

ONE LORD ONE VOICE ONE VISION

# ONE

MAGAZINE

**LAYMEN**  
in the Ministry  
**Take a Knee**

The Magazine for Free Will Baptists

JUNE-JULY 2012

[www.onemag.org](http://www.onemag.org)

# Ordinary **PEOPLE**

**They Preach**  
**WITHOUT a Pulpit**  
**TAMING the Tension**



# Conflicts happen.

Even in the Body of Christ, feelings get bruised, old injuries flare, tensions mount, conflicts occur.

And the whole body suffers.

As part of WNAC's year-long emphasis, *Body Builders: Strengthening Each Other in Christ*, this summer's **Treasure** studies include a month's look at "Treating Muscle Tension: Resolving Conflict Within the Body of Christ."

Realizing the gravity of this issue, WNAC is offering a complete extended version of this Bible study downloadable free at [www.wnac.org](http://www.wnac.org).



# ONE MAGAZINE

TO COMMUNICATE TO  
FREE WILL BAPTISTS A  
UNIFYING VISION OF OUR  
ROLE IN THE EXTENSION  
OF GOD'S KINGDOM.

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# First Glimpse >>>

## *You Never Know*

He sauntered into the youth room like he owned the place, wearing saggy cargo shorts and a Limp Bizkit t-shirt with old sandals, and carrying an enormous chip on his shoulder. Unruly blonde hair framed a freckled face expressing a mixture of suspicion, arrogance, and mischief...typical teen angst.

“Uh-oh,” I thought to myself. “Here comes trouble.”

I had no idea. As it turned out, Matt *was* trouble—always cutting up, making inappropriate comments, irritating the older kids, and just “raising Cain” in general.

But Matt was also bright, a quick learner in spite of his devious behavior. His good humor, quick comebacks, and wry grin made it hard not to like him. An infectious chuckle at the worst possible times always drew a laugh, and he was soon the “mascot” of the youth group, the younger brother everyone loved (but wanted to strangle at the same time).

He just didn’t know when to stop. During a youth group camping trip, I returned from the bathhouse to find Matt duck-taped to a large tree several feet above the ground, hollering at the top of his lungs. The rest of the group was nowhere to be found. When questioned, they simply shrugged. “We just couldn’t take his mouth anymore. We needed a break.”

I’m glad his parents didn’t sue.

As much as I liked Matt, it was obvious he was headed for trouble. Thankfully, God intervened. Following a week of summer camp, he called to let me know things had changed. “Can you recommend any good Christian music,” he asked. “I just burned all of my CDs in a bonfire, and I need something to listen to.” I almost dropped the phone.

It was just the beginning. I watched God slowly work in Matt while I answered hundreds of his questions, offered quiet words of advice, and sometimes shook my head in frustration when old, stubborn habits got in his way. I watched as God gradually chipped away

the rough edges to reveal a masterpiece beneath.

The shaping continues.

Next month, Matt and his lovely bride will stand before me and exchange vows. A few weeks later, he will graduate from Cumberland School of Law at Samford University. While unsure of his plans (beyond passing the bar), Matt dreams of returning to Free Will Baptist Bible College to anchor a pre-law program. His writing has already been published and he is co-founder of the Helwys Society Forum ([www.helwysocietyforum.com](http://www.helwysocietyforum.com)), a widely read website featuring serious essays on Christian theology, spirituality, ministry, and culture. More important to me, he teaches a class of junior high kids. Somehow, it’s hard to imagine.

Matt has come far since those troubled teen years, and I can hardly wait to see where God will lead him next. You never know. But God does. **ONE**

ERIC THOMSEN, MANAGING EDITOR



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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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*ONE Magazine reserves the right to edit published letters for length and content.*

### There it was on the very last page—nothing really new,

but so poignant in the context of this article by Brother Burden. “You don’t have to be an exceptionally gifted individual in order for the Lord to use you. God still delights in using ordinary people to do extraordinary things.”

Wow! Thank you Jesus.

I would also like to add that this article could have been written about Boyd Phillips (presently living in Weatherford, Texas) who diligently taught a bunch of rowdy boys in the late 1950s and early 1960s at the First FWB Church in Odessa, Texas.

Thanks for this article and the wonderful emotions and memories it invoked.

Wayne Byrd, *Odessa, TX*

### I knew when I saw the cover title “Dare to Disciple”

(December-January 2012) this was one *ONE Magazine* issue I didn’t want to just stockpile to read someday. Just this morning, I finally read all the discipleship articles and was very pleased with the content. I am a lifetime member of Good Springs FWB Church and a long-time Sunday School teacher. For some time, I have been suspicious that discipleship is the missing link. This issue is a classic, in my opinion. Are extra copies available?

Randell Bracey, *Pleasant View, TN*

**EDITORIAL NOTE:** *Thank you, Randell. Extra copies are available upon request, and all ONE Magazine articles are archived online: [www.onemag.org](http://www.onemag.org)*

# Turn a double play...

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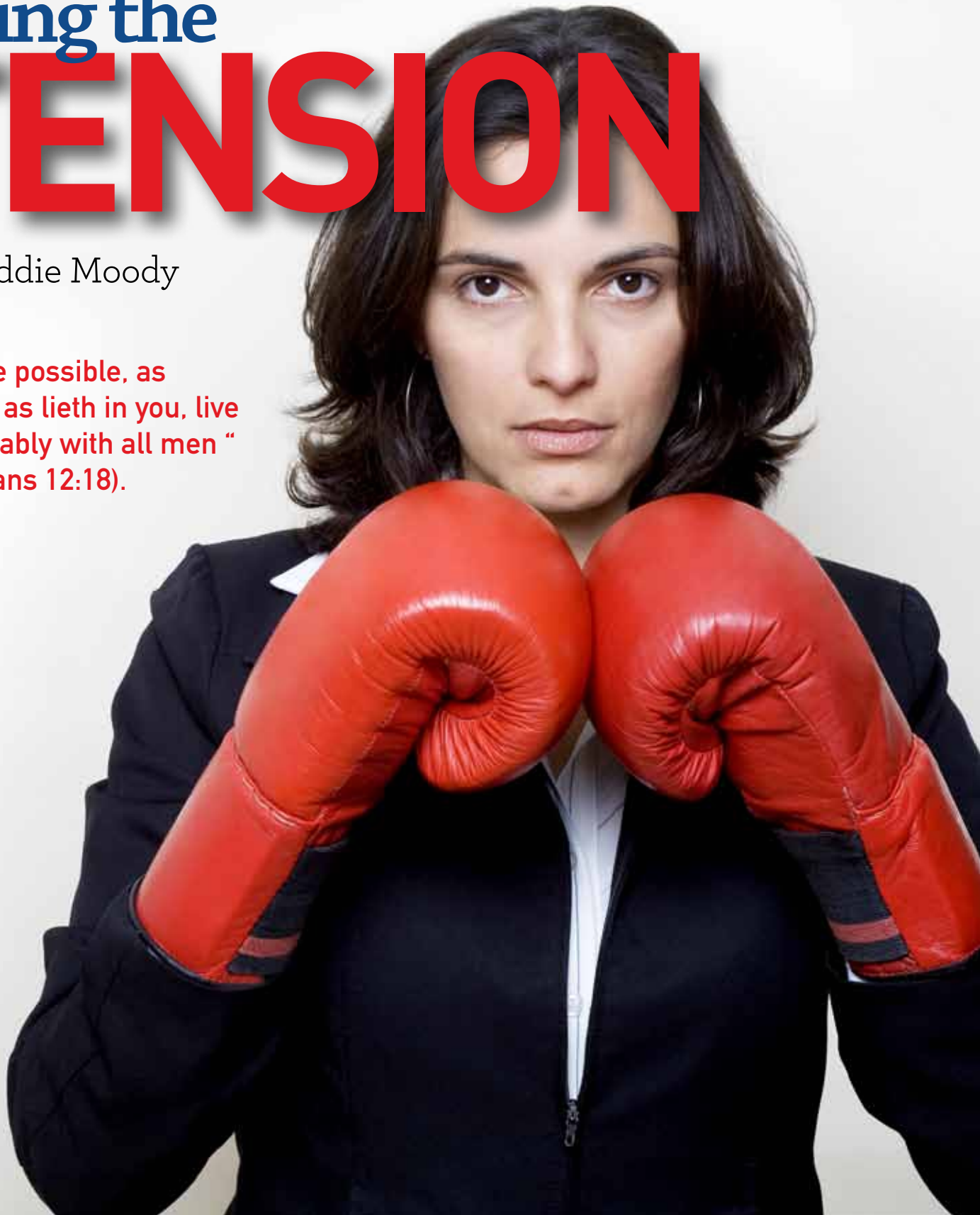


A Biblical Approach to Resolving Conflict

# Taming the **TENSION**

By Eddie Moody

**“If it be possible, as  
much as lieth in you, live  
peaceably with all men “  
(Romans 12:18).**



**Conflict is everywhere.** We observe it in government, at work or school, and even in our churches and homes. Some might hopefully think if they are spiritual enough, they will not have to deal with conflict. Sadly, that is not the case.

Paul implored believers to help his fellow laborers at Philippi who were embroiled in conflict (Philippians 4:3). Paul “withstood Peter to the face” (Galatians 2:11). Disagreement between Paul and Barnabas grew so sharp that they “departed asunder” (Acts 15:39). If these individuals faced conflict, then so will we.

“Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves” (Matthew 10:16). As we encounter conflict, we are called to handle it wisely. That wisdom includes some dos and don’ts.

## DON’T... Feed it.

Don’t feed conflict. Too often, we feed conflict by repeatedly thinking about what someone has said or done to us. Inevitably, this replaying of the event leads us to contemplate retribution. Instead, God calls us to “cease from anger” and “fret not...to do evil” (Psalm 37:8), refusing to ruminate about the event (2 Corinthians 10:5b).

We can also feed conflict by associating with others who are angry and are likely to see things our way. These people are *unlikely* to challenge us about our own role in the conflict. Wisdom advises us to “make no friendship with an angry man” lest we learn his ways (Proverbs 22:24-25).

## Spread it.

Don’t spread conflict. Talking about others only magnifies the damage. The wise and loving approach is to keep the matter in confidence (Proverbs 17:9), lest the conflict spread like wildfire (Proverbs 26:20-21). Ask yourself the following questions:

**Is this really worth the anger I feel?**

**Looking back (perhaps five to ten years from now) will I be glad I pursued this?**

**Pause and ask, “Does this really matter?”** As Paul asked when discussing Christians going to court, ask yourself, “Why do you not rather take wrong?” (1 Corinthians 6:7).

## Avoid it.

Avoiding conflict sounds positive, yet it can prove dangerous. This was certainly true in the life of King David. David’s failure to address conflict with his son Absalom led to disastrous consequences (2 Samuel 14:28). David’s failure to address the sin of Amnon fueled the conflict with Absalom. David was angry over how Amnon treated Tamar but did not hold Amnon accountable (2 Samuel 3:12). Ask yourself:

**What is the likely impact if I avoid dealing with this conflict?**

**What advice does Scripture offer for this situation?**

## DO... Pray.

Pray God would give you wisdom as you deal with the situation. Pray for the person who has hurt you (Matthew 5:44).

## Examine the situation.

Examine the conflict from the perspective of the other person. When we only look at one side of an issue we can feel justified in our anger (Proverbs 18:17). Ask yourself:

**What is my role in this conflict? (Am I partially responsible? To what extent?)**

**What advice does Scripture offer for this situation?**

If you have been hurt by others’ words, remember people often say things they don’t mean. The writer of Ecclesiastes notes, “Take not heed” about everything that is said about you (Ecclesiastes 7:21). Perhaps the perceived harm should just be ignored. Ask yourself:

**Did the person really mean harm by these words?**

**Am I too sensitive?**

## Stay calm.

Too often we jump to conclusions about what we see and hear. Be slow to attribute harmful motivation to others (Matthew 7:1). Do not give in to sin even when anger is justified (Ephesians 4:26a).

## Act sooner rather than later.

Do not allow anger the opportunity to grow. “Let not the sun go down upon your wrath” (Ephesians 4:26b) clearly indicates we should address conflict quickly.

## Go in person.

If at all possible, address the issue in person. If we suspect someone is angry with us, we might begin, “You don’t seem like yourself...” Or we could ask, “How are things between us?” If we’ve been hurt by someone, we might say, “When you said \_\_\_\_\_, I felt \_\_\_\_\_.” We may learn what was said or done was not meant as it was received. Jesus instruct-

ed us to “go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone” (Matthew 18:15). The goal is to gain our brother rather than prove our point or win an argument. “If he shall hear thee thou hast gained thy brother” (Matthew 18:15).

### Speak lovingly.

Pray for a loving disposition when confronting someone over a sin they have committed. We remember our own sins so we might have a spirit of meekness (Galatians 6:1b).

### Involve others if necessary.

Involve others only as a last resort (Matthew 18:16). In other words, enlist the ears and assistance of others when the damage of the wrong goes beyond the impact of one individual. We should involve others when we are incapable of handling the situation ourselves or when failure to address the issue will impact others (an individual, families, the church).

### Move on.

Address the conflict and move on. We can learn much from the Early Church. Peter did not hold a grudge toward Paul after their conflict. He commended Paul’s letters to others (2 Peter 3:16), and the gospel went forward to the Gentiles. After conflict with Paul, Barnabas took John Mark with him and continued to minister. Years later, Paul neared death and acknowledged John Mark’s usefulness calling him “profitable to me for the ministry” (2 Timothy 4:11). What is the key here?

## THE KEY

The ministry of the gospel must go forward; nothing is more important. We should be willing to put aside differences to focus on reaching our world for Christ. Keeping this goal forefront will help us gain proper perspective for the various conflicts we experience in this world. **ONE**

**About the Writer:** Dr. Edward Moody is a North Carolina pastor, author, licensed counselor, and supporter of Women Nationally Active for Christ. WNAC’s June 2012 focus concerns conflict resolution within the church. Realizing the enormity and importance of this issue, WNAC offers a free downloadable Bible study, “Treating Muscle Tension: Resolving Conflict within the Body of Christ,” by Jackie Rasar, available at [www.wnac.org](http://www.wnac.org).

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# STORM WARRIORS

BY  
KEN  
AKERS

As a child growing up in the hills of eastern Kentucky, I came to expect certain things every spring—the hills turning a beautiful green, creeks flooding after spring rains, buttercups and jonquils pushing up through the leaves on the hillsides, and the Kentucky Wildcats competing for yet another national basketball championship. But one thing we never expected was a tornado in the mountains. No one had ever heard of such a thing.

On the evening of March 2, 2012, the unheard of happened. A tornado with winds reaching 125 mph ripped through eastern Kentucky with devastating effects, cutting a swath of destruction across the quiet hillsides.

Trees were snapped off or knocked down for miles. Houses and mobile homes were destroyed or moved from their foundations. Lives in the rural area were changed forever. It was a nightmare.

But there was a bright side to the storm. While several deaths were caused by the tornado, it could have been much, much worse. The local television and radio stations had been tracking the weather and gave residents plenty of warning to find shelter. The local emergency organization was prepared for automatic calling to residents, urging them to find a safe place to go. I talked with many people who were simply going to ride out the

storm but decided to find safer shelter only moments before their homes were destroyed.

The Free Will Baptist Disaster Response Team (DRT) quickly became involved in recovery efforts. The Collista Free Will Baptist Church, located in the Collista community near Paintsville, Kentucky, was a casualty of the storm. The building took a direct hit and was, for all practical purposes, destroyed. When the pastor and members finally reached the church, only a pile of rubble remained. Most of the building had been blown into the highway beside the church.

To open the road and resume traffic flow, workers from the Kentucky



Transportation Cabinet brought in heavy equipment to pick up what was left of the building and move it back to the existing foundation. Even that foundation had been affected by the wind, with a major crack extending down one foundation wall.



**While we never want to see devastation like this, it is great to see helping hands extended in love from God's people.**

On March 8, the DRT began the process of evaluating the situation. In cooperation with a number of local Free Will Baptist churches, we created a plan and began to contact volunteers for relief work. After learning from the church pastor that the insurance company had already contracted a company to clean up the debris at the church, we set out to help local residents. We spent the week cleaning yards and creek banks (remember the spring floods), moving fallen trees from vehicles, and generally helping the devastated community get back on its feet.

I appreciate the great, hard-working volunteers who came from Illinois,

Ohio, Tennessee, and Kentucky. All the volunteers appreciated the Illinois Disaster Response Unit for bringing heavy equipment for tree removal. We also appreciate the local churches of eastern Kentucky for showing their generous support by providing lodging and food. Tom's Creek FWB Church, Southside FWB Church, Baker Branch FWB Church, their pastors, and members stepped up in a big way.

Everyone came to the aid of their friends and family during this time. I went to a small local grocery store one day to purchase water for the team. When the storeowner found out we were there to help, she gave us the water. While we never want to see devastation like this, it is great to see helping hands extended in love from God's people.

But that is what we should expect to see.

If you would like to donate to the Collista FWB Church, send contributions to Master's Men, and we will forward 100% to the church to help with rebuilding. If you would like to be added to our contact list and volunteer for disaster relief efforts the next time a situation arises, go to [www.fwbmastersmen.org](http://www.fwbmastersmen.org) and sign up, or send an email: [masters@nafwb.org](mailto:masters@nafwb.org). You can also donate to the DRT fund to help us help others in the future. Be sure to mark donations appropriately to ensure the funds go where they are designated.

This is only one instance of ongoing disaster response efforts. Volunteers continue to serve those in need across the nation, and for that we say thank you! **ONE**

**About the Writer:** Ken Akers is the general director of the Master's Men Department in Nashville, TN. Contact Ken: [Ken@nafwb.org](mailto:Ken@nafwb.org).

Two Perspectives on Volunteerism...

# Raising Big Beams

Bill and Brenda Evans

## BRENDA

Sometimes, I walk right into the middle of things, but this time I stayed on the edge. I was by the door, an observer who didn't raise a finger to help. That was mainly because I'm a woman and man-strength, genuine man-strength, was needed in the middle. Not only that, several men were high up on a scaffold, and I'm afraid of heights. So there you have it: men and heights—two good reasons for me to just stand aside and watch.

One more thing I must say is that all the men were volunteers: six on the scaffold, four or five on the floor, and one giving instructions. It would take all of them to get the job done.

## BILL

The project was to raise and install three 230-pound beams that would be pancaked to make one 690-pound one. Someone had to direct the process, and Boyd was doing that. Some would lift the beams up to the scaffold. From there, we scaffold men would hoist the beams above our heads and hold them in place. Then, another man with a gas-charged nail gun would shoot 16-penny nails into the beams to secure them together and finally into place above our heads. Definitely a collaborative process, with each doing his part!

In simplest terms, that's volunteerism. Working with others to achieve a common goal. It means taking directions, doing grunt work if needed, technical or creative work if that is needed. Vol-

unteerism is doing whatever needs to be done to help someone else. All for free.

## BRENDA

Keith Coughran is that kind of volunteer, a doer. "I'd as soon make repairs as eat—and you can tell I like to eat. I've always torn things apart to see how they are made; then I fix them. I'm a doer."

His yen to "fix" things goes back to his youngest days. His father owned a Model T touring car that was battered by a hailstorm. It was a wreck, with leather top shredded, windows smashed in and thin bits of mica scattered everywhere. A mess inside and out! Though only seven, Keith traded a heifer calf for another old Model T with a blown head gasket so he could use the parts to fix his father's car. That was the beginning of what would eventually become a way of life—doing good work with his hands.

Later, he married Pearl and during World War II was drafted into military service. By the late 1940s, Keith was working in a hardware store, a dream world for a born creator, mender, and fixer. Eventually, he bought his own hardware business.

## BILL

Keith, like other volunteers, has learned that sometimes he is asked to serve, and other times he asks if he may serve, like Caleb and David. Caleb asked to take on a task. David was enlisted.

"Give me this mountain," Caleb said to Joshua because he wanted Hebron, and in order to get it he volunteered to raise warriors to conquer it. David, on the other hand, was called on to play King Saul's harp. Later, he volunteered to face Goliath without being asked.





Either way, each was qualified, proven, and willing. Caleb had been a God-fearing, God-trusting spy ready to do the job 40 years earlier. Remember that he and Joshua were the only spies to say, “Let’s go. God will give us the land.” Everybody else refused. Caleb was still all these things except spy—a proven, motivated, and willing volunteer.

David’s story is just as straightforward. Saul’s servants labeled him as a man of skill, pluck, and guts; a man of war yet prudent; a handsome man whom the Lord was with. Saul said, “Go get him. I need him.” So David came to soothe the tormented king with his shepherd poetry and music. We know the rest of the story.

Like these two, Keith saw the need and was ready to serve. When California Christian College president Wendell Walley appealed for help, both Keith and Pearl volunteered—Keith for building repair and Pearl, a teacher and librarian, for cataloguing and organizing the library.

## BRENDA

Volunteers notice. They listen. They discern needs. At the college, Keith

saw beautiful old buildings that cried out for renovation and repair standing beside newer but poorly functioning ones. “I’m a doer, like I said, and I knew I could do something about what I saw. I didn’t want our buildings to go to rack and ruin, so I fixed them. Pearl had a master’s degree in library science. She did what she could do—library work.”

Volunteers are also motivated to help. Keith came to the aid of the California Christian College president and board, but more directly the students themselves. Whatever he repaired for no charge meant students did not have to pay increased tuition. “College is expensive. Students are burdened enough already. I could help keep costs down and give them moral support at the same time,” he said.

## BILL

The word *volunteer* is not a biblical term, although the concept is threaded in and out of both Testaments. Of course, the word *serve* and the idea of choosing to serve is everywhere as well.

Nehemiah, for example, felt compelled to volunteer. In front of King Artaxerxes, his captor, he pled for

**Volunteerism is doing whatever needs to be done to help someone else. All for free.**

temporary release to go to Jerusalem to rebuild the city. Amazingly, Artaxerxes agreed. His first night in Jerusalem, Nehemiah rose in the darkness and walked through the city, around broken walls, through burned gates, skirting rubble, mourning the ruined state of this once grand Holy City.

The next day Nehemiah told his people that the hand of God had been good upon him, and he called for help: “Come let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer be a reproach.” And so the people agreed and set their hands to the work (Nehemiah 2:18).

## BRENDA

The New Testament is also full of examples. Disciples were called, and they went. Nicodemus volunteered to bury his friend Jesus. Aquila and Priscilla offered to teach, mentor, and otherwise aid Paul and the Early Church wherever needed. Stephen and other deacons served tables and cared for widows. And of course there is Jesus’ Good Samaritan, outcast of the outcasts, who voluntarily out-neighbors two men whom everyone assumes are good neighbors—a priest and a Levite. They were religious men with good genes, good robes, and good training but unwilling hearts.

## BILL

Willingness to serve is the top quality of a volunteer. A volunteer yields to a larger picture, a larger program. The organization’s vision is primary, not the volunteer’s. His goal is to extend or enhance another’s vision. He is there to serve under an overseer. Humility

and submission are twin traits of a volunteer: humility to serve, submission to a greater cause than his own. And he has the skill and the will to do what is needed.

## BRENDA

Paul's words to slaves are good words for us volunteers: "Obey your master according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men....for you serve the Lord Christ" (Colossians 3:22-24).

## BILL

It takes all of us to raise the biggest beams. Keith Coughran is doing his part. Let's do ours—volunteer and get on with the task. **ONE**

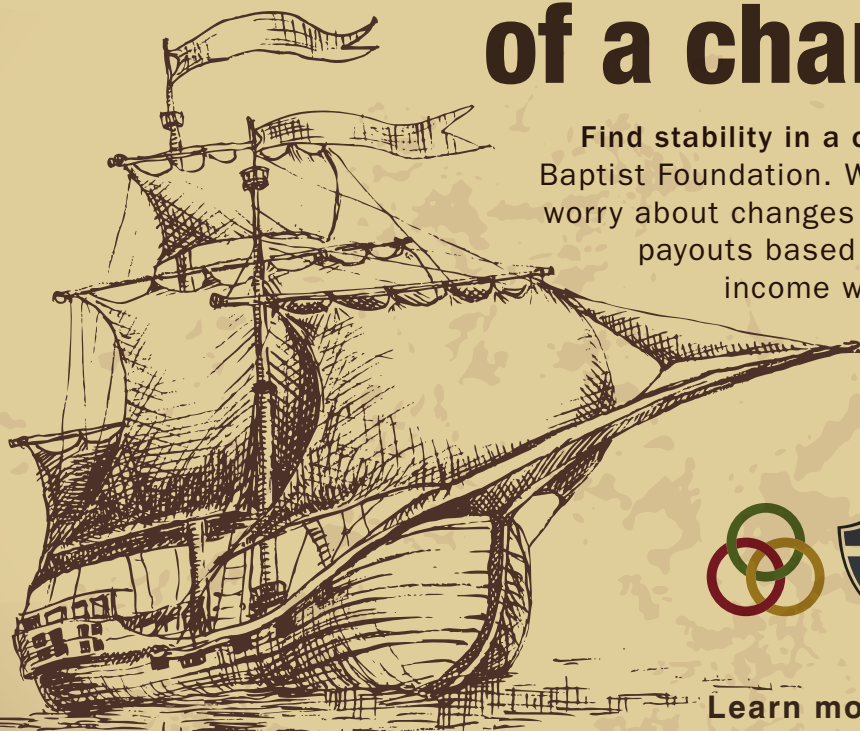
**About the Writers:** Bill Evans, former director of the Free Will Baptist Foundation, lives in Catlettsburg, Kentucky, with his wife Brenda, a retired English teacher. Visit [www.fwbgifts.org](http://www.fwbgifts.org) for more information on planned giving that benefits your favorite ministry.

One morning 15 days before Pearl Coughran died in April of 2010, she got out of bed, stripped the sheets, and put a few personal items in a pillowcase. Then she looked at Keith. "I'm going home," she said.

Pearl left her volunteering and her pillowcase behind April 11, 2010, but not her giving. She and Keith had already established a Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust through FWB Foundation. Keith still receives income from that trust and, at his death, the remainder will go to FWB ministries they have chosen.

Keith's final word about giving: "The last new car I bought was a 1982 gray-blue Skylark, and Pearl never threw out the back door more than I could bring in the front. We've always wanted to give and the trust was a good way to keep on giving."

# Tired of being blown by the winds of a changing market?



Find stability in a charitable gift annuity through the Free Will Baptist Foundation. With fixed income for life, you will no longer worry about changes in the market and enjoy competitive rates, payouts based on age, limited tax deduction, and tax-free income while making a lasting gift to Master's Men.



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85	7.8%	85/85	6.7%
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The Old Testament book of Judges covers a dangerous period in the life of God's chosen people—the nearly 400 years between the death of Joshua and the rise of the prophet, priest, and judge Samuel. After Joshua's death, the people fell away from God, taking up many of the practices of the former inhabitants who had been judged by God and driven out of the land. Israel was a nation held together loosely with no capital, no single leader, and no political structure where "every man did what was right in his own eyes" (1 Samuel 21:25).

But God was at work then, even as He is today. A series of 15 leaders, both men and women, sprang up to meet the challenges of the day. They were ordinary people living ordinary lives God used to accomplish His purposes. They weren't educated or great spiritual leaders, and in virtually all cases, they did not seek the limelight. Today, we would call them laymen.

# ORDINARY People Living Ordinary Lives

By Norma Jackson Goldman



Today's church finds itself in a setting that looks similar to the time of the judges. Long-held values and Christian virtues appear foreign to new generations who have no history or allegiance to them. But God is at work, His Church endures, and ordinary people, living ordinary lives are still proclaiming the gospel. And God is using them to accomplish His purposes. This is happening around the globe in settings once hostile to the gospel—not just a few great leaders, but thousands and thousands of laymen and women.

The book of Acts shares some practical but profound illustrations of the dramatic spread of Christianity in a hostile environment. Ordinary people, living ordinary lives began to share stories of how Christ had changed them, given them hope, and called them to a higher purpose. With few exceptions, they were neither trained nor highly educated. Most stayed in their local settings, bringing people into their homes to hear that God had forgiven their

sins and changed them forever. The result was that the gospel blanketed the earth in a few short decades...and it can happen again in the same way!

I have such a story, and if you're reading this magazine, I'm fairly certain you have one too. Mine begins while I was attending high school, totally unaware of my need for a Savior and living in a home with no awareness of God's plan for mankind or the possibility of a new life in Christ.

Thankfully, my life intersected with faithful ordinary people, living ordinary lives. My friend Esther was a believer, and she encouraged me faithfully to go with her to church. When I finally gave in, the small congregation of loving believers welcomed me warmly, without hesitation. I was confronted with my need of a Savior, and

I gave myself to Him without reservation, promising to go anywhere He led.

Your  
**ORDINARY LIFE**  
can make an  
extraordinary  
difference.

Though still an ordinary person and now retired, I have led an extraordinary life of sharing this simple story. I share it imperfectly, but God does not require perfection. He only asks

that we share and then wait quietly for the Holy Spirit to do the work we cannot. I've shared it with neighbors, business colleagues, and Bible study groups, through writing articles and books, and on mission trips to many countries. I share it by helping to send others to foreign lands, through supporting my local church, and by praying daily for my pastor as he shares His own story.

Still, millions have not yet heard the good news of Jesus. Will you share your story so they may? Your ordinary life can make an extraordinary difference. **ONE**

**About the Writer:** Former magazine editor Norma J. Goldman is a regular contributor to *ONE Magazine*. The award-winning columnist lives near Nashville, TN. Learn more about thriving in retirement at [www.boardofretirement.com](http://www.boardofretirement.com).



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Laymen in the

# Ministry

BY TIM STOUT



**Most pastors would agree that laymen can accomplish far more** than the pastor himself because of their connections with family and friends outside the church. Every Christian is to be a lay minister—ministering to the needs of others with the Word of God through the local church. Just as the Great Commission is for all believers, so is the call for all believers to minister.

In his book *On Being a Servant of God*, Warren Wiersbe said, “Ministry takes place when divine resources meet human needs through loving channels to the glory of God.” In other words, God has called all of us into His ministry!

Paul instructed Timothy regarding training laymen. In 2 Timothy 2:2, Paul said, “And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”

What is a layman to do? They are to be a part of the church ministry team. My goal is to Teach, Equip, and Assimilate members into Ministry (TEAM). Leaders are to teach, stir, motivate, and inspire laymen to accomplish what God desires them to do.

For a long time, it was difficult for me to relinquish responsibilities and learn to delegate. When I finally understood that God wanted laymen in the church to participate in ministry and serve for His glory, everyone benefited. God used them, and I had more time to do what I needed to do. What a novel idea.

Our church provides a great example of “laymen in the ministry.” Each week, a group of men meets to pray for the needs of our church family while others visit shut-ins. Many of these men and women visit the hospital where church members and attendees face sickness and surgery. This enables the pastor to have the time to study, minister the Word, and pray. This proves to be a great example of an Acts 6 program.

Various church ministries provide opportunities for laymen to worship, work, witness, and grow in their faith in Christ. Ministries at our church give members opportunities to involve themselves in Christian service. It is a blessing for the laity of our churches to pray, support, and help their ministers



and missionaries. Some of the ways in which our ladies minister include:

- Providing gifts to the Missionary Provision Closet.
- Sending cards (gift cards, too) to missionary wives.
- Giving a gift to a guest evangelist's wife in appreciation of the sacrifice she makes while her husband is away from home preaching.
- Providing fellowship, meals, and assistance when a person is sick or recovering from surgery.
- Helping in the church office when the workload gets heavy.
- Sending cards or calling people who have specific needs.
- Providing food for bereaved families.

The men help in many ways, too. They travel to mission churches and donate labor to build, repair, and complete projects that need to be done. It is amazing how an electrician, HVAC professional, or plumber can benefit a mission church.

They buy gifts for evangelists and missionaries preaching in our church. Some pastors (and churches) may forget that most evangelists and missionaries are not honored on Pastor Appreciation Day or special days such as birthdays and Christmas. They need encouragement, too.

Our teens participate in spiritually challenging mission trips each year. They are motivated by leaving their everyday routines to travel to different churches where they see how needy the world truly is. They return from these trips excited and looking for opportunities to do more in the local church and community.

Vision and enthusiasm drawn from these trips truly impact our teens, encouraging them to help with work around the church such as collecting food for the needy, volunteering at the local Food Bank, and many other projects.

What an opportunity! Many pastors keep a schedule that is so busy they can't afford the time to step away from their own ministries. Yet they can train men and women in the church family to minister to others. When a pastor thinks of others, that shines through to his congregation, and they often catch that same attitude of giving, compassion, and concern.

Whether it is the elder teaching the younger (Titus 2) or members working together to encourage and edify (Proverbs 27:17), God has a special place for laymen. It is important that each member find his place in the "family—the body of Christ" and contribute as God leads and blesses.

It is a joy for a pastor to pray for the church family, their needs, and petitions and know, in turn, that laymen are also praying for the pastor, that he will trust the grace of God and be spiritually blessed, minister effectively, and follow God's calling.

Thank God for lay ministers within His Church. Our church could not exist without them. **ONE**

**About the Writer:** Rev. Tim Stout pastors Heritage FWB Church in Columbus, Ohio. He serves as a member of the Home Missions Board.

## Where Would I Be?

BY RICHARD ATWOOD



I was 14 years old and had just started going to church. She was my first Sunday School teacher. Maybe she wasn't the most dynamic communicator, but she had a great smile and let me know she cared. He was my youth director. I loved those Saturday night meetings with the teens at church, and he took time on other days of the week to take us camping or to hand out tracts.

She sent me a check for \$100 just when I needed it as a college student struggling financially. He fixed my car and didn't charge me anything. She was the church secretary and encouraged me when I was an intern at their church. He was the guy who helped me out when I was a youth director fresh out of college. He always had a smile when I needed it.

She and some of her friends cleaned up my house before I brought my new bride home. When I was a young pastor, he was always faithful to church and smiled and nodded while I preached... and bragged on it afterwards. She always invited others to our church, and some of them stayed. He was a deacon and was an invaluable help in starting a new church.

She was so welcoming to all the new people at our new church and would have them over to her house for dinner. He helped build a new church building and saved us thousands of dollars. They both prayed for me, spoke kind words, worked hard, and gave me much encouragement.

By now, maybe you may have figured out that I am talking about more than one person. One of the best blessings God has given me are the many people who have befriended me and helped me throughout my life. If I were to start talking about it, I would get choked up. Where would I be without Mr. and Mrs. Christian?

The amazing world of FWBBC-educated laity who make a difference everywhere every day.

# They PREACH without a PULPIT

BY THURMAN PATE, JR.

**The mission of Free Will Baptist Bible College** is to educate leaders to serve Christ, His Church, and His world through biblical thought and life. These leaders include laymen, both men and women. A layman trained at FWBBC is uniquely prepared to make a difference in the local church, the business community, the home, and the denomination. While we continue to prepare pastors and youth workers for the local church and missionaries for home and international fields, the mission has broadened to include a curriculum for more Free Will Baptist college-age youth.

No matter what the life goal of a Christian young man or woman, preparation can be made at FWBBC. If the total program is not available here, with our Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation, students can transfer almost anywhere to finish a degree.

Much has been written about church and denominational leaders who received their training at FWBBC. While many came to the college after answering God's call on their lives, a large number came not knowing what God would have them do. Others came with their lives mapped out, only to have God change their plans.

While some envision every FWBBC student serving as a pastor or on a mission field, our churches benefit from prepared laity who attend FWBBC and then make a difference in local communities. Reflecting on these laity, there are hundreds of examples of God using FWBBC alumni to "preach without a pulpit." Let me share some of their stories with you.

## THE BUSINESSMAN



**A.C. Allen** attended FWBCC one year—1964-65. Not only did he receive a biblical foundation for life, he also met Judy, the love of his life (a common theme for those who come to FWBCC). He and his bride returned to South Carolina where he continued his logging business. A.C. Allen was a successful businessman for 38 years, active in local government, and a witness in his community.

For over 30 years he has represented the Gideons. Three of his children attended FWBCC. He has been active in Lebanon Free Will Baptist Church (Effingham), even filling the pulpit in the absence of a pastor. He served on the board for the South Carolina FWB Children's Home and is concluding 12 years on the FWBCC Board of Trustees. Although he has spoken some from the pulpit, his most important "preaching" has been through his life and witness.

## THE ACCOUNTANT



**David Sagraves** graduated from FWBCC in 1977 with a major in Bible and minor in Christian Education. He has taken courses at Belmont University and online courses in Accounting. He was employed 29 years at Randall House Publications and currently works in the business office at Nashville Rescue Mission. David has served Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church (Nashville) as Master's Men president, church treasurer, deacon, Sunday School superintendent, and Sunday School teacher. His "preaching" has not been from the pulpit.

## THE PRINCIPAL



**Jane (Picirilli) Johnson** graduated from FWBCC in 1980 with a major in Bible and Elementary Education. Over the past 32 years, she has taught in two Christian schools and three public schools. She has been a school librarian, assistant principal, and principal at Paragon Mills Elementary School (Nashville) for the past four years. Her school is diverse with students from 40 countries who speak more than 20 languages.

A member of The Donelson Fellowship FWB Church since 1981, she is involved in missions, music and fine arts ministry, and the sports ministry of the church. She has taught children's classes and been a member of their women's Bible studies. Jane feels her ministry is her job at school where she is in her own mission field. Several families at school have come to know Christ and joined her church. No, her preaching is not from the pulpit, but she tries to live "Christ" everyday at her school.

## THE HISTORY TEACHER



**David Rackley** graduated from FWBCC in 1986 with a major in Secondary Education. After receiving his history degree from another college in Nashville, David returned to North Carolina and began teaching history at a public middle school in New Bern. He is in his 23rd year, and now works in the school's academically gifted program.

David is involved in Bridgeton Free Will Baptist Church, serving as a deacon, trustee, and usher. He also works with the youth by teaching Sunday School, children's church, VBS, and preparing young people for competitive events at the National Youth Conference.

## THE BANKER



**Bobby Edwards** graduated from FWBCC in 1997 with a major in Bible and Business Administration. He has been at SunTrust Bank 18 years and currently serves as a group vice president/area manager administrating several branches in the Middle Tennessee Region. Bobby has been active in musical ministry and missions, traveling to six international fields of ministry with the Legacy of Praise Quartet.

He serves nationally on the Free Will Baptist Foundation Board and in his local church (Cross Timbers Free Will Baptist Church, Nashville) as deacon, Sunday School director, children's church volunteer, and choir member. His "preaching" has not been from the pulpit.



### THE CONVENTION MANAGER

**Ryan Lewis** graduated from FWBBC in 2001 with degrees in Exercise Science and Bible. After working three years as director of recruitment at FWBBC, he was an associate pastor for a year. He then returned to Nashville where he has served the past four years as executive administrator for the National Association of Free Will Baptists. His primary job responsibility is convention manager.

He serves as a pianist and Sunday School teacher at Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. Through his training at FWBBC, Ryan learned that "ministry" doesn't always occur behind the pulpit.



### THE INNER-CITY CHILD ADVOCATE

**Jill McAllister** graduated from Free Will Baptist Bible College in 2007 with a major in Early Childhood Education and Teacher Licensure. She moved back home to California and taught kindergarten four years in a Christian school. She now teaches kindergarten and first grade in a high poverty and low literacy community. She is pursuing graduate studies in teaching English as a second language.

She is active in Farmersville Free Will Baptist Church, working in music ministry, directing VBS, and assisting with youth ministry. FWBBC prepared Jill to live a life of Christian service in a secular workplace.

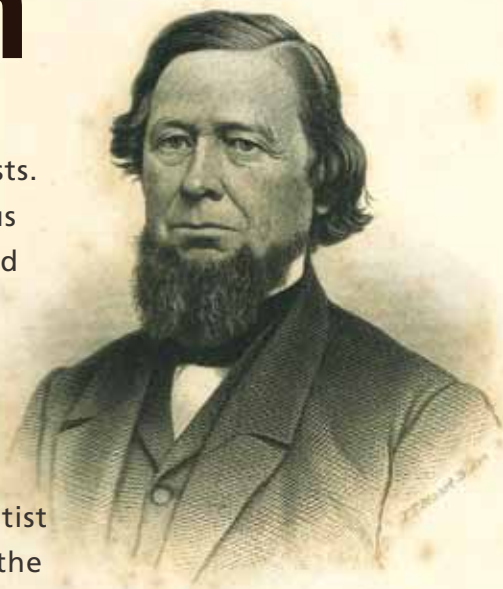
**God calls, FWBBC educates and equips, God leads.** Every Free Will Baptist young person should consider attending FWBBC—no matter what they believe their calling in life to be. **ONE**

**About the Writer:** Thurman M. Pate, Jr., chairs the Teacher Education Department at FWBBC. He spent 30 years teaching and administering in public and Christian schools. He has served nationally on the Master's Men Board and in his local church as Master's Men president, deacon, treasurer, Sunday School superintendent, and teacher. Although the son of a Free Will Baptist minister who is still preaching after 75 years, Thurman's "preaching" has not been from the pulpit!

# Legacy of Freedom

In 1834, New Hampshire layman William Burr was named editor of the **Morning Star** newspaper published by Freewill Baptists. The quiet, young businessman used the paper to start a courageous campaign against slavery. It nearly ruined the paper financially, and for many years, Burr faced harsh and widespread criticism. But he refused to budge. He stood on principle, not popularity, and when Burr died in 1866, nearly the entire city of Dover turned out for his funeral, honoring the man who left a legacy of freedom.

**What is your legacy?** Through an endowment with Free Will Baptist Foundation, you can help other laymen like William Burr through the ministry of Master's Men.



*William Burr*



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 Two soldiers in desert camouflage uniforms are sitting on the ground in a sandy, arid landscape. One soldier on the left is drinking from a water bottle. The other soldier on the right is looking towards the camera. In the background, there is a large tent and a military helicopter. The sky is clear and blue.
 

# Take a KNEE

BY CHAPLAIN (COL) TERRY AUSTIN

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, CHANGED OUR COUNTRY AND OUR WAY OF LIFE FOREVER.** The attack that day, and the subsequent loss of life, propelled us into a fight for our freedoms that has lasted nearly 11 years. It is no surprise that military members and their families have experienced some extremely difficult days. The loss of life and personal sacrifice, like many other patriots of freedom, have altered their lives in ways they never imagined. The fight continues, but there have been times when our military men and women have taken a knee.

It happens to the best of soldiers serving God or serving in the military. It happened to Elijah when he stood against Jezebel (1 Kings 19:4), and it happened to Moses as he led the Israelites through the desert (Numbers 11:14-15). It has happened to spiritual leaders and national leaders alike, and maybe it has already happened to you as it has happened to me.

Psychologists call it “burnout,” which describes long-term exhaustion and a general lack of interest in a once vibrant love of life and work. But that word seems fatal, as if the fight is

over and it is time to surrender. Burnout is not the end of one’s ministry or profession; it may just be time to take a knee. Proverbs 24:16a reads, “For a just man falleth seven times and riseth up again....”

Taking a knee means to take a break right where you are, in order to renew your strength and readjust your course if necessary. During times of stressful training, it is not uncommon to see soldiers renewing their strength on the run by drinking water and eating a snack of some kind. These quick fixes are effective temporarily, but as

the body continues to burn its energy quicker than it is being resupplied, it will not be long before it reaches the breaking point. The same is true mentally. After several days of training without sleep, in a stressful situation, the mental and emotional strength of the best soldiers will break down if they are not renewed.

A key objective associated with this kind of training is helping the soldier realize where his or her weak points are and to identify danger signs in order to avoid a catastrophic breakdown. It also helps them to realize they really

are human and they have a breaking point. If they are going to be successful as soldiers and complete the mission, they will have to get resupplied and renewed.

A chaplain friend of mine who attended the funeral of CH (LTC) David Spears told me, "He finished well." I was happy to hear that said of David because I also know it to be true. But, I think we all want it to be said of us. I do

but we know that we must finish. The only way to complete a marathon race is to be renewed along the way, and we can do it by taking a knee.

Lamentations 3:22-24 tells us, "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. The Lord is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him." God's blessings are

not taken to avoid it. Taking a knee to resupply your energy and renew your spirit is essential. Elijah and Moses had to take a knee. Great men and women of God have taken a knee and renewed themselves for the marathon journey of life and serving God.

Pastor, author, and speaker Wayne Cordeiro, tells of his own journey and successful recovery after burnout in his book *Leading on Empty*. I recommend this book to you and encourage you to take a knee to renew your strength and readjust your course as you continue soldiering for God. ☞

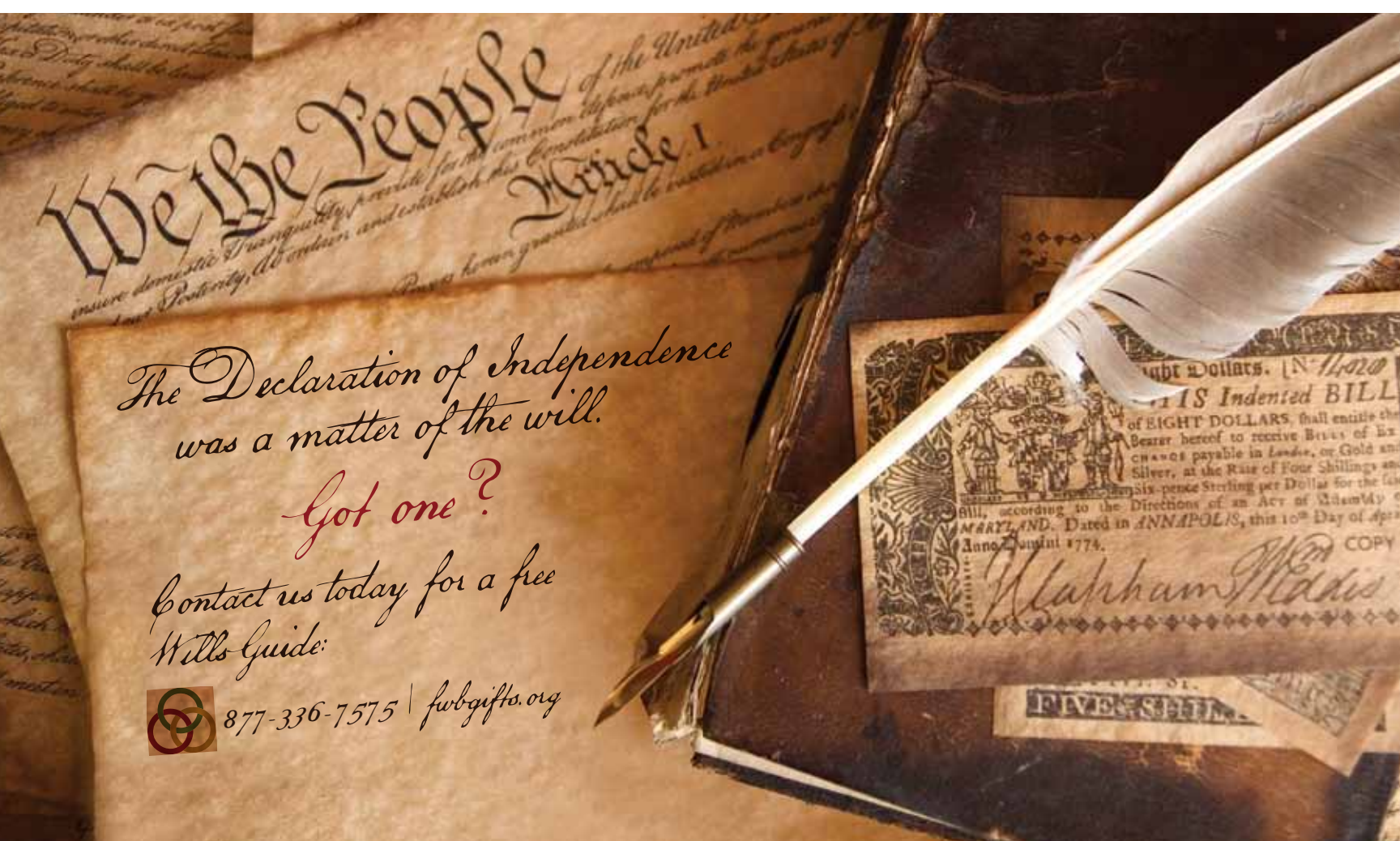
**I do not want to break down before the finish line. I want to fight the good fight of faith and complete the mission.**

not want to break down before the finish line. I want to fight the good fight of faith and complete the mission. After all, we are in a marathon, not a sprint. We cannot see the finish line,

continual and abundant, but we have to stop and renew ourselves along the journey.

Burnout does not have to happen, but it can and will if preventive mea-

**About the Writer:** LT COL Terry Austin is a Free Will Baptist Chaplain currently serving in Korea. He has represented Free Will Baptists through Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. To learn more about Free Will Baptist chaplains, visit [www.homemissions.net](http://www.homemissions.net).



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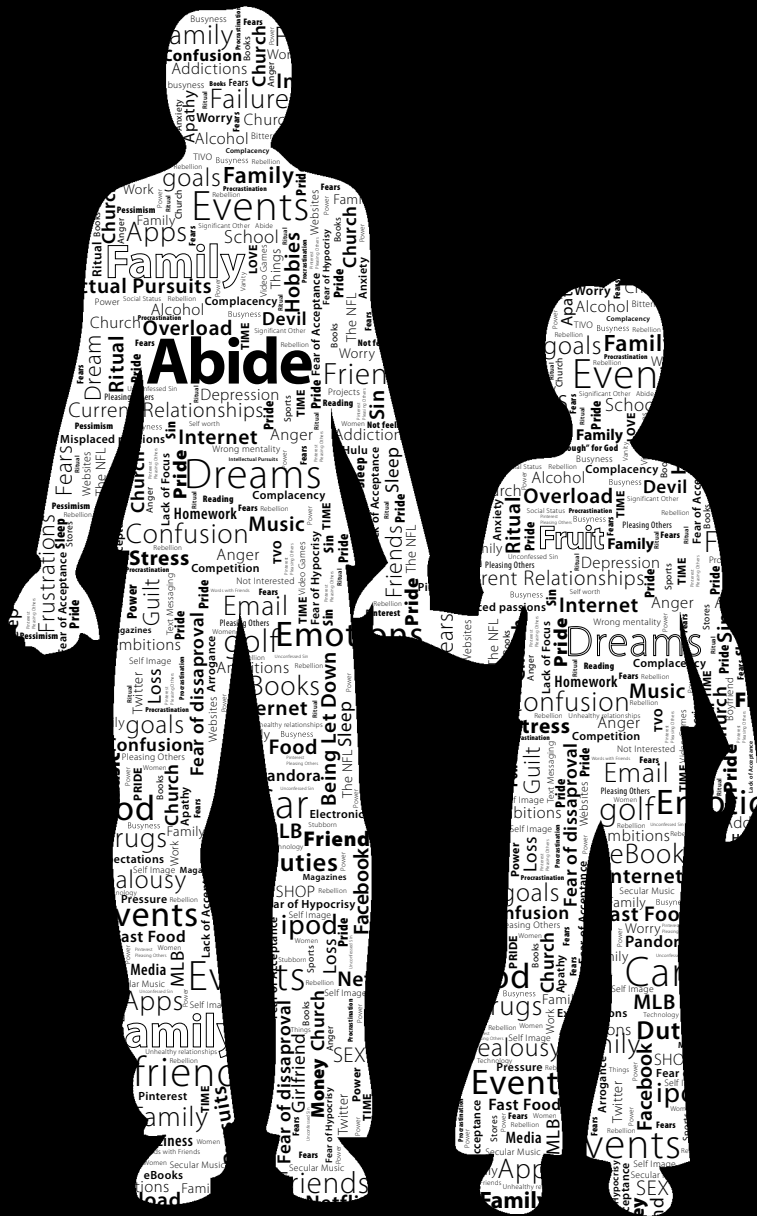
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# TIME *with* Jesus

BY PAUL COLLINS

*“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus” (Acts 4:13).*



**If I am not sitting at His feet and do not have the desire to be changed by Him, why should I think He really is my Lord?**

While living in Panama, we have been slowly but surely trying to improve our Spanish. We spend a great deal of time just speaking with people, trying to build relationships with them while hoping to earn the right to speak to their hearts. Much time and energy goes into this. We have other responsibilities, too, as all missionaries do. You know—the logistical and office stuff. But over and above my many ministry responsibilities are my responsibilities as a husband and a father.

In Acts, Peter and John had just, through the power of the name of Jesus, healed a man who had been lame since birth and was now in his 40s. After the two of them taught in the Temple, receiving much attention from their actions, the powers-that-be questioned them. These political and religious leaders were amazed by the words of uneducated fishermen because they spoke, not as expected, but in such a way as to recall confrontations these Jewish leaders had once had with a certain Nazarene named Jesus. Peter and John’s words, logic, and thought processes sounded like His. These powerful Jewish leaders could not answer the disciples’ questions without condemning themselves. I wonder if they ever became tired of this?

Their Rabbi, Master, and Lord clearly put His mark on these “uneducated flunkies.” They were true disciples. It was evident by their speech and in

their obedience to what He told them in Luke 21:14-15. They walked and spoke with the confident power of who they were and whose they were. They had spent time with Jesus. Not just passing time, but that quality stuff that can only be observed and absorbed in times right after dinner when folks engage in chitchat. Truths are gleaned from quietly watching, because we are just too frightened to say anything in the moment.

So, applying this to me: can Panamanians see that I have spent time with Jesus? Can my children? If not, am I a real disciple? Do I care enough about the One I call Lord to change my behavior and spend more time with Him? If not, does that mean I care only for fire insurance? If a disciple who was not willing to forsake all to follow Christ was unworthy of the Kingdom of Heaven, how dare I think that just being a follower makes me worthy? If I am not sitting at His feet and do not have the desire to be changed by Him, why should I think He really is my Lord?

Therefore, I am renewing my focus. I am placing the other stuff and responsibilities in their rightful place, and fasting if necessary, until those around marvel that this man has spent time with Jesus.

How about you? How much time are you spending with Jesus? If called before your city council or board of directors or other powers-that-be, would Jesus speak through you? Would they know you spent time with Jesus? “Followers” abound. Will you be a disciple?

ONE

About the Writer: Paul and Chrissy Collins were appointed as career missionaries to Panama in April 2008. After a year of language school in San Jose, Costa Rica, the couple and their three children have settled in Santiago, Veraguas, where they are working with a recent Bible institute graduate to plant a church. Learn more at [www.fwbgo.com](http://www.fwbgo.com).





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# Home MISSIONARY Updates

## TIM RIGGS Mobile, Alabama

Our church recently started two new ministries—Upward Basketball and cheerleading. When God gave us this property, it included a gymnasium. I learned long ago that God will bless our efforts if we only take what He gives us and use it as an instrument to reach the lost. The purpose of the Upward League is to reach the lost. Many parents and grandparents come to see their sons or grandsons play basketball and their daughters or granddaughters cheer at ball games.

As a result, we meet new people and establish relationships with as many as 100 people each week. While some of them are part of our church family already, many are not. We not only build relationships with these people through the sports program, we also share Christ during halftime of the games each Saturday.

We recently hosted our first Operation Outreach. Fourteen people came out on a cool evening to go door-to-door, make other assigned visits, and extend phone calls to church absentees. I enjoyed going door-to-door with several people who had never been on church visitation like that in their lives.

## SCOTT WARREN Salt Lake City, Utah

Our middle school and junior high students are on a regular serving schedule at the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake. The first Wednesday of every other month, we worship with the residents and guests during their evening service then serve the meal and clean up afterward.

The first time we did this, we served almost 100 of our homeless brothers in downtown Salt Lake. In addition, the church donated a 40-gallon barrel full of socks and a 40-gallon barrel of canned food to the Rescue Mission. It is a blessing to our young people to participate in projects such as this.

We recently started three new community Bible study groups, which are going very well.

## JASON WEAVER Winchester, Virginia

My wife and I had plenty of time to load sound equipment into our little church trailer and head to Red Bud Run Elementary School for our first service. We set out church signs,

and the school janitor met us in the parking lot with a bucket of salt that he spread on the icy sidewalks. Several family members, along with one of our church families, came early to help us set up and get prepared for the service.

I probably would have nervously paced the floor wondering if anyone would show up in spite of the inclement weather, but I didn't have time. By the time we finished checking the equipment and sound system, people started arriving early—15 to 20 minutes early! The service went smoothly, and one person responded to the invitation. We praise God for a great first service with 46 in attendance.

## DEXTER GUIN Colorado Springs, CO

We have had an atmosphere of excitement in the church this year. We started hosting a men's prayer meeting once a month, with one man giving a devotional at each breakfast. They have done a great job. The ladies also started a ladies fellowship where they studied the book *Lies Young Women Believe*.

The combined groups have a theme, "Operation Link Up," encouraging our people to get personally involved in knowing others in the church (especially new families) on a more one-on-one basis. It has been exciting to see more families going to each other's homes, going out to eat, or hanging out (up to an hour and a half after church services) to fellowship. It has been exciting to see new young couples coming as well, with several new babies in the nursery and at least three more on the way. **ONE**



HELP  
WANTED

## It Would Be *Really Nice* By Richard Atwood

“It would really be nice if we had a couple more workers. We are seeing people saved, and the new Christians are starting to get involved. But it would be nice if I had someone to head up children’s church. We also have several teenagers. I would like someone to work with them.”

I had this conversation yesterday with a church planter. He was not complaining, just dreaming. The work is growing, and they will soon need a bigger building. They are self-proclaimed workaholics. He drives the church bus every Sunday, besides leading the service and preaching. She teaches a class, cleans the church, leads the music, and works in the nursery. A couple of experienced hands would help. Are yours available?

### Consider two possibilities:

Move to help a church planter. Yes, I know that is asking a lot. But what an adventure! Some folks have done this very thing and are busy supporting, setting up, teaching, giving, running the sound booth, inviting, welcoming, keeping the nursery—being a big help.

Help a home missionary for a year or two from where you are. Drive to the new church every Sunday morning and help with music, children, etc. Join the SWAT Team: Servants Willing And Temporary. You would miss seeing your friends for a while, but you would make a lot of new friends!

*It would be really nice!* **ONE**

ABOUT THE WRITER: Richard Atwood is director of missionary assistance for FWB Home Missions. Learn more: [www.homemissions.net](http://www.homemissions.net).

## News Across the Nation

### Introducing New Missionaries



#### Team Tallahassee

Home Missions once again welcomes Cliff and Kathy Donoho into the church planting family. Cliff answered the call to preach in 1977 and has spent most of his ministry as a church planter, planting three churches. God is leading Cliff and Kathy to plant their fourth Free Will Baptist church in Tallahassee, Florida. Cliff's son Chad will join him in the first father-son church planting team. They will be joint project missionaries with the Florida State Missions Board.

A graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Chad has served as worship leader and teen pastor for churches in Tennessee and Alabama. He has had opportunities to lead worship at camps, retreats, state meetings, and the Free Will Baptist national convention. Chad and his beautiful wife Jenny have three children: Anna, Luke, and Emma. Please pray for Chad and his family as they help to minister and build a church in Tallahassee, the capitol of Florida and a rapidly growing area.

In addition to their son Chad, Cliff and Kathy have another daughter, Janice Texada.



#### Chad Kivette—Clarksville, Tennessee

Home Missions welcomes Chad and Paula Kivette and their children, Kinsley and Kylah, to the church-planting family. This will be the second mission work for the Kivettes. They previously ministered in Grand Junction, Colorado, taking West Gate FWB Church to self-supporting status. Chad and Paula will serve as joint project home missionaries with the state of Tennessee and Free Will Baptist Home Missions at Two Rivers FWB Church in Clarksville, Tennessee. Clarksville is listed as the ninth fastest growing city in the nation. It is home to Fort Campbell U.S. Army Base. Please pray for this family as they continue the work in Clarksville.



#### Richard Adams With the Lord

Richard Adams, retired director of development for Free Will Baptist Home Missions, died unexpectedly at his home on Friday, March 2, 2012. He was 72 years old.

For 18 years, Richard directed the Church Extension Loan Fund (CELFF), which enables church planters to buy land and build facilities across North America. Richard also worked tirelessly to expand the Build My Church Campaign, raising a total of \$2 million dollars, \$1 million for the Build My Church Fund and \$1 million for the Dr. Roy Thomas Endowment. In honor of Richard's work, the Home Mission Board renamed the Build My Church Fund The Richard and Carolyn Adams Endowment.

Richard also emphasized the importance of sharing the early days of Free Will Baptists through annual history tours. He promoted the Benjamin Randall Offering, held each November, (now the Mission: North America Offering). Richard did much to raise Free Will Baptist awareness to the cause of Home Missions.

Richard Adams' heart beat for winning the lost to Christ. He never met a stranger, and he always asked those he met if they were on their way to Heaven. If not, he would show them the way. Dr. Adams made a tremendous impact for the cause of Christ and for Free Will Baptists everywhere. He is greatly missed, not only by his family but by hundreds of friends across the nation.

Richard and Carolyn had two children, the late James Mark Adams and Bethany Adams Walser. Bethany, Randy, and their daughter, Alana, currently reside in Nashville, Tennessee, where Alana is a student at Free Will Baptist Bible College. Richard's wife Carolyn, also a retired employee of the Home Missions Department, preceded him in death.

A memorial service for Dr. Adams was held Sunday, March 4, at Cofer's Chapel FWB Church in Nashville. A funeral service was held Monday, March 5, at East Side FWB Church in Elizabethton, Tennessee.

## Home Missionaries Attend 2012 Summit

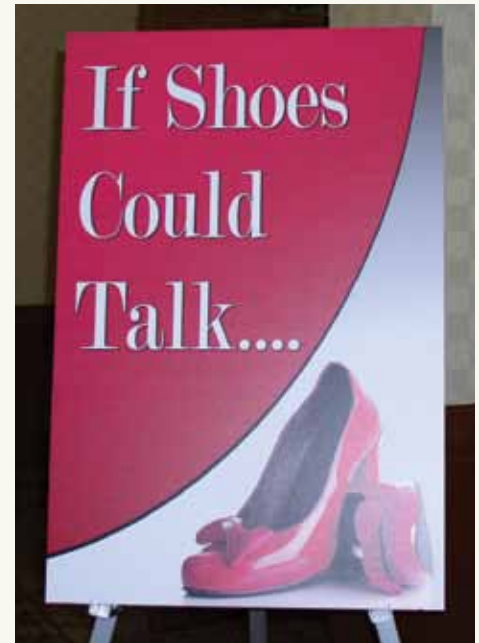


Seventy-five church planters from around the nation gathered in Nashville, for the three-day Home Missions Summit, a conference for training and encouragement. Keynote speaker Gary Rohrmayer is associate director of Converge Church Planting and author of six books, including *Church Planting Landmines*. Over the course of the conference, Rohrmayer went into great detail about building healthy church systems when starting a new church, addressing the topics missionaries indicated they would most like to hear. Many attendees commented on the abundance of practical and timely information they received.

On the third day of the conference, the missionaries and their wives participated in separate sessions. Each group had their own times of interaction and prayer. Free Will Baptist Executive Secretary Keith Burden delivered an encouraging message to the guys. His wife Debbie Burden spoke to the women on the theme, “If Your Shoes Could Talk.” She shared interesting facts about the history of shoes, and how God can use what we possess to minister to others.

Missionaries shared much laughter and many ideas at the lunch and dinner tables and late at night in the hotel lobby. Christian comedian Aaron Wilburn provided

entertainment for the missionaries. It was a time of great encouragement, relaxation, fun, sharing, learning, and fellowship for the hardworking church planters.



The Home Missions Summit usually occurs every other year, but one home missionary wife said as she left, “Let’s do this again in six months!”

## HomeMissions.net

Recently, Home Missions launched a new website that provides an in-depth look at home missionaries—where they minister, facts about their families, and current prayer requests. Use the following brief tour guide to make the most of your next visit to the site:

- »On the **Home Page** you will receive a welcome from General Director Larry Powell and find a quick link to the Prayer & Praise page.
- »Click on **About Home Missions** to view staff and board member profiles and find helpful links to all Free Will Baptist agencies.
- »Get to know individual home missionaries on the **Missionaries** page. Hover the cursor over each picture to view a description of each missionary. Click on the picture to visit individual missionary pages where you will find photos, addresses, birthdays, and bios for each missionary family.
- »Click on the **Chaplain** page to learn more about the ministry of Free Will Baptist chaplains. Learn more about the chaplains who currently represent Free Will Baptists across the world. Click on each photo to view the chaplain's page for more details.
- »Interested in **Getting Involved** in the ministry of Home Missions? This page shares the many different ways you can help.
- »On the **CELF** (Church Extension Loan Fund) page, learn more about this important program where Free Will Baptist investments help Home Missionaries purchase properties and buildings.
- »If you would like to purchase soul winning, church growth, and other Home Missions materials, browse through **Resources** and place your order through a handy cart system. Your order will be processed and items will be shipped to you along with your invoice. You will not pay for your material until after you have received it.

**HomeMissions.net** is a great place for you to get to know more about the work of this important ministry. Please take a few moments to explore the world of Home Missions today.



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Many pastors and their wives pour their lives into small, rural churches with only a modest salary, saving little for retirement. **THEIR WORK CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS A LABOR OF LOVE.** Honor these precious men and women with a gift to the Labor of Love endowment fund, and extend Christ's arms to help those who have served so faithfully. Contact the Board of Retirement today:

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### THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTORS:

Jimmy Aldridge, Jasper, AL; James Beasley, Turbeville, SC; First FWB WAC, West Plains, MO; Glenn & Dixie Guild, Tucson, AZ; Dr. Charles Marshall, Peoria, AZ; Eddie & Sharon Vincent, Lebanon, MO



# + Intersect >>>

## Judging “Judge Not” (Part One)

### I wasn't surprised when I heard it. In fact, I'd been expecting it.

The comment came during an online forum addressing the role of a Christian presence in American culture. “When you Christians say that Jesus is the only way, you're being judgmental. You're judging everybody else!” some guy claimed.

Then came the kicker: “And Jesus himself said, ‘Judge not.’”

#### Does Just Anything Go?

Many people who have an axe to grind with Christians and their faith may not know a lot of Scripture, but chances are they know that verse. Let's take a closer look at Matthew 7:1, where Jesus indeed says, “Judge not, that you be not judged.” Does this verse really say that anything goes, that we must never evaluate, form an opinion, or offer a negative take on a subject? Does anything and everything go?

Consider first the wider context of the verse. The statement falls in the middle of the Sermon on the Mount. Matthew chapters 5-7 give kingdom people instructions about kingdom living. The Lord is not talking to the world here about some ethic of tolerance. No, His words are for His followers. He is not speaking to those more interested in their own rights and presumed liberties than pleasing Him as King. Matthew 7:1 has “Kingdom Priority” stamped all over it.

#### The Verdict on the “Judge”

Look carefully, too, at the command itself: “Judge not.” The word translated *judge* can speak of evaluating and discerning (see Acts 4:19 and Romans 14:5). But is that the meaning in Matthew 7:1? Is Jesus saying, as so many assume, that we must not consider and choose or voice our opinion on a matter? Obviously not! Other Scriptures make it clear that we are to discern, to form opinions, to evaluate, and choose (see, for example, Romans 12:9; 16:17; 1 Corinthians 5:13; Galatians 1:8,9; Ephesians 5:11; Philippians 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:21,22; 1 John 4:1). Even here, Matthew 7:2 presumes we will make a distinction between “dogs and hogs.”

So would another meaning of *judge* fit what the Lord is commanding in this statement? To find an answer, check out James 4:11, 12:

“Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another?”

Notice that judging a brother parallels speaking evil against a brother in this text. The same comparison occurs in Romans 14:3 where Paul says that someone who “judges” another in the church actually “despises” the other believer.

So, then, two different meanings of judging emerge from these texts. One involves evaluating, discerning, and choosing while the other speaks of a harsh, critical spirit that denounces other people.

#### A Look “Down the Nose”

The latter meaning is what Jesus condemns in Matthew 7:1. David Martyn Lloyd-Jones notes that this type of judgment manifests itself in feelings of superiority—smug self-righteousness reminiscent of the Pharisees. Such a temperament is quick to condemn others and treat them with contempt.



Goodness knows I have enough to do in my own life without trying to tell everyone else what's wrong with them. Again, Paul offers wisdom in Romans 14:10-12:

“But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.”

In this light, Jesus concludes Matthew 7:1, “lest you be judged.” This consequence suggests three fallouts from a harsh, condemning spirit. First, when we blast a brother, we often face the prospect of our bitter words coming back to

us. In this way, we are judged. But further, when we speak evil against another believer, we presume to take God's place in rendering judgment that He alone has a right to give; therefore we commit sin and He becomes our judge. Finally, Jesus reminds us that a forgiving spirit is a kingdom-marker (Luke 6:37). We show ourselves to be His disciples when we love each other, not when we slam each other.

A church-league basketball official told me once he didn't understand how two teams of Christians could meet at center court before a game, pray with each other, then spend the next hour calling each other names and fighting like worst enemies. I told him I couldn't explain it, either, and I played in some of those games! **ONE**

*In the next Intersect, we will continue to explore the implications of Jesus' command, “Judge not.”*

**Intersect:** where the Bible meets life is a regular column written by Dr. Garnett Reid, a member of the Bible faculty at Free Will Baptist Bible College.

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Catch the new wave of education at Free Will Baptist Bible College.

# ONLine... ONTarget... ONFire

BY ALLAN  
CROWSON

## Dear John

We can call him John. In your church, he may have a different name. Maybe he went to the military right out of high school then moved back home where he teaches Sunday School and helps with the young people. Perhaps he answered the call to ministry later in life, and now supports a family. He works whatever jobs he can that will leave him time to serve the congregation where God called him. Perhaps he spent his earlier years away from God but turned things around and wants to serve God more effectively.

Or consider Janet. She works in an office with little possibility to move up. She knows that with some business training, she could advance in her current job, or perhaps at another company. She has thought of running a home-based business, but she needs more preparation.

What can John or Janet do? They have children and spouses, and perhaps congregations to consider. They cannot uproot their families, no matter how much they want to prepare themselves. Yet they want God to use them even more. Is there anything for them?

## ONLine

Meet the online studies program at Free Will Baptist Bible College! Our mission is to educate leaders to serve Christ, His Church, and His world through biblical thought and life. Nothing in that mission statement requires the student to move to Nashville, Tennessee. Our online program allows John, Janet, and many others like them to learn how to minister and serve more effectively where they are.

Online students take their courses... online. With a computer and a good Internet connection, they log on to their account, do course work, view lectures, participate in discussion forums, and take exams on their own schedule. They arrange studies around their fam-

ily and professional obligations.

Online semesters contain three cycles or sessions. Students can take up to two courses each session, for as many as 18 hours per semester. Each session runs six weeks, with a week off between sessions. Three-hour courses run the entire six weeks, and two-hour courses run four weeks. Students can reduce the number of courses they take at one time to meet scheduling or financial constraints.

Students pursuing the Associate's Degree in Ministry study subjects such as Bible survey, Bible doctrine, Christian ethics, evangelism and discipleship, Christian counseling, foundations of Christian education, homiletics (preaching), the biblical foundations of

missions, worldwide missions and the local church. This is along with subjects such as English, history, speech, appreciation of the arts, lifetime fitness, and math or science. Students pursuing the recently added online Associate's Degree in Business study many of the same core biblical and general education subjects, plus business courses including accounting, economics, and others.

## ON Target

Our online program offers many advantages to help students stay on target. Consider:

Course work is fully accredited and can be transferred nearly anywhere.

Financial aid is available, just as for campus courses. In addition, many online students qualify for substantial cost reductions through scholarships for ordained Free Will Baptist pastors or for lay workers who are active in local church ministry.

Students learn at their own pace on a more flexible schedule.

Most online students are settled in life, with family and professional responsibilities. They bring the variety and wealth of their own life experiences to discussions.

We work for student success, with online access to the college's Welch Library and numerous online research databases. Our recommended first course covers an introduction to Free Will Baptist history and beliefs, sharing one's testimony, developing a Christian worldview, and how to be a successful online student.

Consider the high quality course work: our original Bible and Ministry material is recorded directly in our campus classes, then edited and synchronized with slides for viewing or listening on screen. Students hear original lectures from respected professors

such as Dr. Garnett Reid, Dr. Kevin Hester, Mr. Terry Forrest, Mr. Ron Calaway, and others.

Consider the high quality of our online course instructors. Some online programs at other colleges use instructors who are not necessarily expert or experienced in the course material. Sometimes they are not trained in how to conduct online education. Not at Free Will Baptist Bible College! We use gifted Bible and Ministry online

instructors who must meet several criteria that most other online programs do not require:

They are academically qualified for the online subject material, just as if they were teaching on campus.

They have solid ministry experience.

They receive specialized training in delivering online instruction.

These online instructors guide online discussions, administer tests, counsel students on projects and pa-

## Is the FWBBC online program worth it? Here's what two of last year's online graduates said:

**At a time in my life when things could not have been busier, God told me to get ready...get educated...get closer.** When I began researching different avenues of education, some colleges had seemingly good programs but an unusual doctrine and theology in contrast to what I wanted. I had concluded that though any school can give you education, not every school would give a Christ-centered and Bible-based education.

When I found FWBBC, I was overjoyed that there was a possibility for a Christian education from an institution that went hand-in-hand in my ideals and beliefs as far as doctrine is concerned; not only that, but the opportunity to pursue knowledge to make me more effective in my work for God while going through my day doing the work God set out for me.

Through the online classes I met several men and women of God who will forever be my classmates, as well as my co-workers for the Kingdom. Encouragement from fellow students and teachers, words of encouragement and exhortation to attempt greater things for God's glory, and fellowship in a common cause centered in Christ—these have been the most outstanding of all experiences in this endeavor." —*Steve Robeson, Jerome, Idaho*

**Without the online program at FWBBC, I would not have received a high quality education.** When God called me to preach, I was mid-20s, married with four children. Relocating was out of the question, and I nearly lost hope in attending college until I heard about FWBBC's online program. My dream of an education to aid me in my ministry came true. I have developed friendships with men from all over the country that I would have likely never met. We have formed a close bond that will last a lifetime.

I cannot imagine entering a pastorate without the training I have received here. Online learning is the future of education, and I know it has the potential to train leaders who otherwise would not have the opportunity to receive such education." —*Adam Holloway, Soddy Daisy, Tennessee*

pers, and may bring in their own material to supplement original course material. Some of the gifted people with God's blessing upon their ministry who

## Our online students are motivated to learn, grow, and use what they learn for God.

have served in this way include: Aaron Baldrige, Jeff Cockrell, Randy Corn, Richard Hendrix, Randy Kinnick, Jeff Manning, Donnie McDonald, and Jose Rodriguez. Recent additions to the pool of online instructors include Mike Edwards, Daryl Ellis, and Tim Sturgill.

In addition, campus professors such as Mr. Gary Turner and Dr. James Stevens are active in online courses in their field.

Most of our online students say they work harder in online courses than they ever did in a classroom. The required online discussions involve every student in meaningful ways. We are proud of the quality of our online students, instructors, and their educational performance. Our online students are motivated to learn, grow, and use what they learn for God.

### ON Fire

We believe education must enhance ministry, not diminish it. Here are a few of the ways our online program does that:

Through online discussions, students learn of the challenges others are

facing. They share prayer requests and struggles, and encourage one another.

Students can apply what they learn almost immediately, at church the next Sunday or at work the next day.

Students keep roots in their local church and community. They serve as they learn, a great way to keep their spiritual passion alive and robust. They are a blessing to their local church.

Whether through an Associate's Degree in Ministry or in Business, if you can get online, Free Will Baptist Bible College wants to help you stay on track, and on fire! Call 615-844-5226 for more information, or send an email inquiry to [online@fwbbc.edu](mailto:online@fwbbc.edu). More information is available at <https://sites.google.com/a/fwbbc.edu/online-learning/the-five-ws-of-fwbbc-online>. **ONE**

**About the Writer:** Allan Crowson is director of the adult degree program at FWBBC.

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\*National and regional accreditation approved.

## News at FWBBC

### FWBBC Librarian Carol Reid Leads ABHE Workshop



**Mrs. Carol Reid**, librarian at Free Will Baptist Bible College since 1988, teamed with two other professional librarians to present a workshop titled “Standard #10: Library and Other Learning Resources” during the 65th annual meeting of the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) which met February 22-25 in Orlando, Florida. The 90-minute workshop included creative role playing by the three presenters as they walked attendees through 14 essential elements necessary to demonstrate proof of compliance for colleges and universities.

“We also talked about two hot topics with regard to the library standard,” Mrs. Reid said, “distance learning and off-site

campuses. We answered questions from the 30 people in our session. I concluded that good libraries have three Ps—good people (both in the library and the administration), good paper trail (to document the work done), and a good plan (recognizing where they are and how to get where they want to be).”

Three other FWBBC faculty/staff also attended the combined meeting of ABHE/ABACC (Association of Business Administrators of Christian Colleges)—Dr. Kevin Hester, Theological Studies chairman; Mrs. Debbie Mouser, manager of the Enrollment Management Office; and Mr. Craig Mahler, vice president for financial affairs. Each participated in plenary sessions and followed one of 10 workshop tracks that included more than 30 individual workshops.

President Matt Pinson said, “I am confident that no one else in ABHE was better qualified to explain and expand on Library Standard 10 than Mrs. Reid. Her knowledge, professional skills, and dedication have earned her an excellent reputation among her peers. Her lead-

ership is also a credit to FWBBC as faculty, students, and others in the greater Nashville community benefit from her work.”

ABHE is the national organization approved by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) to accredit baccalaureate degree-granting Bible colleges in the United States and Canada. FWBBC’s accreditation reaffirmation was confirmed by ABHE during the 2012 meeting, along with a commendation for the college’s response document, a massive project spearheaded by Dr. Kevin Hester. FWBBC personnel have provided ongoing ABHE leadership for a number of years.

Mrs. Reid previously served as secretary of ABHE’s Commission on Accreditation. She was elected to the Board of Directors for the Foundation for the Advancement of Christian Libraries in 2011. She also writes articles for *The Christian Librarian*, journal of the Association of Christian Librarians.

A 1977 FWBBC graduate, Mrs. Reid earned the Master of Library Science degree from Vanderbilt University. She is

married to Dr. Garnett Reid, a FWBBC Bible professor specializing in Old Testament studies.

FWBBC also received public commendation at the annual ABHE meeting for being one of two member institutions elected to America’s “Best Christian Workplaces.”

FWBBC underwent two accreditation reaffirmation visits in the 2010-2011 academic year—the regional visit by SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) and the national visit by ABHE.

President Matt Pinson said, “What an amazing year this has been for FWBBC with accreditation reaffirmations from both of our accrediting agencies. I cannot say enough about our wonderful faculty, staff, and student body. I’m especially grateful for the leadership provided by Dr. Kevin Hester, our compliance Committee chairman, in the reaffirmation process. I hope you will help us get the word out to every Free Will Baptist home that FWBBC provides top quality education for our students.” ■

## Moody Energizes FWBBC Students at Forlines Lectures



**The 2012 Leroy Forlines Lectures** brought a dynamic push to the Free Will Baptist Bible College campus as Dr. Eddie Moody's four hard-hitting messages on "Character in a Corrupt Culture" left FWBBC students eager

for more and the faculty all-smiles that the North Carolina pastor/educator unfolded such a biblically powerful and relevant series.

Dr. Moody launched the February 21-22 series by providing every attendee with a colorful, seven-page handout that included website connections, pertinent quotes, scriptural notations, timely outlines, and historical illustrations. His opening statement contextualized the two-day event by reminding the audience that "God always knows what's coming" and urging them to "do things without complaining" as they intersect a culture floundering without a biblical foundation.

In addition to the plenary sessions in FWBBC's Memorial Auditorium, Dr. Moody also arranged to lead smaller peer-mentoring seminars Monday and Tuesday afternoons for resident assistants, Student Services personnel, and students interested in serving as peer mentors. The two-hour sessions allowed students and staff to interact one-on-one with Moody who recently

published a 230-page book, *First Aid for Emotional Hurts*, as well as four booklets focusing on depression, grief, addiction, and finding needed help.

"Dr. Moody did everything we hoped he would and more," President Matt Pinson said. "He was hand-picked by Professor Leroy Forlines to lead this year's lectures. He put everything in easy-to-understand language and communicated with zeal, a pastor's heart, and the insight of a professional counselor. We look forward to having Dr. Moody back on campus. He understands students; he understands education; he understands how culture and theology come together to create opportunity for evangelism and healing for our culture."

The Leroy Forlines Lectures began in 1993 at FWBBC as a means of bringing well known speakers to campus to address challenging issues of the day related to theology, philosophy, worldviews, global evangelism, and other topics.

Dr. Eddie Moody, a 1989 FWBBC graduate, has pastored Tippet's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church (Clayton, NC) since 2000. He is in his 17th year on the faculty at North Carolina Central University where he serves as associate professor and department chair. He completed a Ph.D. in counselor education at North Carolina State University. ■

## ABHE Reaffirms FWBBC 10-Year National Accreditation

**The Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE)** notified Free Will Baptist Bible College that its national accreditation has been reaffirmed for 10 years, according to Provost Greg Kettelman. ABHE announced FWBBC's reaffirmation during its 65th annual meeting in February and commended the institution's response to recommendations by the visiting team. ABHE is the agency that accredits degree-granting Bible colleges in the United States and Canada.

The reaffirmation followed a spring 2011 evaluation when a three-member ABHE on-site team spent four days on campus reviewing FWBBC's academic programs, faculty and staff qualifications, fi-

nances, physical plant, library, board and governance, strategic planning, student life, and other dimensions of the college's operations. Over a period of two years, supporting documents were prepared for the reaffirmation visit.

"ABHE reaccreditation visits push the college to rise above past successes and challenges," said Dr. Kettelman. "The reaffirmation is conducted by professionals who understand first-hand what it takes to create a quality higher education program with limited resources and a biblical mission. This reaffirmation sends a clear signal to our constituency that parents can trust FWBBC to deliver on its educational promise."

The reaffirmation process involved the entire college family as the on-site team examined trends, records, facts, truth-in-advertising, and conducted staff and student interviews, as well as examining financial compliance and other areas.

Dr. Kevin Hester, FWBBC's Compliance Committee chairman, said, "This reaffirmation by ABHE reflects the outstanding work done by FWBBC's administration, faculty, and staff to meet rigorous standards and compliance required by the premier Bible college accrediting body in the United States. It also verifies that FWBBC continues its commitment to excellence in education." ■

# Celebrate PANAMA

**Panama** celebrated 50 years of Free Will Baptist ministry January 6-9, 2012.



Current and former missionaries present for the 50th anniversary celebration from left to right: Chrissy Collins, Paul Collins, Glenda Fulcher, Susan Fulcher Burke, Judy Lytle, Steve Lytle, Lori Torrison, Steve Torrison, Tom Willey Jr., Brenda Bunch, Stan Bunch.



A Founder's Dinner kicked off the weekend of festivities on Friday evening. Pioneer missionaries, laymen, and pastors were honored.



Stan Bunch interprets for General Director Clint Morgan as he preaches Sunday morning.



Sunday morning, January 9, began with a march of churches. Members of each church, all present for the national association meeting, paraded down the road to the seminary in a designated color, carrying balloons and signs. Representatives of the Chitré Church are pictured.



Stan and Brenda Bunch pose with Cirilo and Kathia Mendoza, two of the five graduates with a B.A. in theology. The graduate couple was elected to pastor the Buenas Nuevas (Good News) FWB Church in Chitré.

# and URUGUAY

**Uruguay** celebrated 50 years of Free Will Baptist church planting efforts January 14-15.



Children, the future of the Uruguayan church, played a large role in the celebration.



Rivera, a town located on both sides of the Brazil/Uruguay border, was the location of the first Free Will Baptist work in Uruguay and the site of the 50th anniversary celebration.



Christians in traditional dress greeted attendees.



Molly Barker has served in Uruguay since 1964.

## News Around the World

### April Board Meeting Encouraging, Productive

**ANTIOCH, TN**—The Board of Free Will Baptist International Missions met April 23-25, 2012, in the Antioch, Tennessee, offices. Over the three-day session, the board heard reports from the various departments and acted on proposals and general business.

Doug and Miriam (Hardin) Bishop were interviewed and approved for a two-year term as interns to Japan. Doug, son of Dale and Sandra Bishop, was raised in Japan. The couple will be mentored by a missionary while working under a Japanese pastor in Northern Japan. They hope this internship will confirm their call as career missionaries.

Patsy Vanhook tendered her retirement resignation to be effective December 31, 2013. The 40-year-veteran missionary will close out her time in France early next year and then spend the remainder of her tenure visiting and thanking supporting churches and individuals.

Additionally, the board approved Director of Field Operations Jeff Turnbough's recommendation to renew the Mission's partnership with ELIC. The Mission will make specific efforts to mobilize, recruit, and send more Free Will Baptist workers as teachers to Asia.

The board accepted Tim Keener's resignation as regional director of Europe, effective in June 2012, with commendation for his faithful service. Jeff Turnbough will assume regional director responsibilities for Europe and Latin America (formerly Stan Bunch's position) indefinitely.

The board approved the investigation of sending workers to Senegal for a joint church-planting project with a missionary-pastor from Côte d'Ivoire.

Additionally, Sam McVay was recognized and thanked for his hard work to make the 2012 World Missions Offering a success. Vice-chairman Randy Wilson concluded his 12-year tenure with the board at this meeting. The board commended Randy for his insightful participation and service. Kiley Hawkins received the board's appreciation for six years of faithful service in the office.

An unqualified approval of the audit was received from Blankenship CPA Group. Auditor Tommy Wooten also commended the Mission's financial operations team for their meticulous bookkeeping.

The board approved a \$7 million framework budget for 2013 to be presented at the July 2012 meeting of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. The 2012 framework budget was set at \$7.25 million and reduced to a \$6.1 million operational budget in December 2011 as the board sought to boost the Mission's progress toward financial health. The operational budget for 2013 will be approved at the December 2012 board meeting.

At the end of the three-day meeting, Board Chairman Danny Williams remarked, "I was thrilled, as we ended these sessions, to hear other board members talk about the spirit of optimism that pervaded the meeting. We have a true sense of progress, direction, and hope for the future of the Mission that is encouraging."

All board members (Danny Williams, AL; Randy Wilson, OK; Jeff Manning, NC; Mark Price, OH; Nelson Henderson, AR; Rob Morgan, TN; Greg McAllister, CA; Tom McCullough, MI) were in attendance. Officers elected for the upcoming year are Danny Williams, chairman; Jeff Manning, vice-chairman; Tom McCullough, secretary. ■

### WMO Benefits from Country Music Marathon



**ANTIOCH, TN**—The 2012 St. Jude Country Music Marathon took place on Saturday, April 28, one day before International Missions' World Missions Sunday and Offering. This year the rigorous route was tackled by three people raising funds for the World Missions Offering: Jonathan Postlewaite, missionary to Bulgaria; Randy Riggs, Tennessee pastor; and Steve Riggs, missionary to France. Together, the threesome raised \$2,285 for the World Missions Offering. Read the full story on [www.fwbgo.com](http://www.fwbgo.com) ■





**India:** Cyclones wiped out whole villages on Good Friday, April 6, in North India. Wind, rain, and hailstorms destroyed crops, leveled homes, and left many people with nothing. More than 100 families from Free Will Baptist churches were affected. Some who attended Good Friday services in Sonapurhat returned to villages that had been destroyed. ■



**Japan:** A 23-year-old man was baptized on Easter Sunday at the Kita Hiroshima Church. Sasaki San gave his testimony just before Pastor Kimura baptized him. ■



**Côte d'Ivoire:** The Women of the Good News (Ivorian WNAC) held a national retreat the first week of April in Agnibilekrou, Côte d'Ivoire. This was the first national retreat since last year's political upheaval. ■



**Panama:** A Tuesday night Holy Week service at the Chame Bible institute was well attended by people from the community. Three people prayed for salvation. Students have worked diligently to increase their presence in the community and have established Bible studies with several Chame residents. ■



**Uruguay:** A children's event in Melo, Saturday, March 17, ministered to over 200 children and 70 adults. Forty children responded to the opportunity to receive Christ as Savior. ■



**France:** Two believers were baptized at the Saint Sébastien Church, Sunday, March 11. Multiple visitors witnessed the baptisms, and one person made a decision to follow Christ. Two men were baptized Sunday, March 4, in the Nantes FWB Church. ■



**Spain:** Tim and Kristi Johnson, with children Alejandro and Ana, returned to Spain April 3. Failure to return would endanger their residency status. The full news release can be found at [www.fwbgo.com](http://www.fwbgo.com). ■



**Panama:** The church plant in Santiago held its first Sunday service March 18. Twenty-seven people attended. Julio Barahona and Paul and Chrissy Collins are partnering to share the gospel in Santiago. ■

## FWBIM Encouraged by Advance Response to 2012 WMO

**ANTIOCH, TN**—Director of Advancement Mark McPeak expressed his appreciation for denominational support of the 2012 World Missions Offering (WMO). “We asked for 650 churches to commit to participate this year, a significant increase over previous years. More than 700 churches have indicated they are participating—many for the first time!” said McPeak.

The denominational calendar has the World Missions Offering scheduled for the last Sunday in April each year.

“As I’ve traveled and spoken in churches,” General Director Clint Morgan stated, “I’ve been encouraged by pastors, church members, and state leaders who have expressed their support for global missions by expressing extraordinary efforts to increase their WMO giving this year. I’ve enjoyed sharing these stories with our missionaries and staff, encouraging them as I’ve been encouraged.”

“I stepped into my position with a strong team already in place and working for the 2012 WMO,” McPeak said. “I commend missionaries, ambassadors, staff, state leaders, and others who have traveled tirelessly and worked diligently to promote the World Missions Offering. I am thankful God has used their efforts so effectively.” Read the full release on [www.fwbgo.com](http://www.fwbgo.com). ■



# Brown on **Green** >>>

## Your Father's Little Dividend

*“Dividend investing makes a comeback”*

**Back in the 1950s, most people who invested in the stock market considered the dividend yield rather than potential for growth.** The investing landscape changed in the 1980s when new retirement investments became available that allowed investors to defer the taxability of their investment earnings. This change shifted investors from looking for income to growth through capital gains.

Another factor responsible for this change was that Baby Boomers became interested in investing for the first time. This generation has caused huge economic shifts as they move through the demographic pipeline. This shift is the reason dividend stocks will make a comeback in the coming decades.

Now that Boomers are reaching retirement age, their stock investing philosophy has changed from growth,

growth, growth in their 30s, 40s and 50s to steady income for retirement. The steady income they are seeking will be found in dividend stock. Dividends have been around for a long time, dating to the Dutch East India Company in 1602, the first company to issue dividends to investors.

Putting together a stock dividend portfolio is not just a matter of gathering a list of the highest paying dividend stocks and buying the list. Many factors have to be considered when choosing your portfolio. First, consider how many years the company has been paying dividends. Some companies have been paying dividends for more than 50 years. In most cases, you will only want to consider a company that has a track record of ten years or more.

It's also important to consider whether or not stocks have been steadily increasing their dividend over the years. It is important that the company you are considering is a leader in its industry, and that its earnings outlook for the future is solid. The stocks you consider should have good cash flow. They should pay dividends out of cash rather than borrowing to pay stock-

holders. The portfolio should be balanced over several industries to reduce volatility. And finally, as a Christian, you should avoid buying “sin” stocks in which the primary industry promotes sinful behavior.

While all stocks have a degree of volatility, good dividend paying stocks are less volatile. One of the main factors that cause a stock to go down in value is when there are more sellers than buyers. Currently, dividend investors are holding on to their stocks, because regardless of what happens to their value, they still pay a good dividend. And because they pay a high yield, they do not want to sell the stock.

More and more companies will announce that they will begin to pay dividends in the near future. Apple recently announced their plans to pay dividends. Other technology companies that previously shunned dividends have also begun to pay. Baby Boomers are driving this trend upward again. A large group of investors are demanding dividends, and companies are responding to the demand. Your father's little dividend of the 1950s has made a big comeback. **ONE**

### Stocks that have paid and increased their dividend annually for over 50 years\*

Company Name	Stock Symbol	Year Dividend Streak Began
Diebold Incorporated	DBD	1954
American States Water Company	AWR	1955
Dover Corporation	DOV	1956
Northwest Natural Gas	NWN	1956
Emerson Electric Co.	EMR	1957
Genuine Parts Company	GPC	1957
The Procter & Gamble Company	PG	1957
3M Company	MMM	1959
Vectren Corporation	VVC	1960
Cincinnati Financial Corporation	CINF	1961

\*These stocks are listed for illustration purposes only and should not be considered a recommendation. Please consult your own advisor as you consider dividend stock. Source: <http://dynamicdividend.com>

**ABOUT THE WRITER:** David Brown, CPA, became director of the Free Will Baptist Foundation in 2007. **Send your questions to David at [david@nafwb.org](mailto:david@nafwb.org).** To learn how the Foundation can help you become a more effective giver, call 877-336-7575.



# Staying in Love

By Sarah Fletcher

## Want to improve your marriage? Retreat!

According to the Urban Institute, couples who attend or engage in a marriage retreat or other type of marriage enrichment program (whether faith-based or not), reap benefits for up to five years.

For the 40 couples who attended the recent Master's Men/WNAC Marriage Enrichment Conferences in Chattanooga and Branson, those benefits included not only marriage helps, but also scriptural foundations, worship, and time alone as a couple.

Some couples specifically came to improve their marriages or learn ways to stay in love. Others simply wanted to get away. A few registered at the suggestion of church leadership. For Arkansas Pastor Kenny Fant and his wife Brenda, the conference came as a gift from their congregation. Attendees of these Friday evening through Sunday morning events represented a wide age span with marriages ranging from 3-43 years. Over half indicated this was their first marriage retreat experience.

Joe Grizzle, Oklahoma minister and founder of C3 Ministries, met a responsive audience, eager to interact and absorb his teachings. He urged couples to change—to target one thing or one area of marriage that needed improvement. Much of the conference focused on understanding differences between men and women.

Comparing a woman's needs to a fishing experience, Brother Joe reeled in listeners with personal stories, practical knowledge, and plain speaking. "Be a friend," he admonished husbands as he detailed a wife's need for love and relationship. "Be a cheerleader," he encouraged wives, emphasizing the importance and value men place on respect. He challenged both husbands and wives to better communication and greater commitment.

Saturday night's session included a time for personal sharing (original poems by husbands and love letters written by wives) and restating marriage vows. For Criss and Jennifer Sweazy, "the saying of our wedding vows," proved memorable, "...this time with deeper understanding and a commitment of eternal love." "It took our breath away to do that again," added Andrew and Rylee Whitsett.

Were the sessions helpful? Overwhelmingly, couples said yes. Brother Grizzle's teachings topped the list as participant's "favorite part of the retreat."

Attendees found couple time equally beneficial. Chattanooga attendees Ryan and Ashlee Lewis enjoyed "the laid-back structure and open schedule." Another couple described the weekend as "the right balance of leisure time/teaching sessions."

## What if you didn't make it to Chattanooga or Branson?

Find and attend a Christian marriage conference or retreat in your area. Several Free Will Baptist state and/or local associations regularly offer these events. In the meantime, focus on six strong family-building principles Joe Grizzle calls "Going for the Gold" (1 Corinthians 3:10-14). **ONE**

» Eat family meals together, at least five per week.

» Schedule a weekly family night.

(Joe also encourages couples to date weekly, and get away at least once a year.)

» Establish family traditions.

» Create a family ID. (For more information see: <http://familyid.familyvisionministry.org/>)

» Take a family vacation.

» Lead nightly prayers.

**About the Writer:** Sarah Fletcher is managing editor of *Treasure* devotional guide. She and her husband Keith live in Johnston City, IL.



## "When I Say I Love You"

When I say, "I Love You,"  
Those are just words you hear.  
You know just how I feel when you  
hold me near.  
I love you more every day.  
Come closer now; don't turn away.  
My love is strong; don't be afraid.  
With you forever is what I've prayed.  
When you look into my eyes,  
you know I'm true.

Even when I say the words,  
I LOVE YOU.

— (married 15 years)

# When You're the One **LEFT BEHIND**

BY D. RAY LEWIS

**Losing a loved one is traumatic, especially when it is your spouse.**

The transition from wife to widow, husband to widower is a major life experience. The questions and decisions facing the one left behind can be overwhelming.

The survivor should not feel bad when he or she can't do everything at one time. It would be nice if we could just snap our fingers and everything would be accomplished, but it doesn't happen that way. There are no real supermen and superwomen when it comes to mourning the loss of a spouse. Some things need to be taken care of immediately, but others can wait until you get to them.



*Consider ten simple suggestions that will help when faced with the death of your spouse.*

**1 Set up a file for copies of everything that has to do with the estate, including notes from telephone conversations.**

**2 Make to-do lists.** Every time you complete a task, mark it off. When you think of some new item, add it to the list.

**3 Know where all the important papers are before you need them.** Does your spouse have a letter of instruction detailing his or her final wishes? You will need that even before making funeral arrangements. Do you know where to find the will, life insurance policies, birth certificate, Social

Security card, military discharge papers, marriage license, car title, recent bank statements, and tax returns?

**4 Go Slowly.** If possible, delay making major decisions for at least six months after your spouse's death. If this is not possible—if financial or other considerations force you to make a major decision—seek the best advice available. Major decisions include items such as selling your home, making major purchases, giving away large sums of money to children or charities, or moving in with an adult child. Any or all of these decisions may eventually be right for you, but slow down and give yourself time. You need to grieve.

**5 Contact your spouse's former employer.** Check for unpaid wages, accrued and unpaid sick time and vacation days. Ask about retirement benefits and life insurance your spouse would have been entitled to receive.

**6 Ask the funeral director for at least 10 death certificates.** You will need one for creditors, the Social Security Administration, insurance claims, department of motor vehicles, etc.

**7 Contact the Social Security Administration to notify them of your spouse's death and check on your own Social Security benefit and your survivor benefit.** If you and your spouse already have been collecting Social Security benefits, you should receive the larger of the two payments.

**8 Order a copy of credit reports for both you and your spouse.** This will help you locate any accounts or creditors of which you were not aware. Notify the credit bureaus of your spouse's death. Destroy your spouse's credit cards. Notify the card companies regarding your spouse's death.

**9 Go to the bank or any other financial institution where you have joint accounts and change those accounts to your name only.**

**10 Call the Motor Vehicle Administration to cancel your spouse's license and arrange to have the titles on any vehicles changed to your name.** ONE

If you need help, ask for it. Remember the people who said, "If you need anything, just let me know"? If you need help, don't hesitate to ask a friend, a family member, or a trusted financial planner for it. Losing a spouse is traumatic, and even though the pressing decisions may be overwhelming, you will get through it. Just give yourself time.

.....  
**About the Writer:** D. Ray Lewis joined the Board of Retirement in 1983. He became director in 2005 after serving for several years as assistant director.

# Stop worrying and start enjoying!

**With a Charitable Gift Annuity,** you will enjoy secure, fixed income for life regardless of how the stock market performs so you can stop worrying and enjoy your grandkids!

Your gift will not only benefit WNAC, it will also benefit you with competitive rates, tax-free income, and a charitable deduction.



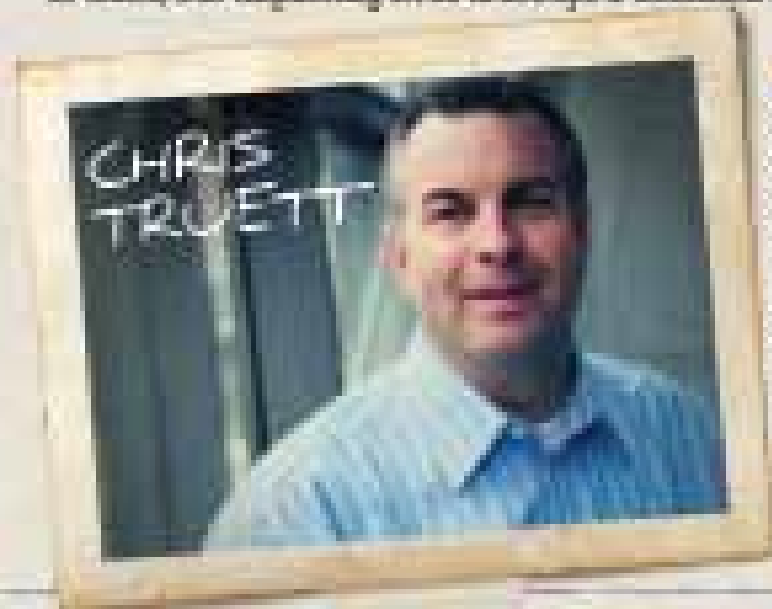
**Learn more today!**



877-336-7575  
[FWBgifts.org](http://FWBgifts.org)

# LeaderProfile >>>

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 constant theme. *By Pam Hunter*



**Can't explain it? Then it must be God doing it.** When asked what he's open to see happen at Bethel Free Will Baptist Church in Winston, North Carolina, other than the obvious, Chris responded with, "I want to see something happen that can't be explained other than knowing God is moving." Leadership allows God's agenda to replace ours. Chris would God is currently working in an unexplained manner as he leads his pastor, Archie Ruffel, challenged the congregation to raise \$100,000 for the World Mission Offering to assist humanitarian missions through a tough year. Amazingly, the congregation exceeded that goal.

Chris serves as associate pastor and minister of music at Bethel, and his wife Kim serves as the music director at Bethel Christian Academy. He left the call to full-time ministry in middle school, but as a junior in high school needed it with God as he publicly announced his calling during a revival with Doug Little. Chris continued and developed his calling while in Truth and Peace Leadership Conference, a ministry of Randall House, and all of this could not have happened without the godly influence of his parents, the late Rev. Sam and Ann Truett.

When discussing his morning quiet time, Chris shared a detailed regimen but quickly added that he and his family could tell when it was not his priority because quiet time is where God does everything in his life. Daily with his Southern Bible, Chris reads several Psalms, a Proverb, a chapter from the pastoral epistles before jumping into a topical study and always ends with reading a leadership article or blog.

*Chris, you are a great leader!* |

**Describe an ideal date for you and Kim.** We love to hike in the Smokies, shoot darts in a bar, and have dinner on the waterway. We also enjoy that time to talk and share.

**What is your greatest love or vice this point?** One of the greatest joys in my family is with and for beyond the most important people I love. Beyond what this means, my hope is that in the future, I can be a joyful husband and father to the next generation of Christians.

**What is your biggest challenge in your leadership style?** For those who face the most challenges, my greatest challenge is with cultural trends, fears, and joys. These require a compassion for some people who face cultural challenges, but there is no other way to say it.

**What are the top three books you have ever read (other than the Bible)?**  
*Good Works: True Christianity* by John Piper  
*Ministry: Making by Bob Knutson*  
*Discipleship* by Will Duffley  
*David's Prayer*

**What are you reading now?**  
*King David's Essential Experience by David Henry*  
*Worship by John Maxwell*

**Tell me your wife's vision and a new word description for words.**  
 Vision (21) - Family  
 Justice (12) - Justice  
 Justice (7) - Justice

**Pages on Martin Luther King's Questions**  
 Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" Speech  
 Martin Luther King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail"  
 (The Atlanta Constitution)  
 Civil Rights Movement (1955-1968)  
 King's "I Have a Dream" Speech  
 King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail"  
 King's "I Have a Dream" Speech

**How Free Will Baptist churches and classes work together**

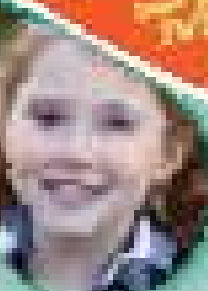
**For youth in the Tri-State area**

- Retreats, devotions, etc.
- Large group events
- Synopses, leadership, etc.



# elements

FOR YOUTH



# GOD IS FAITHFUL

2012 National Association of Free Will Baptists | Memphis, Tennessee | July 15-18

“God is Faithful” will serve as the theme for the 76th annual National Association of Free Will Baptists. The four-day event will feature worship services, business sessions, NYC competitive activities, and seminars—all held in the Memphis Cook Convention Center (MCCC). Plan to join 6,000 Free Will Baptists from across the country and around the world as we celebrate God’s faithfulness and conduct the business of the denomination.

## 2012 PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

### Saturday, July 14

IMPACT Memphis  
Various Locations  
10:00 am – 6:00 pm  
Registration Opens  
3:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
MCCC Grand Lobby

### Sunday, July 15

Registration (Open Daily)  
8:00 am – 7:00 pm  
MCCC Grand Lobby  
Sunday School\*  
10:00 am – 10:45 am  
MCCC Main Hall  
Morning Worship\*  
11:00 am – Noon  
MCCC Main Hall  
Evening Worship\*  
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm  
MCCC Main Hall  
NYC Judges Reception  
9:00 pm  
MCCC L14

\*See NYC Program for Youth

### Monday, July 16

General Board Meeting  
8:00 am – 2:30 pm  
MCCC Ballroom A  
Reach That Guy Service Projects  
Monday-Wednesday  
8:00 am – 4:00 pm  
MCCC: RTG Booth

NYC Competitive Activities  
8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
MCCC  
RHP & NYC Seminars  
10:00 am – 4:00 pm  
MCCC: Various Locations  
Aaron Wilburn Concert  
(sponsored by Master’s Men)  
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
MCCC Chickasaw/Mississippi

Theological Trends Seminar  
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm  
MCCC Main Hall

Exhibits Open  
3:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
MCCC South Hall

Mission: North America  
Appreciation Dinner  
5:15 pm – 6:30 pm  
MCCC: Ballroom B

Evening Worship  
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm  
MCCC Main Hall

Youth Evangelistic Team Program  
9:00 pm  
Cannon Center

### Tuesday, July 17

WNAC Business Session  
8:00 am – 9:00 am  
MCCC Ballroom A

NYC Competitive Activities  
8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
MCCC: Various Locations

WNAC Worship Service  
9:15 am – 10:30 am  
MCCC Ballroom A

Preaching Conference  
10:00 am – 11:45 am  
MCCC Main Hall

RHP & NYC Seminars  
10:00 am – 4:00 pm  
MCCC: Various Locations

Exhibits Open  
10:00 am – 10:00 pm  
MCCC South Hall

WNAC Seminars  
10:45 am – 11:45 am  
MCCC

WNAC Luncheon  
Noon – 1:30 pm  
MCCC Ballroom B

WNAC Brainstorming Sessions  
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm  
MCCC

Convention Business Session  
1:30 pm – 4:00 pm  
MCCC Main Hall

YET Reunion  
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
MCCC L14

Evening Worship  
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm  
MCCC Main Hall

Aaron Shust Concert  
9:00 pm  
Cannon Center

### Wednesday, July 18

NYC Competition Finals  
8:00 am – 12:00 pm  
MCCC Steamboat

Convention Business Session  
9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
MCCC Main Hall

Sean McDowell Student  
Ministry Seminars  
9:00 am – 12:00 pm  
MCCC Sultana

RTG/Red Cross Blood Drive  
10:00 am – 2:00 pm  
MCCC L5-7

RHP & NYC Seminars  
10:00 am – 4:30 pm  
MCCC: Various Locations

Exhibits Open  
10:00 am – 9:30 pm  
MCCC South Hall

FWBBC Alumni & Friends  
Luncheon  
Noon – 1:30 pm  
MCCC: Ballroom B

GPS-X Cross Cultural Experience  
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
MCCC Cotton Row

Evening Worship  
6:45 pm – 8:45 pm  
MCCC Main Hall

NYC Awards Ceremony  
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm  
MCCC Main Hall

## CONVENTION SPEAKERS



**Thomas Bee**  
(Alabama)  
Sunday School



**Garnett Reid**  
(Tennessee)  
Sunday Morning



**Paul Bryant**  
(Mississippi)  
Sunday Evening



**Mike Gladson**  
(Tennessee)  
Monday Evening



**Jon Cannon**  
(Illinois)  
Tuesday Night



**Ernie Lewis**  
(Illinois)  
Wednesday Night



**Gary Fry**  
(Tennessee)  
Tuesday Preaching  
Conference

# IMPACT MEMPHIS

Saturday, July 14, 2012 | Memphis, Tennessee

On Saturday, July 16, 2011, 258 participants from 10 states and 19 churches went to work in Charlotte, North Carolina, going door-to-door to distribute flyers in neighborhoods near East Belmont Free Will Baptist Church, painting the fellowship building and landscaping at the Bessemer FWB Church, and finishing out drywall at Joshua Youth Camp in Abermerle. Others visited Springwood Free Will Baptist Church in Belmont to help the church host a neighborhood block party. Their efforts marked the sixth year for the annual one-day evangelism and service campaign called Impact.

Over the six-year history of the event, nearly 2,000 volunteers have participated. “We look forward to this all year,” said Marcia McCarty. Her family has participated all six years, and according to Marcia, they can no longer imagine a convention without Impact.

This year, Impact will turn its attention to Memphis. Volunteers can go door-to-door in Operation Saturation at Oakland FWB Church, remove logs and debris from the land adjacent to Liberty FWB Church in Millington, or participate in an outreach event delivering bottled water to neighborhood ballfields with Cross Creek FWB Church in Olive Branch, Mississippi. There is something for everyone.

Sign up for Impact Memphis or learn more by visiting [www.fwbmastersmen.org](http://www.fwbmastersmen.org). “We want to see you involved,” said Impact Director Ken Akers. “There is no telling how much we can accomplish in one day if we only work together.” **ONE**



**Rick Cash**  
(Alabama)  
Tuesday Preaching  
Conference

## CONVENTION MUSIC UPDATE

The 2012 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 the Memphis Convention Center Main Hall. Anyone wishing to join the ensemble should send name, address, phone number, and church name to [ctruett@bethelfwb.com](mailto:ctruett@bethelfwb.com). Joshua Riggs, worship leader at Bethany FWB Church in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, will lead worship each evening. Visit his website at [www.jkriggs.com](http://www.jkriggs.com) or follow him on twitter at [www.twitter.com/jkriggs](http://www.twitter.com/jkriggs).

On Monday afternoon, at 2:00 p.m., Free Will Master’s Men will sponsor a free concert featuring Aaron Wilburn—Christian musician, comedian and storyteller—who is known for leaving his audiences laughing and crying at the same. Tickets will be available in the registration area.



# Pre-Registration

National Association of Free Will Baptists

WNAC | NYC | Memphis, Tennessee | July 15-18, 2012

**One Form Per Person | Register Online: [www.nafwb.org](http://www.nafwb.org) | Name Badges Required for All Events**

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Country (if outside USA) \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church You Attend \_\_\_\_\_ Church City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

## National Association

(All voting delegates must be members in good standing of a FWB church.)

### Voting Delegates:

- National Board/Commission Member
- Ordained Minister
- Ordained Deacon
- State Delegate (Authorization Required)
- Local Church Delegate (Delegate Card Required) **\$150**

### Non-Voting:

- Licensed Minister
- Attendee (includes infants and toddlers)

### Tickets:

Friends of Hillsdale Reception.....Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tuesday, July 17, 8:30 pm  
 FWBBC Alumni and Friends Luncheon ...Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wednesday, July 18, 12:00 noon

**National Association Information: [www.nafwb.org](http://www.nafwb.org)**

## National Youth Conference

### Preschool:

- Ages 3-5, Attending Preschool Worship - **\$25** (\$35 on-site)
- Ages 0-5, Not Attending Preschool Worship - NO FEE

### Students: \$25

Any student attending any NYC competition or event MUST pay \$25 (\$35 on-site).

- Grades 1-3
- Grades 4-6
- Grades 7-12

### College Age / Adults: \$15

Adults attending any NYC competition or event MUST pay \$15.

- Adult Attendee (No students or children)

### Tickets:

NYC concert featuring Aaron Shust.....Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tuesday, July 17, 9:00 pm

**NYC Information: 800-877-7030 | [www.fwbny.com](http://www.fwbny.com)**

## Women Nationally Active for Christ

### Voting Delegates:

- National Executive Committee
- State President
- State Field Worker
- State Delegate (Authorization Required)
- Local WNAC Delegate **\$10**

### Non-Voting:

- Missionary
- Attendee

### Tickets:

WNAC Luncheon.....Qty \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tuesday, July 17, 12:00 noon

**WNAC Information: 877-767-7662 | [www.wnac.org](http://www.wnac.org)**

## Register April 2–June 15, 2012 (postmarked) No Refunds After June 15

### PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- + Check (Payable to FWB Convention)
- + Visa or MasterCard only (both debit and credit cards accepted)

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### RETURN TO:

#### Convention Registration

PO Box 5002  
 Antioch, TN 37011 / FAX: 615-731-0771

**Questions: 877-767-7659 / [convention@nafwb.org](mailto:convention@nafwb.org)**

Office Use Only: Date \_\_\_\_\_ CK# \_\_\_\_\_ Amt \$ \_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_

# Convention Housing

2012 National Association of Free Will Baptists

## Crowne Plaza Memphis Downtown

300 N Second Street  
Memphis, TN 38105  
Phone: 800-2CROWNE | 901-525-1800  
Rate: \$129  
Group Code: NAB  
Self-Parking: \$10 | Valet: \$18



**Note: Reservations can be made by telephone or internet directly through the hotel.**



## Memphis Marriott Downtown (HQ)

250 N Main Street  
Memphis, TN 38103  
Phone: 888-557-8740 | 901-527-7300  
Rate: \$129  
Self-Parking: \$18 | Valet: \$20



## DoubleTree by Hilton Memphis Downtown

185 Union Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38103  
Phone: 800-222-8733 | 901-528-1800  
Rate: \$129  
Group Code: NAF  
Valet Parking: \$12



**\*Room rates do not include applicable taxes (15.95%).**

### 1. Prepare Personal Information

You will need the following:

- +Name(s)
- +Address, City, State, Zip
- +Phone/Email
- +Credit Card Information
- +Special Requests:
  - Non-Smoking Room
  - Wheelchair Accessibility
  - Rollaway Bed
  - Crib

### 2. Contact Your Hotel of Choice

(See details above.)

Reservations will open at 9 am, CST, 10 am, EST, Monday, May 7, 2012. Hotels have been instructed **NOT TO ACCEPT** reservations before this time.

- +Hotels may limit the number of reservations made by an individual.
- +Cut-off date: Friday, June 15, 2012.

### 3. Receive Your Confirmation

**On May 7, links to hotel reservations will become available at:**

**[www.nafwb.org](http://www.nafwb.org).**



# GOD'S MIGHTY HAND

## EXPLORE THE WONDERS...

### SCHEDULE

8:00 am	Business Session
9:00 am	Break
9:15 am	Worship Service: "A Mighty Hand in Adversity" <i>Terri Roberts</i>
10:30 am	Break
10:45 am	Seminars "A Mighty Hand of Comfort" <i>Depression: Dr. Neil Gilliland</i> "A Mighty Hand of Resource" <i>Time and Money Management: Jonda Patton and Amy Johnson</i> "A Mighty Hand of Guidance" <i>Parenting: Janie Campbell and Debe Taylor with Pam Hackett</i>
11:45 am	Break
12:00 pm	WNAC Luncheon* "A Mighty Hand of Protection" <i>Ruth Bivens</i>
1:30 pm	Brainstorming Sessions
8:30 pm	State Presidents and Field Workers' Reception**

\* Ticketed event: \$25 per person.  
Purchase online at [www.nafwb.org](http://www.nafwb.org).

\*\* By invitation only.

### 2012 WNAC Convention | July 17, Memphis, TN

Terri Roberts—wife, mother, and grandmother—led a relatively quiet life until six years ago, when an unthinkable tragedy in her community, a tragedy for which one of her beloved sons was responsible, propelled Terri into the public's eye.

She describes herself as one who has walked through circumstances beyond her own ability to cope yet has found strength and even joy along the way. Enjoy her message of God's grace given and received.

Ruth Bivens serves alongside her husband Bud as missionary advisor for IBLAC in Altamira, Mexico. Early in their marriage, God used two years of Peace Corps work in Bolivia to mold and impact this nurse and deacon for the rest of their lives.

When Bud took early retirement in 1995, they entered full-time missions ministry, establishing and assisting Spanish-speaking congregations in Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Missouri.

Throughout those years, they have observed God's mighty hand of protection, through debilitating illnesses, family crises, a potentially fatal car accident, and now in the throes of political unrest and escalating drug-related violence south of the border.



Terri Roberts



Ruth Bivens

# NYC2012

Free Will Baptist National Youth Conference



for there is **no other name** under heaven by which we **MUST BE SAVED** acts 4:12

### Challenging MESSAGES



Darin Gibbs



Josh Baer

### Passionate WORSHIP

### Tuesday NIGHT Concert



Aaron Shust

### OUTREACH Opportunities



David Outlaw



Sean McDowell

# Leroy Forlines and the Commission for Theological Integrity

by Paul V. Harrison

**Leroy Forlines has left an indelible imprint upon the Free Will Baptist denomination. One particular area involves the Commission for Theological Integrity. The fascinating history of the Commission begins at the 1959 national meeting in Asheville, North Carolina. The Resolutions Committee presented and the body passed the following:**

*Whereas our American heritage has suffered at the hands of theological liberalism and other encroachments, and*

*Whereas Protestant denominations have been engulfed by infidelity to the Bible, and*

*Whereas the progress of missions has been hindered by the modernists' social gospel, and*  
*Whereas Scriptural education has been replaced by non-Christian philosophies in many schools, and*

*Whereas the Free Will Baptist denomination is not immune to those dangers,*

*Therefore, be it resolved that a commission be appointed to study the menaces of theological liberalism, secularism, worldliness, etc., and*

*Be it further resolved that a report of this commission's work be made to this body at the next session.*

The next year in Fresno, California, this newly formed commission, made up of Ronald Creech, Bobby Jackson, Paul J. Kettman, N. R. Smith, and chaired by R. Eugene Waddell, reported: *"As we see it, Free Will Baptists are approaching a crossroads. Within the decade additional measures should be taken to insure our future against modernism or else trends toward liberalism might set the stage for false doctrine in years to come."* They added: *"More care should be taken by ordaining councils in ordination."* They further recommended that the commission be made a permanent part of the denomination's structure.

Behind the scenes, the group was even more pointed in its concern over the fu-

ture of the denomination. In response to a private questionnaire regarding the commission, Waddell wrote: *"The future of F.W.B.s could well be hanging in the balance of our work."* Creech put it this way: *"This work can make us or break us, maybe save or ruin our denomination."*

Though busy finishing up his graduate studies and therefore unable to attend the 1962 national association in Nashville, F. Leroy Forlines was elected to serve on the new Commission. The 1963 national minutes indicate that Brother Forlines was selected to chair the Commission. With the exception of a few years in the late 1960s when Wade Jernigan served as chairman, Professor Forlines has directed the Commission since its beginning. The 2012 national association therefore marks the completion of 50 years of service by Brother Forlines on the Commission.

In his role, Brother Forlines worked alongside many influential Free Will Baptist leaders including L. C. Johnson, J. D. O'Donnell, Wade Jernigan, Van Dale Hudson, Jack Parramore, Mark Vandevort, Bill Jones, Willie Justice, Edwin Wade, to name a few.

The Commission work, especially early in its existence, was strictly focused on issues of modernism and liberalism. In a February 7, 2012, interview, Forlines said the Commission's task over the years has thankfully been one "not of rooting out but preventing."

It is interesting that in 1970, some were urging the Commission to investigate individuals within the denomination. The national minutes of 1970 state: *"it is our understanding that this is not a*



*'Witch Hunt Committee.'*"

The next year, under Forlines's leadership, the Commission stated: *"This is not an investigative commission with the purpose of accusing individuals. The Commission will strictly deal with issues."*

The Commission has evolved somewhat over the years. Reflecting a broader area of responsibility, in 1986 the group was renamed the Commission for Theological Integrity, whose purpose is outlined in the Free Will Baptist *Treatise*: *"The purpose of this Commission shall be: (a) To alert our people of theological trends that could threaten our theological integrity as a denomination. (b) To prepare materials that will contribute to the continued preservation of the theological integrity of our denomination. (c) As the need and opportunity arise to conduct seminars on subjects which are pertinent to the purpose of this Commission."*

Under Forlines' leadership and springing from these guidelines, a seminar has been hosted for many years at the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Additionally, annual symposia in which theological papers by Free Will Baptists are read and discussed have been held since 1997. In 2000, the Commission began publishing *Integrity: A Journal of Christian Thought*.

The Commission, and Brother Forlines in particular, addressed many of the controversial issues that rocked the Christian community in recent decades. For example, in 1978, he penned the booklet *Inerrancy and the Scriptures*, asserting *"what it [the Bible] affirms to be*

true is true” (p. 15). He further noted “since the product is called the Word of God, we must conclude that the inspiration of the Holy Spirit so influenced the writers of the Bible that they did not introduce error into their writing” (p. 20).

For many years, Forlines preached, taught, and wrote against “cheap-easy believism,” the idea that genuine Christian faith could exist in harmony with a “light view of sin and holiness.” He wrote: “Such a position has no support in Scripture” (p. 5, *Cheap-Easy Believism*). Back in 1975 he lamented: “The church has weakened its standards and preaching about sin,” concluding, “we need some prophets in our pulpits” (p. 25).

In 1982, Forlines wrote a scathing denunciation of “health and wealth” preachers. Responding to “name it and claim it” proponents, the Commission chairman stated: “Faith does not put us

in the driver’s seat giving orders to God on how to run the universe or what to do about a specific part of the universe that concerns us. Rather, faith is believing the promises of God” and “we must have a specific promise before we can have specific faith” (*Prophets of Prosperity*, p. 21).

He addressed other topics including the broader charismatic movement, evolution, Bible versions, cooperative evangelism with non-Free Will Baptists such as Billy Graham, etc. In spite of varying viewpoints in the denomination, Forlines never allowed the Commission “to become a political football” (interview, February 7, 2012).

Forlines is quick to say that the work of the Commission and the denomination is not over. Our greatest need, he says, is “to settle what salvation is.” Harking back to his battles with cheap-easy believism, he sees the current in-

vasion of carnality into the Church as a terrible development. He recently said that if in print one from our ranks were to espouse “salvation without holiness,” our leaders would rise up in alarm, but it’s happening right now in our churches with little apparent concern. He warned: “The situation that is ahead of us now is harder than was ahead of us when the Commission was formed.”

Forlines is still pleading for prophets of holiness, who will help us restore “a Christian culture in the Church.” He asserted: “We’ve got to get down to the moral foundations of the Ten Commandments.”

We commend Leroy Forlines for his faithful leadership of the Commission in days gone by and pray that his call for theological fidelity will continue to be heard during the challenging days before us. **ONE**

**About the Writer:** Paul V. Harrison pastors Cross Timbers FWB Church near Nashville, TN. He serves on the Commission for Theological Integrity.

# IMPACT MEMPHIS

Saturday, July 14, 2012 | Memphis, Tennessee



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

## One to ONE >>>>

### *Confessions of a Convention Rookie*

I attended my first Free Will Baptist national convention in July 1974 at Wichita, Kansas. I was a student at Hillsdale College, and my wife and I served as volunteer youth leaders in the church her father pastored.

We tackled the ambitious goal of transporting several students to the convention. We wanted them to experience this unique event. Sponsors were enlisted, arrangements made for time off from work, and fundraisers scheduled. To ensure a memorable experience for the teens and to save money, we decided to travel together in the old 66-passenger church bus.

After the Sunday morning service at our Oklahoma City church, we loaded the young folks with their mountain of luggage and embarked on the two-and-a-half hour trip to Wichita. Somewhere near the halfway point of the journey, the engine in the bus backfired and began making a horrendous noise. Although I was not a mechanic, I knew we had big problems. In minutes we found ourselves broken down on the shoulder of the road.

The temperature topped out at over 100° that afternoon, and we had to come up with Plan B quickly. After making arrangements to have the bus towed and repaired in a neighboring community, we sent sponsors back home to secure alternate transportation. (Remember, this was long before cell phones.)

In the meantime, many other Free Will Baptists were traveling that stretch of interstate on their way to the convention. Several stopped and offered assistance. Thankfully, with their help, we managed to “farm out” the teens and their luggage and get them safely to Wichita. Because of the delay, however, we missed the Sunday evening youth service.

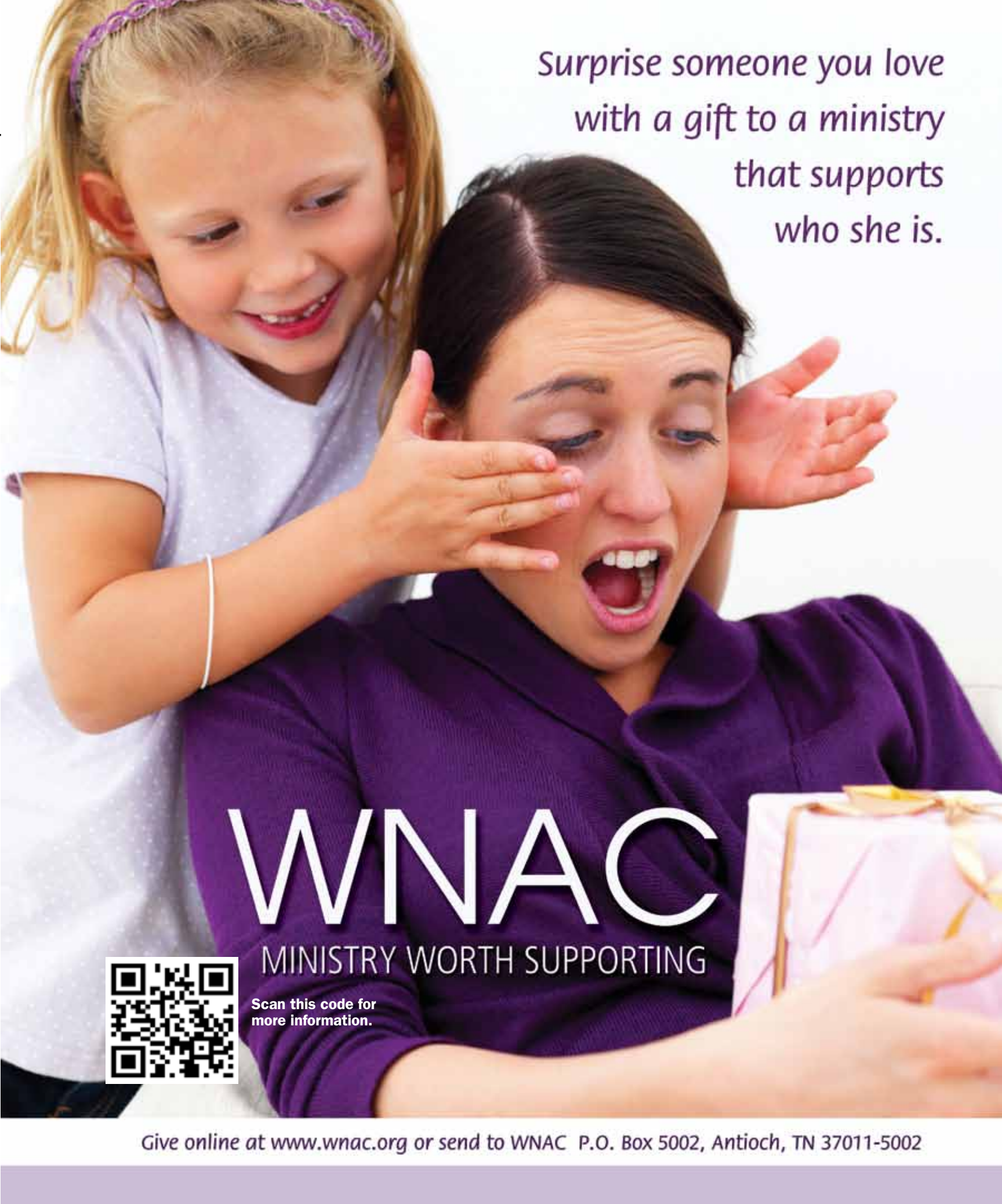


Upon arrival, I quickly rounded up members of the youth group. They were scattered throughout several downtown hotel lobbies. In my haste, as I ran across a busy intersection, I fell and tore the knee out of my only suit. It was a long, frustrating day.

Just when we thought things couldn't get more wacky, they did. At the conclusion of an evening service, we walked outside to be greeted by a group of “streakers.” (This was the 1970s.) The police swiftly whisked them away, but not before our young teens had an “eye-opening” experience. Unbelievable!

In spite of everything that went wrong that week, we enjoyed many positive, memorable experiences. I remember the thrill of lifting my voice with thousands during congregational singing. I was amazed at the talent I heard from those who provided special music. I sat spellbound listening to gifted communicators preach the Word of God. I made friendships that endure to this day. I was hooked.

Each year, thousands of Free Will Baptists take vacation time, raise funds, and bring families and youth groups to the national convention. I appreciate their faithfulness, sacrifice, and effort to attend. For them it's more than an event—it's an investment. It's a family reunion that involves singing, preaching, fellowship, business, and much more. In spite of my rough start, I've only missed one convention in 38 years. I hope you'll join us this year in Memphis. **ONE**



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# STORM WARRIORS...

When the **Collista Free Will Baptist Church** near Paintsville, Kentucky, was struck by a tornado, turning it into a pile of rubble in the highway beside the church, Master's Men and the Free Will Baptist Disaster Response Team sprang into action. They assembled a team and went to the aid of the Collista community (read more, page 9).

But disaster relief is only a small part of this important ministry...**What can Master's Men help YOU do?**



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