beginnings and hard work. He was one of 11 children born to a farmer/pastor in southeast Missouri. He had an eighth grade education (because the farm needed help when he was a boy), but earned his GED while serving in the military. His life was full of rich experiences—farming, raising cattle, owning a saw mill, traveling in the military, owning real estate, working the freight docks of St. Louis, being a father of six, a husband of one, a deacon, and mentor to hundreds. He enjoyed golf, and had an incredible ability to skip a golf ball across a water hazard or use a tree to find the center of the fairway.

He taught me how to play chess as a young boy: how the pieces move and some of the basic strategies of the game. As my game developed, I realized the importance of the different stages of the

game. You need a solid opening, a developed middle, and an end game that is calculated and flawless. Otherwise, you might lose as a result of a foolish move at the end. You always have to think with the end in mind, and that is where I would like to start, with the end of my dad's life.

## **Dying Like He Lived**

My dad was 81 when he died from cancer. It came out of nowhere and ravaged his body. The doctor told him to expect three to five years in April, and he was dead in August.

Dead. My rock, my anchor, my advocate, my counselor, my friend, my father was dead. I miss him so much, but I would not want him back on this earth for anything. I am sure he is having the time of his life right now.

One of the most fascinating things about Dad's death was how he embraced it, and how he managed his time as it approached. He wanted to be close to his family, he wanted frank and honest conversations with everyone, and he wanted to point to Christ in everything. In short, he died like he lived, and that is one of the greatest lessons I learned from his life.

Before I make my dad sound like a super saint, I want you to know he was the first to admit his failings—another attribute that made him great in my eyes. He admitted, often with tears, how he should have been more and done more for Christ. Early in life, his priorities were out of balance, working so hard for the church that he neglected his wife and kids. Later in life, he regretted not spending more time with my brothers. (I was the last.) Because he was transparent and vulnerable enough to share this, it has helped me safeguard my time and protect my family.

Forthrightness is a word and character trait that has been lost in society today. My father instilled this deep in me. Be a man of your word, call a spade a spade, let your yes be yes and your no be no. This dedication to truth often put him in uncomfortable positions. He of-

ten had to confront, but always with the person's best interests at heart.

Proverbs says an open rebuke is better than hidden love (27:5). For Dad, to love someone and silently watch him or her go down the wrong road was tantamount to hatred. So he spoke. But if he spoke, it meant he loved you more than he disliked the confrontation.

My dad kept secrets—his good deeds. Once I needed something in my dad's chest of drawers. In my search, I found many checks he had written for ministries, camps, people, etc. It was an amazing level of financial sacrifice, the kind that can only be made when you are thinking with the end in mind. His pleasures came from giving, not getting.

At his funeral, a lady drove from another state to pay her respects. She had not seen my father for decades, but his encouragement and generosity inspired her to drive hours to say to his family, "He was compassionate and generous." Once, my father purchased a home air conditioner for a paraplegic man and his family. I had no idea, but they remembered. This has inspired me to be more committed to giving to others in secret. In fact, I have been doing this for some time, and I can't wait to look back with the satisfaction of knowing God's word is true. It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Pop also possessed a keen knowledge of his position in Christ. He knew what his life was like before Christ, and he knew what grace did for him. I never heard him talk boastfully about his "time in sin." His sinful life was squarely in the past, and that is where he left it.

I never (and I truly mean never) heard my dad gossip about anyone. In fact, I asked him jokingly to gossip for me before his death, and without a second's hesitation he said: "You wouldn't like what people have been saying about you!" He was always a joker, but I wonder how much negative conversation he killed by not repeating it.

My dad had a good name. During the last few days of his life, scores of people

dropped by to see him. One man, a multimillionaire, told me my dad was the closest thing he had to a father. Another woman sent me this message: "Sean, I never knew my father on this earth, but I always thought that if I could have one, I would want him to be like yours."

Reflecting on these things, I am crying: *God, I want to say thank You for putting a person in my life that reflected the Bible in so much of his life. Thank You, God, for allowing me to experience love that has inspired me, to witness character that has encouraged me, and to have watched a life and death that was absolutely glorious.*

## Passing It On

The last words I spoke to my father were, "Oshall Warren, you are a good man." But now it is my turn to be that good man. I want my children to say that of me when I am dying, and my grandchildren to say that of them.

So how do we pass that baton? Here are 10 ways I am working to pass my father's qualities, characteristics, and values to my kids:

- 1. I take my girls on dates.** Even though they are little, I spend individual time listening, learning, and laughing. Time is the greatest gift I can give them.
- 2. We watch and talk about the news.** As a kid, I watched the 10 o'clock news with dad. He believed Christians should know what is going on in their world. I agree. The news is a topic of conversation around our dinner table.
- 3. I leave my Bible open on my desk to the passage I have read in the morning.** I cannot tell you how often I saw an empty coffee cup beside a "Daily Bread" and an open Bible. These were observable evidence of my dad's daily spiritual life. I want my girls to see me reading the Bible.
- 4. I pray with my kids at night.** While my dad didn't do this often, his prayers are legendary to me. Using "the King's English," he prayed with conviction,

and his prayers made me think. I want my kids to learn something about God by how I address Him in prayer.

- 5. I love my wife.** While easy to overlook, the healthy expression of love for my wife allows my girls to feel good about Mom and Dad and their affection for one another.
- 6. I try to love at all times.** At times, I got into a fight at school (who hasn't?). I knew my dad loved me regardless—an example of Christ in him. I hope to do the same for my daughters.
- 7. I have deep regard for my extended family, and look to be with them any time I can.** My dad said, "No one can take your family away from you, and they are all you've got when the chips are down."
- 8. I risk myself for the gospel.** Dad was keenly aware of life and eternity. I often talk to my girls about daring to do great things for God by being who they need to be in Christ every day. The day will come when they, too, will risk themselves for the gospel.
- 9. I give my kids high standards in Christ because He deserves it.** My father set standards for me, and I will help my kids be set apart from this world.
- 10. I forgive others, myself, and my girls.**

You are going to die. Maybe not today or tomorrow, but you will. All you will leave are the memories of either your best or your worst. Are you living to pass on the best parts of yourself? Be the man or woman you need to be in Christ. Then you can die like you lived. **ONE**

ABOUT THE WRITER: Sean Warren has one wife, Jill, three daughters (Sophia, Lola, and Isabella), and four Apple computers. He likes long walks on the beach, long plane rides to unknown countries, and short lines in the drive-through.



For other great articles check out *FUSION* magazine.



# The Voice of Those Who Weep:

## Christians and Chronic Illness (Part 1)

BY GARNETT REID

Chronic illness sufferers know all too well what Job meant (Job 7:3-4; 30:16-17, 29, 31). Nights and months of wrenching pain and lonely despair meet frequently only with skeptical looks and callous remarks.

### Off the Radar Screen

Make no mistake, though. The anguish is real for those with ongoing illnesses that never seem to loosen their chokehold. The Centers for Disease Control define a “chronic illness” as one that is “prolonged, does not resolve spontaneously, and is rarely cured completely.” Those

who love and care for these brave people feel that cruel grip, too. All too often the church fails to reach out with Christ’s heart to touch the lives of the chronically ill and their caregivers with His compassionate embrace.

That’s strange since the need slaps us in the face. Almost one-half of all Ameri-

cans live with a chronic illness, accounting for three-fourths of our spending on health care. Those statistics fade to the margins, though, when it’s you or your loved one who hears the diagnosis and starts down that long road of managing a debilitating disease.

That was my experience. End-stage renal failure meant day after day of peritoneal dialysis for me, with bags of solutions, transfer sets, cyclers, rubber gloves, and surgical masks. I well remember a trip my wife Carol and I took to the spectacular Broadmoor Resort in Colorado Springs—along with my cycler, bags, gloves, and all.

On that same trip we heard Jeff Boyd’s presentation, “A Biblical Theology of Chronic Illness.” Though his remarks were helpful, what struck me most was that Christians don’t fit that piece of our lives into our biblical worldview very well. But we really should grapple with the place of chronic illness in our belief system since millions of Christians—your loved ones and mine—suffer. And our beliefs fuel our actions.

### On the Road to Dying

My purpose in this series is to sketch lightly what the Bible says about the reason for chronic illness, as well as a rationale for serving those who suffer. In the next column, I’ll share more words with people who care for those who hurt.

Like all disease, chronic illness ravages the human family because of sin. Adam’s disloyalty to God passed along to every person the consequence of death and all that leads to it. Job’s experience, however, shows us that such a thing as innocent suffering exists. That is, some ailments and hardships come our way not because of any particular thing we’ve done wrong; instead, God permits them in order to work out His purpose, which ultimately is a good purpose.

Remember Paul’s “thorn in the flesh.”

That difficulty—probably a physical problem—plagued him not because he had committed sin but to keep him from sinning (2 Corinthians 12:7) and to give God occasion to flood Paul’s life with grace.

So, too, the blind man in John 9 was not a victim of a particular sin but a vessel through whom God would reveal His glory (John 9:3).

## Move the Stars

We should not be surprised, therefore, to see that Jesus spent much of His time on earth touching the lives of hurting people. He loved and healed the paralyzed, lepers, those who couldn’t see,

or hear, and the lame. He taught His followers to love those who suffer (Luke 14:12-14). After all, “God is love,” John reminds us (1 John 4:8), and those who love God will love others. Paul commands us to “walk in love”—that is, a life filled with love because Christ has loved us (Ephesians 5:1).

This love is not just talk and hype, either. It has hands and legs and feet. We don’t really love, John suggests, if we just mouth words about love and neglect to practice love (1 John 3:16-18). Love is a verb as well as a noun! James went so far as to say that the real stuff of “religion” is to go where needy people are—to be with them, not just to text them or email

them. Go and sit with them and cook for them and talk to them and run errands for them.

Virginia Owens wrote of the experience of caring for her mother during a seven-year illness that eventually claimed her life. Reflecting on what she had learned, Ms. Owens concludes:

Only this: loving people is such a burden. If love, in and of itself, weren’t the center from which life flows, if it didn’t, as Dante says, move the stars, how could we bear such weight? Nevertheless, love is also all that endures....but in the end, love is a choice. **ONE**

**Next INTERSECT:** Words to you who choose to love those who hurt

**INTERSECT: Where the BIBLE Meets Life** is a regular column written by Dr. Garnett Reid who chairs the Bible Department at Free Will Baptist Bible College.



## Reach Out to Those Who Are Hurting



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# Cora of the Plain

BILL EVANS with BRENDA EVANS







**CORA LIVED CLOSE TO NOTHING—NO HILL, NO TOWN, NO neighbor.** Nothing, that is, unless you count a dozen red chickens and two enormous dogs. Divided into parcels by dirt roads, her 640 acres of central Kansas land were as flat as an iron stove top. A square mile of scrub, prairie grass, and unbroken flatness.

Cora was bent at the waist over a huge wooden barrel between her house and a tool shed, both silver with age and no paint, when I drove up. Occupied with scooping out a dwindling supply of chicken feed, she didn't hear my rented car. But two large silent dogs edged between us to let me know they heard, and I'd better not forget it.

My hello frightened her, and she straightened. Cora was lean and tall for a woman. Good Kansas breed. Probably 75, but strong enough to stand alone against a windy prairie with only a dozen chickens, two dogs, and an occasional magnificent tornado.

Staring at first, not unfriendly just questioning, she invited me in. The chickens clucked around us still waiting for the feed she didn't deliver. They were as lean as Cora, and I figured they could also handle most things that came upon them on that vast plain—even coyotes. Maybe they'd fly into the trees scattered near the house and simply wait.

By phone, I had made a 10 o'clock appointment with Cora which she had apparently forgotten. I handed her my card, but she was still wary. It was the mid-1980s, and I was fund-raising for a ministry whose goal was to reach

every home around the world with either a Bible or a gospel tract.

The home office was in Southern California, but I traveled from coast to coast in all directions. I was in a different hotel, different state most nights, but during the day in the homes of people like Cora, strangers to me but friends to the ministry I served.

"How do I know you are who you say you are?" she asked.

"You can call the home office," I suggested.

"You dial, I'll talk." She pointed to a black boxy dial phone.

She was in her chair by a narrow window that looked out onto her short gravel drive and the unbroken desolation beyond. As she talked, she turned her gaze into the distance and then back to me, back and forth in her thoughts.

I liked this woman. She was tough, sober. No one would deceive her; nothing would chew her up and spit her out. Ever. When she hung up the receiver, she grasped me in a firm handshake that said she had learned I was representing the gospel ministry she loved.

Plain and unhurried, Cora told me her story. She was alone in her weathered two-story house, with no cash reserves, no investments, no back-up



## Cora was a woman willing to give her last treasure for the Lord's work on earth.

plan, and a 640-acre section of untillable soil that she assayed of little monetary value. She sent a modest monthly gift to our ministry out of her small Social Security check.

"But I want to give more," she said. She spoke of the land. It probably was not sellable "out here," she said, though she would not sell it even if it were. The land had come through her family from homesteading days. We both clearly saw her dilemma. She couldn't make money off the land, but neither could she sell it. It must pass on in the family as it always had. She would not betray that trust.

Fierce and strong, yet womanly, Cora held on to the land like a grieving mother. Just hold on when there's nothing else to do. Cora saw her financial ruin and brokenness as clearly as she saw the rusted tools and implements, useless in the shed out back. Like the land, they were eyesores, little more.

"I do have three things I treasure. I wonder if they're valuable?" she said.

"Could you take a look?" I nodded. She signaled for me to wait and left the room.

Through the window I looked down the gravel drive, winding away into the expanse she had lost herself in during our conversation. The Great Plains have a way of putting things in perspective, making me feel small—a dot on a vast sphere. Then there's the sky that takes up three-fourths of all you see. My smallness—and hers—seemed absolute to me that morning as I gazed out upon all that God had made there on the Plains.

She returned with three woodworking tools cradled in her arms. They appeared to be antiques: a wooden block plane, a hand auger, and a wood chisel.

"These were gifts from my father, things he used to build our home and sheds in my childhood. But I'm willing to give them or sell them for the ministry if you think they are worth something—something monetary, I mean." Her voice was deep with emotion.

I examined each. The various woods held rich patinas, worn smooth by working hands. Even the metal parts were beautiful with age and use.

"You can take them and sell them if you think they'll help," she said.

I knew I couldn't. I was headed straight back to Kansas City to catch a plane that would take me to another stranger's house that night. I had no way to pack and ship the antiques to the home office. Besides, their monetary value was small, very small, while to Cora they were a treasure. But how could I say all that?

"Cora, I can't take them on the plane with me today. Besides, they are precious to you," I began. "You keep them, at least for now. You are already giving sacrificially out of your monthly income. For years you have given what you can. Our ministry knows that; our Lord knows that. You have a generous and gracious heart. What more can anyone ask of you? Nothing."

"All right, if that's what you think is best. I'll just hold on to them for now," she said with a stronger voice.

As I steered the rental car down her gravel drive and turned east toward Kansas City, I knew she'd hold onto her three small treasures—but loosely—for that was the kind of woman she was, a woman willing to give her last treasure for the Lord's work on earth. Who else did I know that would do that?

I identified with Cora, though I'm neither a Kansan nor a woman. She was on a teeter-totter of sorts, balanced between her urge to hold on to her land and her longing to give generously. **ONE**

# BROWN on green

BY DAVID BROWN

## Actual Earnings Versus Net Earnings

**AS INVESTORS, WE ARE ALWAYS CONCERNED ABOUT AN** investment's earnings rate. When we look at a mutual fund, we consider its current rate as well as the five-year, 10-year, and lifetime returns. When we consider a certificate of deposit (CD), we compare the two-year rate with the five-year rate. While earnings are important, we also need to compare the "actual" earnings rate to "net" earnings rate.

First, let's define the terms. The actual rate is the earnings rate printed on the statement. For instance, a CD rate may be 1.5%. The net earnings rate is the actual rate less the inflation rate. In 2009, for the first time since the Great Depression, the United States had a negative inflation (or deflation) rate of .34%. This means that the net rate of earning on a 1.5% CD was 1.84% in 2009. However, inflation has turned positive over the last few months and appears to be headed for a rate of at least 2% for 2010. This means a 1.5% rate on a CD has a net rate of negative .5%. The net rate is a better indicator of how your investments are doing than the actual rate. Your investments must top inflation before you earn anything.

Inflation has been and will continue to be a factor in the performance of your investments. Inflation affects every-

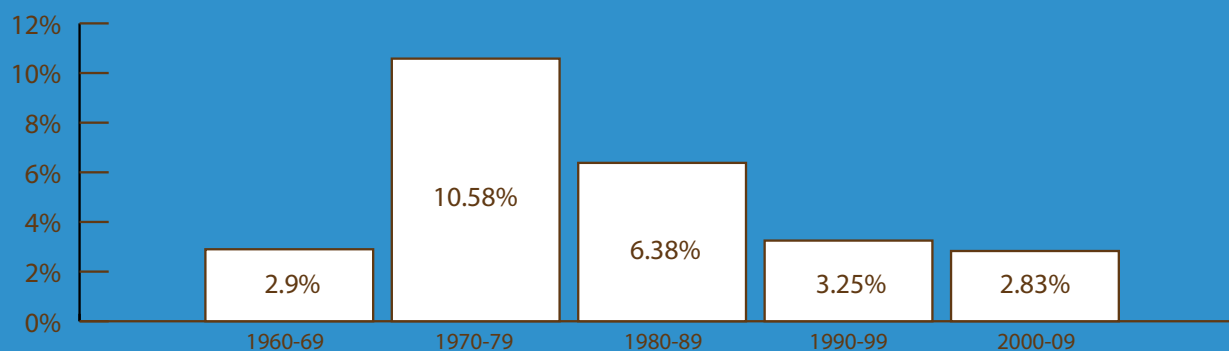
thing, including the value of your money. For example, if you bought \$100 worth of goods and services in 1960 (50 years ago) it would cost you \$639 in 2010 to buy the same amount of goods and services. While inflation has been very moderate during the last 20 years, it still has an impact on the earnings of your investments.

During the late 1970s and early 1980s, the nation experienced some of the highest rates of inflation in history. Today, we celebrate an eight percent rate of return, but in 1979, that would have been a negative 5.3% net return because inflation was 13.3%.

Financial planners suggest that if you plan to invest in a balanced fund portfolio with a mix of stocks and bonds, you should conservatively expect eight to nine percent returns in the future. These same financial planners suggest you should also expect an inflation rate of three to four percent in the future. They are basically saying you should expect a net earnings rate of four to five percent.

Keep in mind that the really important rate is not the actual earnings rate but the net earnings rate. In the future, remember to calculate the net earnings rate by subtracting the inflation rate. **ONE**

### Average inflation rate per decade



# Thank you!

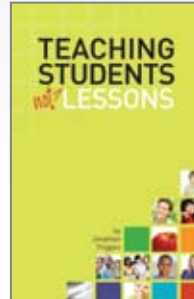


**Our publishing family has grown!**

We want to say a special thanks to our FWB authors who have recently made writing contributions to our book publishing division.



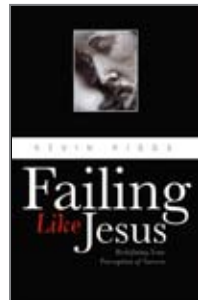
**Jimmy Holbrook**  
Pastor of Harrah Free Will Baptist Church in Harrah, OK



**Jonathan Thigpen**  
Former President of Evangelical Training Association in Wheaton, IL



**Randy Sawyer**  
Pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church in Gastonia, NC



**Kevin Riggs**  
Pastor of Franklin Community Church in Franklin, TN



**Edward J. Moody**  
Pastor of Tippetts Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Clayton, NC



**E. Darrell Holley**  
Professor at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, TN



**Randy Sawyer**  
Pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church in Gastonia, NC



**Garnett Reid**  
Professor at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, TN



**E. Darrell Holley**  
Professor at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, TN

# LEADER PROFILE

by Ron Hunter Jr.

Leadership comes in all forms and sizes, but the results are the same. Leaders influence behavior and make a difference in people's lives. Profiling leaders shows a diverse combination of traits, but impacting lives is always a common theme.



## PAUL KEENER, OHIO

**RETIRED...BUT WHO CAN TELL?** Paul and his wife Sue have raised four kids who serve God faithfully and are raising 15 godly grandchildren. Paul worked for AT&T/Lucent Technologies for 34 years. He served as a draftsman in the engineering field and moved up to quality analyst. He felt the call of God on his life to become a minister and pastored 11 years.

For the last five years, Paul has been managing a bookstore for Ohio Free Will Baptists. Paul sees his role as equipping pastors with resources to help them develop an effective model of discipleship and spiritual formation. Paul travels to associations and churches, leading seminars and preaching the value of being a Deuteronomy six (D6) church. His life has modeled this philosophy, and it shows in his heritage. Paul is devoted to his wife, children, and grandkids.

Paul spends time in his prayer journal each morning calling out items on his list. He uses *Fusion* to stay connected to the family theme, even though his kids are grown. Paul reads from his chronological Bible for an hour or more every day.

He and his wife frequently go to Amish country for an overnight getaway. (He programs his GPS for the back roads to take in the most scenic route.) Paul Keener you are a great leader!

### What connects you and your wife?

We value quiet evenings when we talk, share a TV program, and focus on grandchildren.

### Paul's Kids:

Bryan (42) four children  
Sherry (40) two children  
Jeff (38) five children  
Tom (30) four children

### Favorite Books:

*The Things They Should Know* by Gordon Lloyd  
*What is Prayer?* by Dennis Boyd

### Biggest Failure:

Missed Opportunities

### Talents Used in Ministry:

I try to bring a business and ministry focus to church work and never forget the human element!

*Visionary Parenting* has inspired and transformed many churches and homes.

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Award Winner



# Who will go?

## 2010 Free Will Baptist Convention

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK | JULY 18-21

### Preliminary Convention Schedule

#### SATURDAY, JULY 17

##### Impact OKC

Various Locations  
10:00 am – 6:00 pm

##### Registration Opens

3:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
Cox Convention Center Lobby

#### SUNDAY, JULY 18

##### Registration (Open Daily)

8:00 am – 7:00 pm  
Cox Convention Center Lobby

##### Sunday School\*

10:00 am – 10:45 am  
Cox Convention Center

##### Morning Worship\*

11:00 am – 12:00 Noon  
Cox Convention Center

##### Evening Worship\*

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm  
Cox Convention Center

#### MONDAY, JULY 19

##### General Board Meeting

8:00 am – 2:30 pm  
Sheraton Century Ballroom

##### NYC Competitive Activities

8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
Cox Convention Center

##### International Missions Museum Grand Opening

10:00 am  
Cox Convention Center Hall B

##### Theological Trends Seminar

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm  
Cox Convention Center Arena

##### Seminar: 75 Years of WNAC

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
Sheraton Grand Pavilion

##### NYC Seminars

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
Cox Convention Center

##### 75th Anniversary

**Missions Rally**  
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
Cox Convention Center Arena

##### Exhibits Open

3:00 pm – 10:30 pm  
Cox Convention Center Hall 1

##### Benjamin Randall Appreciation Dinner

5:15 pm – 6:30 pm  
Sheraton Hotel

##### Evening Worship

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm  
Cox Convention Center

#### TUESDAY, JULY 20

##### Randall House Workshop

8:00 am – 9:30 am  
Cox Convention Center Arena

##### NYC Competitive Activities

8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
Cox Convention Center

##### WNAC Convention

8:30 am – 10:30 am  
Sheraton Grand Pavilion

##### World Celebration 2010

with international guests  
10:00 am – 11:45 am  
Cox Convention Center Arena

##### NYC Seminars

10:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Cox Convention Center

##### Exhibits Open

10:00 am – 10:30 pm  
Cox Convention Center  
Hall 1

##### WNAC Missionary Service

10:30 am – 11:30 am  
Sheraton Grand Pavilion

##### WNAC Fellowship Luncheon

12:00 noon – 2:00 pm  
Sheraton Century Ballroom

##### Convention Business Session

1:30 pm – 4:00 pm  
Cox Convention Center Arena

##### Into the Darkness Reception

(By invitation only)  
4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Sheraton Hotel

##### Go10 Walk Finale

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 pm

##### Evening Worship

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm  
Cox Convention Center

##### Tim Hawkins Live

9:30 pm – 10:30 pm  
Cox Convention Center  
Great Hall

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

##### NYC Competition Finals

8:00 am – 11:00 am  
Cox Convention Center  
Great Hall

##### Convention Business Session

9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Cox Convention Center Arena

##### NYC Seminars

10:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Cox Convention Center

##### Exhibits Open

10:00 am – 9:30 pm  
Cox Convention Center Hall 1

##### FWBBC Alumni and Friends Luncheon

12:00 noon – 1:15 pm  
Sheraton Hotel

##### Friends of Hillsdale Reception

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm  
Sheraton Hotel

##### Evening Worship

6:45 pm – 8:30 pm  
Cox Convention Center Arena

##### NYC Awards Ceremony

9:00 pm – 11:00 pm  
Cox Convention Center Arena

**\*Teen services will be held**  
in the Cox Convention  
Center Great Hall

## CONVENTION SPEAKERS



**Sunday School**  
Thomas Marberry  
(OK)



**Sunday Morning**  
Bert Tippet  
(TN)



**Sunday Evening**  
Jeff Blair  
(OK)



**Monday**  
Charles Murphy  
(OK)



**Tuesday**  
Karl Sexton  
(VA)



**Wednesday**  
Stan Bunch  
(Panama)

The 2010 convention speakers will address portions of the passage centered around the convention theme, “Who Will Go?” Based on the prophet’s narrative in Isaiah 6, the convention theme invites attendees to say yes to the challenges God places in our lives.

## Orchestra Members Needed

The 2010 Convention Orchestra needs instrumentalists to sign up as soon as possible, according to Convention Music Coordinator Chris Truett. “We invite anyone from ninth grade up to participate, although we like to have as many adults as possible.”

The ensemble will accompany congregational and choir selections each night of the convention, and practice Sunday through Wednesday, both at 4:00 p.m. and immediately following each evening service on the main stage of Cox Convention Center Arena.

Anyone wishing to join the ensemble should send name, address, phone number, and church name to:

Bethel FWB Church  
**Attention:** Chris Truett  
1936 Banks School Rd.  
Kinston, NC 28504

Volunteers may call Chris at (252) 522-2451 or email [ctruett@bethelfwb.com](mailto:ctruett@bethelfwb.com). Please specify instrument(s) and how many years of experience. Notify Chris Truett by June 15 to receive music prior to the convention.

**A Convention Choir** will also sing each night of the convention. All singers are invited to attend the first practice on the convention stage, Sunday afternoon, July 18, at 5:00 p.m.

## Impact OKC

Make plans to arrive a day early to participate in Impact OKC, the annual one-day outreach event held Saturday, July 17, across the Greater Oklahoma City area.

According to Impact Coordinator Ken Akers, “This is a great opportunity for families to minister together before convention activities get too busy. We are excited about the opportunity, and we invite everyone to join us as we work together to impact the people of Oklahoma City.”

Volunteers can contact Ken Akers at [ken@nafwb.org](mailto:ken@nafwb.org) or by phone: 877-767-8039.

For more Impact OKC information visit [www.onemag.org](http://www.onemag.org) or [www.fwbmastersmen.org](http://www.fwbmastersmen.org).



## Meet (New) Nominees for Standing Boards and Commissions

### BOB LEWIS: HOME MISSIONS

West Virginia native Bob Lewis graduated from Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1974. As Free Will Baptist home missionaries, he and his wife Brenda planted three churches in Colorado and Virginia during a 28-year ministry with the department. Bob currently pastors Oaklawn FWB Church in Chapmansboro, Tennessee.

### JEFF CRABTREE: FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Dr. Jeff Crabtree pastors Serenity FWB Church, the home missions church he and his wife Donna began in Fredericton, NB, Canada, in 1996. A 1979 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Crabtree earned Masters of Divinity (M.Div.) and Theology (M.Th.) from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary (VA), and a Doctor of Ministry (D.Min) degree from Acadia Divinity College at Acadia University (Nova Scotia).

Jeff served seven years as the Virginia representative to the General Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, and 12 years as a member of the Randall House Publications Board.

### MICHAEL L. ARMSTRONG: FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Alabama native Michael L. Armstrong is assistant principal of Northwest Elementary School in Wheelersburg, Ohio. The 1984 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College earned the Master of Science in Educational Administration degree from University of Dayton (OH) in 1993, and has since received both elementary and high school principal certification for the state of Ohio. He has 23 years of experience as teacher, administrator, and athletics coach. Michael is a member of Porter FWB Church in Sciotoville, Ohio.

### GREG MCALLISTER: INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

Greg McAllister is senior pastor of Harmony FWB Church in Fresno, California. A 1978 graduate of Hillsdale FWB College, Greg earned a Master of Divinity (M.Div.) from Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary (CA). He has served as a member of the General Board of the California and Missouri State Associations, and also as moderator, assistant

moderator, and clerk of both states.

In addition to pastoring churches in California, Missouri, and Oklahoma, McAllister held roles as registrar and academic dean at California Christian College. He authored the book *Leading Questions: A Free Will Baptist Discipleship Manual* (Randall House, 1985) and has been a regular contributor to denominational Sunday School curriculum.

### DAVID SHORES: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

David Shores is promotional secretary of the Illinois State Association. After graduating from Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1965, the Illinois native began a pastoral ministry that has spanned five churches and 50 years.

David has served as Illinois representative to the General Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists and served as a member of the International Missions Board. Currently, he pastors First FWB Church in Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

## Celebrating 75 Years of WNAC July 20-21, 2010 | Sheraton Hotel

WNAC invites women everywhere to *Shine!* at the 75th anniversary celebration held July 19-20 in Oklahoma City. The celebration coincides with the 75th annual WNAC Convention and will include worship, fellowship, remembering the past and looking to the future. Highlights include a 75th anniversary presentation on Monday afternoon, Tuesday morning worship with veteran missionary Geneva Poole, the annual WNAC fellowship luncheon\* featuring Oklahoma speaker Anita Scott, and the approval and introduction of a new WNAC executive secretary-treasurer. The convention will also mark the completion of WNAC's 20/20/20 project.

All events will take place in the Sheraton Hotel. Sessions are free and all women are welcomed and encouraged to attend. Make your reservations; purchase WNAC luncheon tickets early. Plan now to join other women from across the nation for this historic and spiritually rewarding experience.

\*Luncheon is a ticketed event—\$25 per person.



Geneva Poole  
Tuesday Worship



Anita Scott  
Fellowship Luncheon

# Shine!



# Things To Do @ NYC in OKC



# Oklahoma

- + Make a difference in someone's world through **REACH THAT GUY** service projects.
- + Experience a cross-cultural simulation in the **GLOBAL PURPOSE SEEKERS INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR**. Attend other GPS sessions to discover how to make wise choices and learn to discern God's will.
- + Participate in the **BIBLE COMPETITION AND MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL** and perhaps earn a spot on the 2011 Youth Evangelistic Team.
- + Enjoy the hilarious comedy of **TIM HAWKINS** after the Tuesday evening service.
- + Be a part of the historic **Go10 WALK** as it concludes a 2,500-mile trek.
- + **ATTEND SEMINARS** that will help equip you to defend your faith.
- + **WORSHIP WITH HUNDREDS OF OTHERS** each evening and hear challenging speakers inspire you to be a faithful witness wherever you are.
- + Check out **LOCAL ATTRACTIONS** listed at **WWW.OKCCVB.ORG**

## 2010 NYC WORSHIP COORDINATORS

- + **Katie Greenwood** Preschool Worship + **Johnny Miller** Children's Worship
- + **Steve Greenwood** 456 Worship + **Christen Pointer** Teen Service Stage Manager

## 2010 NYC TEEN SERVICE SPEAKERS

- + **Zack Hinson** Sunday AM + **Brian Williams** Sunday PM
- + **Curt Gwartney** Monday PM + **Clint Morgan** Tuesday PM

wherever




**REACH THAT GUY** provides a way for young people to make a difference in their world. Over 3,000 hours worth of community service projects are scheduled for the National Youth Conference in OKC. Go to [www.ReachThatGuy.com](http://www.ReachThatGuy.com) to see how you can get involved.

- REACH THAT GUY SERVICE PROJECTS:** Regional Food Bank + Reach Our City, + OKC Compassion + Jesus House + McKee Center-Skyline Urban Ministries + Love Link Ministries + 8th Street Center-Skyline Urban Ministries + City Rescue Mission + Goodwill + Salvation Army + OBI Blood Drive + Ronald McDonald House + Hillsdale FWB College + Neighborhood Services Organization

**CONTACT REACH THAT GUY COORDINATOR ADAM PHILLIPS AT [ADAM@REACHTHATGUY.COM](mailto:ADAM@REACHTHATGUY.COM)**

## NEW COMPETITION GUIDELINES AVAILABLE

The newly revised *Competition Guidelines* will be available to purchase at the convention in Oklahoma City. Several new events have been added. Check out the Guidelines Seminar during the National Youth Conference for more information. The new guidelines will be implemented for the 2011 competition in Charlotte, North Carolina. The new *Competition Guidelines* can be ordered in July at [www.randallhouse.com](http://www.randallhouse.com) or by calling 800-877-7030.




**TIM HAWKINS**  
**NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE**  
 July 20, 2010  
 9:30 PM • TICKETS: \$10

NYC NEWS

# Join the Celebration

Celebrating 75 Years of International Missions in Oklahoma City



**The 2010 National Association of Free Will Baptists will be an experience none of us will want to miss!** This year, Free Will Baptists will join to celebrate 75 years of taking the gospel around the world. One courageous young woman left for India in 1935, and hundreds followed her example. From that humble beginning, God has faithfully blessed the efforts of His people. Now, thousands of believers around the world raise their voices in worship in more than 1,100 churches and mission works. This milestone is certainly worth celebrating!

Many current and former international missionaries will attend the convention. In addition, representatives from many countries will represent what God is doing among their people. A beautifully illustrated, 196-page book, *Into the Darkness*, will be available for purchase, commemorating God's graciousness in global work through our denomination.

Many events are planned for our time in Oklahoma City. Although some events are reserved for the missions family, most will be for everyone. The Executive Committee and Music Commission graciously chose to include greetings from international guests and provide a decidedly international flair to evening services, especially the Wednesday evening missions service.

International Missions is also particularly grateful to Home Missions partners and friends for their enthusiastic support and encouragement in planning this internationally-focused convention. Read through the descriptions of the planned events, and make plans to attend.



## Carrying the Light

75th-Anniversary Museum and Gift Shop  
Exhibit Hall B—Cox Convention Center

All convention attendees are invited to view 75 years worth of artifacts, personal items, documents, and media in the commemorative museum. Attendees may choose to walk through using a written guidebook, or join a guided tour of the exhibit. Designed with the help of a museum curator, the exhibits will help viewers experience the miraculous way God has worked through ordinary people these last three-quarters of a century.

Every Free Will Baptist will want to see Dr. Miley's medical bag, Laura Belle Barnard's Tamil Bible, and other unique items from missions history. The space also provides an ideal place to visit with missionaries and international guests. The gift shop will feature items from around the world, allowing visitors to take home a souvenir of their experience. Geneva Poole will debut her book, *Sharing God's Grace*, and will sign copies for buyers.

## World Celebration 2010

With International Guests  
Cox Convention Center Arena  
Tuesday, July 20  
10:00 – 11:45 a.m.

One of the highlights of this year's convention will be the presence of more than 50 international guests from Free Will Baptist works around the world. As we celebrate the fruit of 75 years of ministry, we look to the development of partnerships with leaders from other lands. Tuesday's event will introduce those leaders, highlight what God is doing through them and others, and give a glimpse of the next 25 years as we complete a century of Free Will Baptist world missions.

Partnering with capable leaders and their churches will undoubtedly result in exponential growth as God provides ongoing harvest where once only fallow ground appeared. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet scores of international Free Will Baptist leaders gathered in one place is not to be missed.

## 75 Years of Faithfulness

Missions Rally Honoring Missionaries  
Cox Convention Center Arena  
Monday, July 19  
3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

*"How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"*

On Monday afternoon, a grateful denomination will say thank you to the intrepid workers who have taken the good news into the darkness. For this session, both current and former missionaries will be honored guests for a program intended to pay tribute to our ambassadors to the nations. Every convention attendee will want to support our missionaries by attending.

## Into the Darkness Reception

Special Event with the International  
Missions Family (by invitation only)  
Sheraton Hotel

Everyone who purchases the commemorative edition of the coffee table book, *Into the Darkness*, is invited to come and bring one guest to an exclusive reception on Tuesday afternoon. The entire Free Will Baptist International Missions family (including staff, missionaries, and international guests) will be present. Attendees will enjoy a light dinner buffet and will have an opportunity to meet and talk with guests and to have them sign their copy of this special edition of the book. (For details on purchasing the commemorative edition, visit [www.fwbgo.com](http://www.fwbgo.com)).

## NEWS about the denomination

### Deep South Tournament a Sunny Success



**FT. GAINES, GA**—The weather cooperated for the April 2010 Deep South Golf Tournament, April 21-23, at George T. Bagby Golf Course. After grappling with rainy conditions in two

previous events, Tournament Coordinator Ken Akers was ecstatic. “It was sunny and dry, with temperatures hovering around 70 each day. The weather could only be described as perfect!”

As director of the Master’s Men Department, Ken emphasizes the importance of the tournament as both a fellowship event and a fundraiser for the department. “This event does more than just bring a bunch of guys together to play golf,” he said. “It helps underwrite the general fund of the department. And it is a fun way to do it!”

Low scores reflected the ideal conditions. Tennessee pastor Jerry Hall and his son Joseph (pictured) walked away with top honors, shooting a 19-under-par score of 197 for the three-day tournament.

The 2011 event is scheduled March 23-25. For more information, or to register, visit [www.fwbmastersmen.org](http://www.fwbmastersmen.org). ■

### YET Alumnus Plays at Carnegie Hall



**NEW YORK, NY**—Erin Bandle of Ashland City, Tennessee, was recently offered the opportunity to travel to New York and perform at Carnegie Hall as part of the American High School Honors Performance

Series. Erin has played bassoon since sixth grade. She currently serves as field commander for her school’s marching band, and her undeniable talent sparked her band director to nominate her for the honor in September 2009.

During her trip, Erin performed in world famous Carnegie Hall. She also toured the city, enjoyed a Broadway show, and was featured on a nationally televised episode of *The Early Show* on CBS. Erin rehearsed and performed under master conductors and before representatives from collegiate and professional music programs.

Just last summer, Erin’s bassoon-playing abilities earned her the honor of traveling with the National Youth Evangelistic Team. She and 11 other high school students, chosen specifically for their musical and dramatic ability, performed 10 services in five states, in the span of nine days. The group is chosen each year at the National Youth Conference. ■

### National Association Sponsors Day of Prayer

**ANTIOCH, TN**—This year, Free Will Baptists across the country will join together on Sunday, July 11, to fast and pray for the annual convention that will begin a week later in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Churches are encouraged to emphasize prayer in their services, from music and sermons to organized prayer vigils and prayer chains.

According to Keith Burden, executive secretary, “While we encourage Free Will Baptists to pray for the convention throughout the year, we want to set aside one day where we all come together in a focused effort to pray for this year’s meeting.” He

added, “Prayer is the essential ingredient for a God-honoring convention!”

Convention Prayer Coordinator Danny Phillips added his encouragement. “I encourage everyone to pray faithfully for convention leaders and speakers. The Apostle Paul asked for prayer so when he opened his mouth, he would do so boldly, to ‘make known the mystery of the gospel’. I am sure his words would be true of convention leaders and speakers.”

For more suggestions regarding the Day of Prayer, visit [www.onemag.org](http://www.onemag.org). ■

## Free Will Baptists Assist in Rebuilding Effort

**SAUT D'EAU, HAITI**—Master's Men Director Ken Akers spearheaded a Free Will Baptist rebuilding trip to Haiti, May 17-25. The 11-member volunteer team that included four FWBBC students rebuilt the boys' dormitory at Mountain Faith Mission orphanage in Saut D'Eau, Haiti, using money donated for rebuilding.



"It was hot and difficult work," said Akers, "But we were able to raise the large concrete block building in a short period of time. I was amazed at how much the team accomplished in spite of the tough conditions."



The 11 volunteers raised their own travel expenses to cover airfare, lodging, transportation, and food so that more money could be applied to the construction.

For more pictures and information about the trip, visit the Master's Men website at [www.fwbmastersmen.org](http://www.fwbmastersmen.org). ■

## Southeastern FWB College Celebrates Alumni Events

**EAGLE ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA**—Attendees of the annual Camp Meeting held April 12-14 at Southeastern FWB College enjoyed a luncheon that featured speaker Russ Moots and entertainment from Apostle Johnny Washington (Zachary Bell). The Alumni Association honored the classes of 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, and 2005 in conjunction with the meeting.

The second annual Regional Alumni Reunion will be hosted at Parkers Chapel FWB Church in Greenville, NC, on September 18. All alumni are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Pastor Gene Williams: at 252-752-4179 or [genewilliams@parkerschapel.org](mailto:genewilliams@parkerschapel.org). ■

## Free Will Baptist Publications Honored by the Evangelical Press Association



**NASHVILLE, TN**—Both *ONE Magazine* and *Randall House Publications* were honored at the Evangelical Press Association (EPA) convention in Dallas, Texas, May 5-7, 2010. *FUSION* magazine received the Award of Excellence for Most Improved Publication and an Award of Merit in the devotional magazine category. *Horizon* magazine, a devotional publication for high school teens, won first place for Fiction for "Summer's End," an article by Marilyn J. Chase.

*ONE Magazine* won second place awards in three categories: Standing Column, featuring *ONE to ONE* by Keith Burden; First-Person Article for "Her Middle Name Is Faith" by David Amburgey; and Devotional Article, "He Has Big Faith."

The contest honors the best work done by EPA publications during the 2009 calendar year and includes a wide variety of Christian publishers, including familiar names such as *Focus on the Family*, *Christianity Today*, *Leadership*, and *Discipleship Journal*.

Dr. Danny Conn, *Randall House* editorial director, commented, "Our publications did well in general, receiving good marks across the board. While pleasing God is the ultimate measure of our materials, we are glad our peers in the publishing world have recognized us for producing a quality product." ■

# ONETOONE

## A “Taylor-made” Prayer Partner

KEITH BURDEN, CMP  
Executive Secretary  
National Association  
of Free Will Baptists



Photo: Mark Cowart

**WHEN I WALK INTO MY OFFICE ON MONDAY** morning, the voice mail light on my telephone is usually illuminated. Messages range from sales calls to pleas for assistance. All too often, the message is negative. Someone is upset about something and calls to complain. Folks with problems want me to fix them. But I no longer dread listening to my voice mail on Monday because I know at least one message will be positive and encouraging.

Not long after I became executive secretary, I was enjoying a meal with a friend from a former pastorate. In the course of our conversation, he asked what he could do to help me. After a moment for reflection, I said, “You can pray for me.” Since then he has been a faithful prayer partner.

He faithfully calls and leaves a message on my office telephone each Sunday evening. He reminds me that he is praying for me, my staff, and the ministry of the Executive Office. He intercedes for my safety and physical and spiritual protection as I travel and represent Free Will Baptists. He asks God to give me wisdom and direction as I lead. He prays for my family.

Those phone calls and this prayer partner relationship has sustained me through some challenging times over the past eight years. Knowing I had a friend (and a lot of others

folks) praying on my behalf gives me the courage to face difficult situations and make some of the toughest decisions in my life.

A few years ago, I had the privilege of hearing a renowned preacher speak at a ministers’ retreat. During a question and answer session, someone asked, “What role does prayer play in being an effective communicator of God’s Word?” After a long pause, he said, “I’m not sure I know the answer to that question. I’m not sure I fully understand prayer. I know the Bible instructs us to pray. I know prayer is vital to the success of any spiritual endeavor. But I don’t know that I can say that I really understand how it works.”

That has been my experience. While I cannot explain how prayer works, I know it *does* work. A couple of things make my friend’s prayer particularly meaningful to me. His prayers are specific. He doesn’t dispense a lot of empty rhetoric or trite platitudes. He gets right to the point and tells me what he’s praying for. He prays faithfully. Week after week, month after month, year after year—I know I can count on his prayer.

Although time and distance separate me from my friend, we remain close through prayer. Thank you, Phil Taylor! Thank you for being a “Taylor-made” prayer partner! **ONE**

# better by design

Good communication is vital to the ministry of the church.

Sadly, many church publications are known more for typos, outdated fonts, cheesy logos, and bad clip art than their message. We have the greatest story ever told, but we simply don't know how to tell it.

If your church or ministry publication could use some improvement, make plans to attend **better by design**, a free workshop providing easy-to-implement guidelines for improved communication. Featuring Andrea Young, design director at Randall House Publications, and Eric Thomsen, graphic designer and editor of ONE Magazine, the two-hour convention workshop will give you practical tools to make your publications better...by design.

**Tuesday, July 20 | Cox Convention Center | 10:00 – 11:45 a.m.**

Sponsored by the Free Will Baptist Press Association. See convention program for more details.

## How will you plan for the future?



What happens in the future will impact your loved ones and your estate. This is why careful planning is important to ensure that your loved ones are well cared for, and your estate is not subject to unnecessary taxation.

**The Free Will Baptist Foundation** would like to help you organize and plan for the future through a free *Wills Planning Guide*.

**You can't afford not to plan!** Email the Foundation to receive your free *Wills Planning Guide* today.



Free Will Baptist Foundation: [www.FWBGifts.org](http://www.FWBGifts.org) | 877-336-7575 | [foundation@nafwb.org](mailto:foundation@nafwb.org)



# Count Me In!

Partner with **Masters' Men** for growth, fellowship, and service.

**Father's  
Day  
Offering  
June 20**

**Master's Men**  
877-767-8039  
fwbmastersmen.org

**Can we count  
on you?**

- + **CMI Conferences** are regional events that take a face-to-face approach to helping men develop spiritual depth and mentor others.
- + **Disaster Relief** coordinates Free Will Baptist relief efforts following natural disasters such as Hurricane Katrina and the recent earthquake in Haiti.
- + **Operation Saturation** partners with Home Missions churches to tell their community about the "new church in town."
- + **Impact OKC** volunteers will take part in a one-day evangelistic campaign in Oklahoma City on July 17.
- + **The Ridge Church Renovation Project** preserves FWB heritage.

