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Pastors Oasis...Ministering To The Minister

What If?

What if God has plans for you beyond anything you've ever dreamed?

What if you are on the verge of tremendous spiritual breakthroughs?

What if your obstacles could be turned into opportunities?

What if our best years are before us...not behind us?

The Pastors Oasis, a time of rest, relaxation, and renewal, is one of the best events the Baptist Missionary Association offers to its pastors and their wives. Offered by DiscipleGuide Conference Ministry, the event seeks to minister to those on the front lines of ministry and church leadership. Participants in Pastors Oasis in past years continue to make it the one "can't miss" event each fall. This year's Oasis promises to be one of the most exciting ever.

The 2010 edition of Oasis will be October 6-8 at the Chateau on the Lake in Branson and, unlike events of the past, will feature three guest speakers...three young men with a message of hope and challenge! The theme for this year's PO is Future Church. Pastors Scott Attebery and Clif Johnson will be speaking on the topics of communicating and discipling a new generation. Newly-elected Executive Director of Mission, John David Smith, will be speaking on evangelizing and missions in the future church. Each of these speakers will be preceded in worship led by Kent Wiles, one of the most talented young musicians anywhere. Just like our speakers, Kent comes from a family with a rich heritage of leadership in the BMA of America.

In addition to the great line-up of worship leader and speakers, Oasis will have some extraordinary artists sharing their gifts this year. Musicians include John Waller on Wednesday afternoon, the Burchfield Brothers on Thursday morning, and Jason Crabb performing at the annual banquet on Thursday night. The Friday morning session will be preceded by Mike Lewis, the Jesus Painter.

DiscipleGuide Conference Ministry has worked hard to make Pastors Oasis affordable for pastors of all size churches. The event itself only costs \$75 per person (\$85 after September 3rd or \$95 if you stay off-site) which doesn't cover the actual expense. Kirk Shelton, Pastoral Ministries Consultant for DiscipleGuide, explains, "We want to invest in the lives, marriages, and ministries of our pastors and staffs. It's our conviction that a spiritually healthy pastor, with a healthy marriage, can build and lead a healthy church."

October of every year is Pastor Appreciation Month across the U.S.

Churches are encouraged to honor their pastors, wives and staff by sending them to Branson for this life-changing time of rest, relaxation, and renewal. You may register online at www.DiscipleGuide.org or call the DCM office at 501.513.3726 with any questions. Make your reservations at Chateau on the Lake by calling 888-333-5253 to secure the group rate of \$125 by September 3.

2010 VSM Basketball Mission

This year's VSM Basketball Mission to Ukraine had a blessed experience supporting new church plants in the country of Ukraine. The team worked under the direction of BMAA International Missionary Laura Kanyakina and her husband Andrea. Several tournaments were promoted across Ukrainian cities to help in outreach opportunities for local churches and new church plants. The team also ministered in two Gypsy camps leading in Bible stories, games and singing with hundreds of Gypsy children.

The team members hailed from three states, Arkansas, Mississippi, Texas, and the country of Russia which sent us two students from the Russian city of Georgiski were we served last year.

Plans are to return to Ukraine in the Summer of 2011. Students interested in being part of this team can apply under the VSM heading of the national BMAA website, www.bmaam.net. We are looking for students with good basketball skills.

Students who love basketball, but love God more. For more information contact Stan Scroggins at 870-562-9409 - stan@fbcmagnolia.com.



Pictured are: Zac Whitker/Texas, Jordan Raggion/Texas, Martez Wells/Mississippi, Tyler Eggers/Mississippi, Chris Hamilton/Arkansas, Pat Anderson/Arkansas, Chris Vines/Arkansas, Illya/Russia, Oleg/Russia.

Let's Go Shopping

by Ralph Izard, M.D.

Today, the temperature is 102 degrees and the humidity is high, so Christmas presents don't readily come to mind! But when a van arrived at the

warehouse to deliver over 100 shoeboxes, I thought about the boys and girls in El Salvador and Armenia who had never received a gift or heard about Jesus Christ. So, I decided to go Christmas shopping.



When I arrived at my favorite Dollar Tree store and began to look for the suggested items to go into the shoeboxes, it became evident that with multiple items in many of the packages, I could actually pack 2 or 3 shoeboxes for about the same price as one shoebox. Then, after a side trip to Wal Mart I was all set.

When I began to check out at Dollar Tree, the cashier asked me what the

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by Dwight Lindsey - State Youth Director

"...these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

Thank you for allowing your BMA of Mississippi Youth De-



partment to be involved in the lives your children. Our goal is to fill your children's hearts with the word of God as we are all



instructed to do in the passage provided earlier from Deuteronomy 6:6 & 7.

I am not on cloud nine, as they say but, I know that myself and your young people have been surrounded by a cloud of wit-



nesses praying for all our events this summer. Peaceful and easy were definitely not the two words I would have guessed I would use to describe my first camp season as director but, wow!

God's grace is amazing in our

salvation and in all other aspects of day to day life. Here is



a list of what the Lord blessed me to be able to witness this summer.

Tombigbee/Judson Association Camp, 81 registered campers, 4 profession of faith; State Junior Camp, 121 registered campers, 2 profession of faith;



Harmony Association Camp, 107 registered campers, 6 profession of faith. Words and numbers cannot come close to describing the joy and tears shared with children, ministers and sponsors this summer.

I ask that you would continue to support us in your prayers and with your giving. I know annual business meetings are coming up in our churches and I challenge you and your church



if you already support the Youth Department please pray about increasing your support by \$5 a month. If you or your church is not supporting the Youth department pray about adding us to your monthly budget. Any-

Plans In Works for 2011 Conferences

Time is swiftly passing. Here we are in mid-August. I am writing this article on August 11. It reminds me of the passage of Scripture in Jeremiah 8:20, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended and we are not saved." Jesus said, "... lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." The fields are filled with men, women, children who know not God. The fields are filled with people who belong to some church. Yes, many of these are members of Baptist churches, and many belong to BMA churches. Jesus also said that "... the laborers are few. . ." Luke 10:2. We must all be witnesses and soul-winners where we are.

Summer Months

During the summer our senior adult groups do their own thing. They conduct their regular meetings, travel, and they enjoy their fellowship. The senior adults support their churches with their money and their presence. I am sure that the seniors are among the best praying groups in the church. Many seniors are great encouragers. In my pastorates I found that some of the most faithful encouragers were senior adults. It seemed that the older ladies had a gift to encourage.

God gives us pastors and others that see the worth in seeing after the faithful seniors. God

thing from \$5 to \$25 a month can go a long way towards the funding of new and existing programs for your youth. I ask for monthly giving instead of occasional offerings because I want the Youth Department to be on your mind in prayer at least once a month when you write your check or see us on your churches financial statement.

Thank you all again for everything you have done for me personally and the Youth De-



partment. Please pray with us about these important questions. If the Lord delays His coming, we will push for a full house in both conferences. It is so good to see a house filled with these who seek to worship and praise the Lord.

Vern D. Holifield, Director
4226 Highway 15 North
Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Commission on Senior Adults

good meal.

2011 Conferences

We are already working and planning for the 2011 conferences. The Big Creek Church, Soso, will host the South Conference. We are working on a place for the North Conference. There are some new activities floating around our mind. We are not sure what will be the final decision. I am praying about a theme. Last year the theme was Evangelism, Discipleship or Discipling might be the theme. I would like for the conferences to give aid and support to the work of the church. We want to encourage the pastor and every church member to be active in reaching others with the gospel. We want to help inspire our people to disciple those we win to Christ. The young and the old need to be taught the importance of making disciples and also discipling those who are

partment. Pray for our upcoming Winter Camp (December 29th -31st) for teens at Campground Baptist Church and keep an eye on your mailbox for registration information. If you have a Facebook account check us out at BMA of MS Youth for pictures videos and information updates.

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

Psalm 119:9

Budget Time

I am sure that some churches have already planned their budget for next year. If your church is yet to plan your budget, please consider placing the Commission in your budget

giving if you are not already doing so. If your church is giving on a regular basis then we thank you. If you choose to increase, well that is alright too. As you know the cost of everything continues to rise. We want to continue to promote the Commission in the local associations. When invited, I visit churches and I speak and promote the Commission.

BMF Scholarship Needs Support

For the past few years, the Baptist Music Fellowship of America (BMF) has made scholarships in the amount of \$250 per semester available to a music student at Central Baptist College and Jacksonville College. The purpose of this scholarship is to encourage a student who will continue to be actively involved in church music following the completion of his or her college career.

This scholarship is funded entirely from dues and donations paid to the BMF. The BMF is in much need of your financial support in order to continue offering this scholarship. If you would like to help with this scholarship, please send your offering to the BMF of America, 1604 Hunting Green Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76134.

Students who are eligible to receive the BMF scholarship should contact the office of financial aid at their school for more information.

The BMF serves as an auxiliary of the BMAA to provide and coordinate music, concerts, special music and congregational singing. The BMF Facebook page is at <http://www.facebook.com/BaptistMusicFellowship>.

Which One Is Lost?

Luke 15:11-32 is the "23rd Psalm of Luke." I believe most of us read this passage more than any other in Luke's gospel. I have heard more sermons from this story than any other of the 24 chapters. Books with myriads of embellishments parade on countless shelves regarding this story. It is a universal and timeless characterization of us all.

Yes, it is a story of a younger son. He is the one that gets most of the attention in the circles where I was born and lived my younger life. Yes, it is the story of a father. He is the one who longs for the younger son to return and the older brother to rejoice and join the celebration. I understand his point of view more clearly as I come to the point of grandfatherhood in my own journey. Yes, it is the story of an older brother. His obdurate heart would not let him celebrate the joy of the father in the return of the younger brother. I see this in my own experience and observe this in the life of my family, community and church.

This story has been called the "Parable of the Prodigal Son" for so many years I have trouble focusing on any character other than the younger sibling. Yet that is not all there is to this passage. The father must be considered a prime player; for it was he who welcomed the prodigal home. He repeatedly kissed the swine dirt encrusted son! It was the father who repeatedly called to the obstinate son at work to come into the party.

Which son was lost? To be certain the younger son was a prodigal, but only for a specific time. He repented to return to the father. So it seems he was found to be no longer counted lost. The older brother never left home, his work and his being with the father. Yet, his spirit would not let him cooperate with the father or the joy the father wanted for him in the home. It seems to me the lost son is this older brother — the one lost to the family, to relationships, to a life-fulfilling experience of forgiveness and to the father.

"I will not come in to the celebration. You cannot make me come in to the festivity. I will never come to the party. I will not be a participant so long as my brother is welcomed like this." Yes, he was lost. The older brother is the "Prodigal Son" because he never found home. Even though he was at the house and with the family, his heart was not there. His soul had no connection to his father, his younger brother, or to his home.

So many times I have been an older brother in my response to the grace and mercy of God at work in Christ. I have said "No!" to the joy and celebration of the marvel of the redemption of the Holy Spirit in the lives of people who are certainly and amazingly changed in repentance. God, forgive me for being an older brother, lost to the wonder, love and praise of Your holiness as You work in my world in my day and in my time. I want to come in to the party. I want to join the celebration to share joy with the Father with my brothers and sisters as we all take into account grace upon grace in our lives.



Leave It To Cleaver

Tony Cleaver

CHURCH NEWS



News articles should contain information that will be of interest to the general public who are not members of the church that is reporting.

Full time Music-Education position

Bethel Baptist Church in Fulton, Mississippi, is looking for a full-time music/education director. Anyone interested in applying for this position should send a resume to: Bethel Baptist Church, Attn.: Dr. Martin Jameson, 445 Bethel Church Road, Fulton, MS 38843.

Church seeking pastor

A BMA church east of Lucedale, Mississippi, is seeking a full time pastor to minister and lead dedicated family, friendly congregation. Believing and following the Lord's direction, we pray for a pastor who is scripture based and spirit filled with excellent communication and organizational skills. Also a desire and ability to lead members in developing community outreach to reach the lost. Previous pastoral experience and Christian education, a plus. All resumes received gladly and reviewed. Mail resume to Pastoral Search Committee, 181 Donovan Rd., Lucedale, MS 39452 or email pat.reid@ymail.com.

Pine Ridge to host 5th Sunday Night Sing

Pine Ridge Baptist Church, 220 Service Road, Laurel, will be having fellowship and sing on Saturday, August 28, with Mark Lanier. For more info phone 601-3198466.

Pastor & wife celebrate 25th anniversary

Bro. Carlos and Sis. Micki Smith will be celebrating their 25th Wedding Anniversary on Sunday, August 22nd. Their family will be honoring them with a reception from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall of the Unity Baptist Church in McHenry, Mississippi, where Bro. Carlos currently serves as pastor. All are invited to attend.

Dykes Chapel to celebrate homecoming

On Sunday, August 22, Dykes Chapel Baptist Church

Southeastern Baptist College

4229 Highway 15 North
Laurel, Mississippi 39440, (601) 426-6346



Dr. Medrick Savell
President

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

Being consistent with His nature, God continues to be faithful to Southeastern Baptist College. We see evidence of His providence in all areas, including prospective students who are coming or requesting information.

At the time of this report, registration for the Fall semester is underway. The response is encouraging. Please pray that prospects will be submissive to His leadership.

During this Special Emphasis time, do not forget to pray sincerely for the college and all of us who serve God here. Pray that God will provide the finances that are needed to carry out what He is opening up and leading us to do. We only want to do what is His will and need wisdom to determine that will. If each church, individual, and association will do what they can, it will be sufficient.

On-Line Courses Available

Anyone interested in on-line classes should contact us. Three courses are available for this semester: Bible Manners and Customs, Bible Geography, and History of Christianity. We are pleased and thankful for the interest that has already been shown in these courses. Our plans are to add other courses as fast as time will allow.

Memorial Gifts

Two other memorial gifts have been given since our last report. One was given to the Southeastern Baptist College Foundation in memory of Mrs. Agnes Conrad Gregory. The other one was given to purchase a book to be placed in the A. R. Reddin Memorial Library at Southeastern Baptist College in memory of Mrs. Sandy Blackwell Hart. We are praying that God will comfort, strengthen, and bless the families of these dear ladies.

in Richton, MS. will have homecoming services. After morning worship we will have lunch in the fellowship hall. Bring a covered dish and join us for lunch. At 1:30 p.m. there will be singing and celebration. Music will be enjoyed with members, visitors, and friends that wish to participate. Past members, pastors, family, and friends are invited to join us for this joyous occasion.

Harmony Association report

The August meeting of the Harmony Association was held at Farmington Baptist Church in Corinth. After a time of food and fellowship, the meeting opened with congregational singing, prayer and a welcome from the host church. The evening message was brought by Bro. Tim Nall, using as his text Psalm 23:4, entitled "Surviving the Valley's of Life". The association then went in to business meeting with a roll call of the churches, with 7 churches represented and 42 present. The

minutes and financial reports were read and approved. The location of the next meeting will be First Baptist in Mantachie. Dr. John Adams requested the time to speak regarding his work with the Moral Action Committee.

Bro. Elvis Garcia reported on the Hispanic work in Ripley and the on-going work in their new building, and also spoke of a possible Hispanic work in the Tupelo area.

Bro. Doug Wilson represented Southeastern Baptist College and requested the association contribute \$150.00 toward the college's special emphasis which the association agreed to.

Bro Tim Nall, Moderator
Tony Marolt, Reporter

Want to Make a Gift That Keeps Giving?

The LifeWord Foundation provides that opportunity. Your gift is never spent, it is invested and only the earnings are used to help carry the gospel around the world. Your gift keeps giving until the Lord returns. For more information, call the LifeWord Development Office at 501-472-2183.



Mississippi Baptist Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Faithfulness and Loyalty

One of the basic tenets of our Christian faith is that of Loyalty and Faithfulness.

God is faithful and never turns His back on His people. I Corinthians 1:9 tells us, "God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord". Where would we be as God's children if He were not faithful to us? He is faithful when we are obedient, He is faithful when we are out of fellowship and He is faithful to help us maintain fellowship.

We as His children strive to be faithful and loyal, but fail many times to be all God would have us to be. We also fail at times in our relationship with fellow believers. Paul wrote to the churches on a number of occasions concerning their relationships with each other. He was teaching them about God's will for their lives and their relationship with both believers and nonbelievers.

One of the marks of character and spiritual maturity is the ability to be truthful, honest and open with each other, both as individuals and as churches. We as a group of churches have voluntarily bonded ourselves in fellowship for the purpose of reaching the world for Christ and strengthening the body of believers.

As pastor of a BMA church I find it my duty to teach and lead the church in their historic place in our associated work and to be loyal to its teachings, its fellowship and its mission. If the teaching they receive is open and honest, they will most likely maintain the standards that God wishes for them.

It is incumbent on God's leaders and His churches to be loyal to their calling, honest in their motives and diligent in their mission.

May the Lord bless us as we seek to be faithful and loyal, for where would we be without it?



Don Brown
Editor

Letters From Our Readers

Letters reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily this publication or the BMA of Mississippi

WMA 'Flyer' on the way

Dear Editor,

When we pick up the mail each day we usually stop in the post office and throw away the junk mail first thing. Advertisements and flyers most often never get to have the opportunity to be perused. Advertisers know what a struggle it is to get the information into the hands of potential consumers.

Very soon the National WMA will be mailing out flyers concerning the project for the year. Every church should get one and if you don't, please contact me and we will make sure you are on the list. These flyers were put together by a wonderful worker at LifeWord and will benefit greatly the BMAA Missions Department and DiscipleWay. Please do not let the hard work and efforts be wasted! Please make sure the information gets to a women's group in your church! You do not have to be WMA (or even a woman) to appreciate the minis-

Christmas Shoeboxes

from page 1

items were for. I explained to her about our shoebox project of sending to our missionaries the Christmas Shoeboxes which contain gifts and a Bible, giving the missionary the opportunity to tell the boys and girls about the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ. She wanted to know if I was a missionary and I answered "yes". I told her that she could be one too. We are all missionaries when we participate in projects that carry the Good News of Jesus Christ to those that are still waiting to hear.

The cashier asked if her Sunday school class could be part of the project, and I readily answered "yes" again and gave her directions to the warehouse and the telephone number for the BMAA Missions office. If you

tries we have chosen to support - I AM WOMAN ministries in the Middle East and DiscipleWay. The flyers will include information about those projects and how your church can help.

But the flyers will mean nothing at all if they never make it out of the post office! You want to be a good steward of the finances spent through the BMA then at least look it over and appreciate all the time, money and effort that went into it!

Thank you and God bless,
Valarie Fish, National WMA President

have not gone shopping yet, and you want to be a missionary, you still have time to add your box to the 15,000 that are being sent to the missions office at 9219 Sibley Hole Road in Little Rock, Arkansas 72209. For further information call Jamie or Doris at 501 455 4977.

When you place a Bible in the shoebox you know that the Word of God is going into a home, more than likely for the first time. The Lord has given us the following promise: "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isaiah 55:11

Geraldine Holloway Retires

Mississippi native, Geraldine Holloway retired from LifeWord on July 15 after 9 years of service. She served as the receptionist for LifeWord.

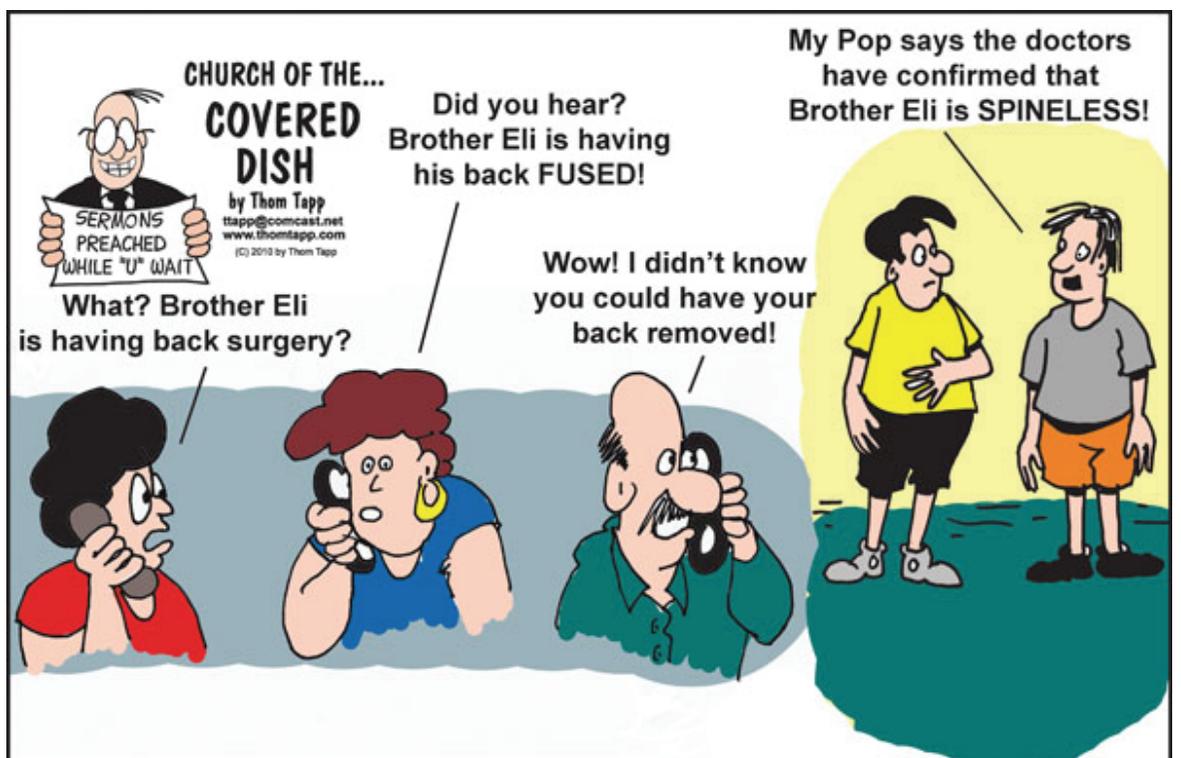


Mrs. Holloway went to work for LifeWord at the request of George Reddin, who served as her pastor at Berachah Baptist Church, Vicksburg in 1973-74.

She plans to stay in the Conway area for the time being.

Holloway says "My time at Lifeworld has been some of the most rewarding years of my life."

Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



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John Adams

“Sons of Israel, Sons of America”

I Chronicles 12:32, “And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do...” They, the sons of Issachar, were the sons of Israel. A modern-day paraphrase “And of the children of the United States of America, which were people that had understanding of the times, to know what America ought to do...”

America needs to face the issues of the day with a Bible in her hands. This great nation needs a generation of the sons of Issachar who know what to do for the spiritual benefit of the nation. The only way born again believers are going to influence the realm of government is to be informed enough to take action.

I Chronicles 12 is actually retrospective. It is occupied with the names of men and women who had come to the aid of David

and Israel in periods of great crisis. Those people loved Israel and God’s servant, David. They were willing to work, to fight, and to rebuild if needed. Some were described as “mighty men of valor.”

Genesis 49:14 describes Jacob gathering his family together. Next Jacob gives each of his children worthy names and a description of the meaning of the name. In 49:14, “Issachar is a strong ass couching down between two burdens.” He became a servant unto tribute. A strong donkey bowing his shoulders to bear the burdens of a nation.

How can the sons of Issachar instruct we Americans in our twenty-first (21st) century? What did they know that we need to learn from?

1. They knew the history period in which they lived.

There were threats upon the nation of Israel and upon God’s people. David, God’s shepherd,

was being dogged. They were aware of the national conditions. They realized the geopolitical facts, the need for better economy, and the evil that was attacking God’s people.

American Christians and churches must realize the threats and opportunities available to them. We recognize in our time slot of America that our nation is on a slippery slope of decline in morals and in spiritual awareness. Christians can no longer go “along with the crowd.” We must be courageous and take a Godly stand against an evil culture. There is no time for timidity.

American Christians must be bold

2. They knew the Scriptures.

Issachar’s sons knew the passage from Deuteronomy 6:4-7: “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy

soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart.”

They took this admonition in a serious manner. Because of God’s scriptures they were able to know and evaluate the fads, trends, facts and politics of their day. They found their directions and instructions in God’s Word,

In America, we must do the same. Our lecterns and pulpits must flame with righteousness always. We must turn again to the true paths of morality and dignity of life. The old adage still holds today, “hate the sin, but love the sinner.” We hate the sins of abortion, gambling, adultery, divorce, homosexuality, stealing, lying, cheating, gossip, etc. Christians must abhor the sins that God hates as in Proverbs 6:16-19, and love the things that God loves.

3. They knew what Israel should do.

These sons and grandsons of Jacob knew the practical. They had attained practical wisdom. In their battles of the day, they formulated good plans of action. The scriptures were their guide on how to live, how to react, and how to plan. As a result, they knew “what Israel should do.”

In the twenty-first (21st) cen-

tury, America should see no separation between the spiritual and the secular. Our everyday life should be a reflection of our spiritual life. They should be synonymous. When you see one, you see the other.

The second President of the United States, John Adams, stated, “Christians are to be informed enough to take action for God.” What perils are threatening our nation? Are we spiritually lazy? What Bible truths need to be insisted on? What are the best measures for Godly elevation?

Christians believe that the giver of wisdom is God. The readings of wisdom are found in the Bible. We must pray for Godly Christian leaders in our government. We need to ask of the God of Providence to give us leaders in our churches to rule strongly, justly, and Godly.

To recap I Chronicles 12:32:

- the nation was on their mind
- they were aware of the conditions
- they were able to evaluate the facts
- they acquired a Divine perspective
- they had a practical knowledge
- they knew that there was not a separation between their secular and spiritual life

Worried About Anxiety?

Anxiety can be debilitating. Everyone has their times when they worry. But this is far more involved than that. Anxiety feels like you are being ripped apart inside. You focus so much mental energy on worrying that it leaves you drained. You worry about worrying too much. You beat yourself up over this. It wreaks havoc on your sleep. It leaves you as an emotional

wreck. You lay awake worrying about things. During the day, you have obsessive thought patterns. At it’s greatest depth, anxiety can become an anxiety disorder. If you develop this, you can suffer from panic attacks, and be so anxious that you begin to not function out in society very well. Crowds can bother you. You worry about death all the time for yourself or a loved one. This is not something you can just snap out of like some people think.

So, now you know that you are not crazy. What a relief, because it sure feels like it some days. You can put the bat down and quit beating yourself up. Now you can begin to start work on attaining victory over this constant, daily need to worry. Remember Romans 8:37. “Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.” You can, with the help of Jesus, overcome this problem in your life. You must believe in your heart that it is truly possible to attain victory.

It may not seem like it because you have lived with it so long, but there is nothing impossible with God, as it states in Luke



Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee

1:37. This is the first step. Believe that it is possible to attain victory.

You probably also wonder where anxiety came from. No secular psychotherapist will tell you this, but God gives us all personalities. You can watch a bunch of kids playing, and you can pick out which kids are going to grow up and be the anxious ones. Your personality was given to you by God for a reason. Don’t fight it. Learn to use it for good. People who worry a lot or who are anxious generally have personalities that

are very caring. Most worry warts are caring people. You are a loving person. You also are a very observant person. If you were not paying attention to all that was around you, then you wouldn’t worry so much. If you didn’t care so deeply about those around you, then you would not be anxious. While it is not healthy, nor holy to live in a state of anxiety, it stems from something good within you. You are a loving, caring person.

Learn to breathe deeply. When you start feeling stressed out and anxious, take some deep breaths. At the same time, do some spiritual deep breathing. Find some scripture and memorize it. Find something that offers you comfort. I like Philippians 4:6,7. I like Psalm 46:10 and verse 1. Hebrews 13:5,6 Philippians 4:13. Romans 8:37. These are ones I repeat when I am stressed out. Please feel free to use your own scripture or you can use these. Putting your mind on God being in control will help immediately.

The deep breathing will also help. I call this physical and spiritual deep breathing. It helps.

Build in a panic floor. This is not the worst day ever. God has always caused you to survive every day so far, no matter what happened in your life. His grace has brought you safe thus far, and His grace will lead you home. Just tell yourself that no matter what happens, you are still saved. You are still going to heaven. God is still for you even if others are not. This leads into the next item to help you work on your anxiety.

Control your thinking. You may not realize it, but all humans have control over their thinking. We are creatures of habit. We all have habits in the way we think, and the way we perceive things. This will be the hardest battle. The battle for your thought life. Satan wants your thought life and so does God. That is why scripture tells

continued on page 7

AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

Listing of names does not indicate endorsement. This column is for information purposes only.

Dale Wirick

Rev. Dale Wirick is available for service and pulpit supply wherever the Lord leads. He may be reached by phone at home 228-474-8886 or cell 228-369-1419 or by mail at P.O. Box 256 Escatawpa, MS 39552.

GMA Girls

GMA Promoter - Beth Caldwell
166 Twin Creek Rd, Lucedale, MS 39452
601-947-6011

Sunbeam Promoter - Linda Dertinger
132 Howard Hill Road, Soso, MS 39480
601-729-2908

GMA State Camp

by **Carli Reeder**

Hi Everyone, I just wanted to give you some information from our GMA State Planning Meeting. Recently, all of the officers and advisory council met and discussed what all we were going to do this coming year at camp. The dates for camp will be March 11th and 12th. The theme for camp is "The Wonder of it All" coming from the theme verse John 1:3. It will be about all the creations of God and just how big our God really is.

The Project is 25% Sarah Hebert, 25% General Fund, and 50% Revolving Missions. The Goal for these projects is \$10,000. We know that is a great amount, but we can't put a limit on God and we know with His help it is reachable. We will be selling T-shirts. Vice President Charity Lee will be getting the order forms out to all the churches along with the Project Sheets. We hope that you will encourage each girl to complete at least one sheet.

Charity will also send a Talent Form

sheet to each church. We are very excited about this! This will be one of the activities that we do during the House party. We hope that every church will participate. Also, we would like for each girl to make their favorite creation and save coins in it to bring to camp. All of the money from these different activities will go to the projects, so every penny helps. These are just a few of the things we will be doing. I will be sending a lot more information out soon to all the participating churches.

We are all very excited about camp and hope to see you all there. If your church is currently not participating in GMA's, I hope that you will try to begin. GMA's has truly changed my life and I know that my walk with Christ would



not be the same if I did not have this program. It teaches not only about the missionaries around the world but it teaches how to be missionaries' right where we are. If you have any questions about anything, you are welcome to call me at 662-255-0511 or 662-862-7811. Please be in prayer for this camp.

Patsy Campbell Memorial Book Fund

At the annual meeting in April, the National Study Book Fund was renamed the "Patsy Campbell Memorial Study Book Fund". Over the past few years, Patsy's passion and enthusiasm for moving the WMA study books out of the warehouse and into the hands of women has resulted in several thousand books being moved. Only God knows the number of lives that may have been changed by these books. Let's not let Patsy's vision fade.

As of July 19, 2010, DiscipleGuide has 8,803 study books in stock (this does not include the 1,250 copies of the 2010 book Get Real by Valarie Fish). Let's honor Patsy's memory by moving those books out of the warehouse. This can be done in several ways. Purchase the books for individual use, for gifts, for WMA or Bible study groups, for women's crisis centers, for local prison ministries, for Bro. Paul Lee of Women's Prison Ministries, for Bro. David Norvell of Military Chaplaincy for Women Military Personnel, or for your own creative uses. Eight of the books are on sale for only \$4.00 each!

If you would like to order books directly, use the following information. (If you are purchasing the books for the Women's Prison Ministries or Women Military Personnel, please let DiscipleGuide know and Bro. Lee or Bro. Norvell will pick these books up and save you postage.)

DiscipleGuide Church Resources, P.O. Box 7270, Texarkana TX 75505, Phone 1-800-333-1442

Or order on-line at www.DiscipleGuide.org

If you would like to make a donation to the Patsy Campbell Memorial Study Book Fund and let the WMA committee purchase and distribute these books to the Women's Prison Ministry or the Military Chaplaincy for Women Military Personnel, please designate your checks for one of these and send to: National WMA, Mrs. Pat Duncan, P.O. Box 95274 N. Little Rock, AR 72190

Join me in honoring Patsy's memory and helping various women's ministries by moving these books out of the warehouse. Thanks for your support of this project.

Brenda Hornaday

National WMA 3rd Vice President

Books Listed on Page 7

Mississippi W.M.A.

Mrs. Ruby Bynum, President
43 Bear Pen Creek Rd.,
Laurel, MS 39440
601-428-1901

Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Shirlene Smith
730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443
601-729-5638

Breaking News

BMA of Mississippi Christian Ladies Retreat Camp Garaywa - Clinton, MS September 10-11, 2010

Registration for the retreat has been extended to Friday August 27, 2010. If you still have not decided if you are coming, there is time. However, you will want to get your registration in immediately. Rooms are assigned on a first come- first served basis. Patterson Place is almost full and so are the \$25. single bed rooms. (To answer an often asked question, yes, your room cost must be sent in with your \$40. registration fee. The room costs are the responsibility of the MS WMA.) There is plenty of the \$15. per bed cabins available. The cabins have seven (7) bunk beds and two single beds each. They have exterior bathhouses. Occupants must bring own linens. Be adventurous, bring your whole gang and fill a cabin. Special note: Camp Garaywa is a smoke free campus.

Attendance is looking good and this year's retreat promises to be one of the very best. It will be a fun, relaxing and sharing time of spiritual renewal. To recap: retreat topic: Big Girls Growing up in Christ; speaker: Mrs. Anita Akers of East Amory Baptist Church, Amory, Ms. An inspiring speaker who has spoken at numerous retreats and conferences. Registration begins at 2pm Friday, September 10. A craft workshop will be held at 3pm. (This will be a FREE workshop and will replace the door decoration workshop previously advertised.) Dinner is at 6pm with the first session beginning at 7pm. Sessions continue on Saturday (breakfast and lunch are included.) Other activities include a White Elephant silent auction, door prizes, booths regarding ministries, etc., opportunity to make new friends plus sharing and prayer time.

Come join us for a wonderful getaway in God's creation!

Registration: _____ + Room cost _____ = Total enclosed _____

\$40. Registration fee includes three (3) meals. (Each person must register on separate form.)

_____ Check here if you plan to attend craft workshop.

Room charges:

Patterson Place - 1 per room \$120., - 2 per room \$60. ea., - 3 per room \$40 ea., - 4 per room \$35. ea.

Please list names rooming with you

Single beds in main building with shared bathrooms - \$25.ea.

Cabins with bunk beds and outside bathhouses - \$15.ea. (must bring own linens)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ email address _____

Please make checks or money order payable to MS State WMA and mail with registration form to Mrs. Beth Caldwell - 166 Twin Creek Rd - Lucedale, MS 39452 - Ph: 601-947-6011.

For more information or special needs contact: Sharon Lindsey, Retreat Coordinator Ph: 662-862-5889 - email: slindsey157@yahoo.com.

BMA OF MISSISSIPPI MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

4226 HIGHWAY 15 NORTH, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39440 - (601) 428-8616
Rayburn Freeman, Director



2009-2010 Year End RLF Report

Eph. 1:3 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:"

It is a beautiful day here in Laurel, Mississippi. I am thankful to be a part of the family of God and to be a member of Mill Creek Baptist Church and I am thankful to have the privilege of serving the churches of the BMA of Mississippi as Manager of the

Revolving Loan Fund. I am grateful for God's continued blessing upon the RLF and for your continued support both financially and as prayer partners.

At the close of our fiscal year, July 31, 2010, our Statement of Financial Condition reveals the following unaudited figures: Gross assets are \$14,188,551.66, down \$45,061.58 from July 31, 2009. Net operating assets are \$2,183,944.34, up \$339,321.84.

Share balances of members stands at \$11,677,207.32, down \$254,383.42, and loan balances on notes is \$10,991,709.08, up \$384,931.11. We are also grateful to have received \$6,824.98 expense contributions from churches. This is up \$143.16 from last year.

If we can be of assistance in your financial loan needs, please call on us.

Dosson L Lee,
Manager RLF

Plumlee

from page 5

us to take every thought captive to the Lord. II Corinthians 10:5. It takes persistence and work. You have to re-frame your thinking.

As an example

This problem I am facing is a growth opportunity. It is a grace event. God will give me the grace to get through it. I will be a stronger person because of it. Because there is an empty tomb, I can face tomorrow. I may not know what tomorrow will bring, but I know the one who holds tomorrow in His hands. He loves me. He accepts me. He loves me more than I love myself. God wants me to be successful in life for His glory.

He will meet all my needs. Because of the resurrection, Christ has all power and all victory for all time. Because Christ is in me, I now face every problem from a position of victory. Victory in Jesus is not just an old song. It is a way of life for me. Nothing can defeat me. Not even death. I will live forever in heaven. You may know these truths, but you must start believing them by repeating them over and over again until it becomes part of you.

Pray

Pray for a specific fruit to be born in you. The fruits of the spirit listed in Galatians 5 include peace and joy. Ask God to develop those in you. Don't get frustrated when it doesn't happen instantly. It takes time. One day at a time. Strive for

gradual improvement, then steady improvement, and finally to consistent improvement.

All of those statements up above are not feel good counseling statements that man came up with. They are scripture from the inerrant truth of God's Word. Dwell on these. Increase your prayer life. Linger in your prayers. With God's help you should be able to get a grip on your anxiety. God bless you on your journey.

Barna study: Christian teens fear sharing

OneNewsNow - As students across America are gearing up to head back to school, new research suggests many will leave their evangelical faith at home.

David Kinnaman, president of the Barna Group, summarizes some of the findings from a new study completed by his organization about teenagers and their faith.

"If you look at today's teens, six out of every ten tell us that they're engaged in some type of group spiritual activity in a typical week -- that might include church, a youth group, a Sunday school, [or] some sort of Bible-related small group," he reports. "But as we've been tracking spiritual activities, we've been noticing that there's been a decline in the percentage of people who are born-again Christian teens who have shared their faith in Christ with others during the past year."

He points out that that number has dropped from 63 percent in 1997 to 45 percent.

CHILDREN'S HOME

118 LOWE ROAD, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39443 - (601) 426-3928

Spiritual Blessings

We recently had revival services at the First Baptist Church of Shady Grove with Bro. Steve Crawley serving as evangelist. During these services one of our girls at the Home made her public profession of faith in Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. Praise the Lord for her salvation and remember her in your prayers as she grows in the grace and knowledge of the Lord.



SIDNEY DAVIS
DIRECTOR

School Days Are Here Again

Once again it's that time of the year when the schedule of school is on the agenda. We are getting back into the routine of getting up earlier in the mornings to get the boys and girls off to school and doing homework at the close of the school day. Everyone is excited about the new school year, getting to know their new teachers, reacquainting themselves with friends, and making new ones.

Continue to remember our girls and boys in your prayers each day that the Lord will guard, protect, and surround them with His love, mercy, and grace. May they take advantage of the opportunities of obtaining a good education and be students who will learn those things which will equip them to be a better child of God now and for the future.

Southeastern Baptist College

2010 Special Emphasis

August 2010

Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

A Prayer

A friend of mine loaned me a book the other day in which I found this prayer that was written by Miss Alta Beeker. It seemed to me like it was something that needed to be shared:

"Lord, Thou knowest me better than I know myself, that I am growing older and will, some day, be OLD.



FW

"Keep me from getting loquacious, and particularly from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

"Release me from craving to try to straighten out everyone's affairs.

"Make me thoughtful, but not moody, helpful but not bossy. "With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all". But thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end...at least enough for pall-bearers, with a mourner or two. Do not let the editor head my obituary with the words: 'Old Crab Dies at Last; Everybody Glad.'

"Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details...Give me wings to get to the point.

"Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing as the years go by. I dare NOT ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of other's pains, but help me to endure them with patience.

"Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

"Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a Saint... some of them are so hard to live with. But a sour old woman is one of the crowning works of the devil.

"Keep me where I can extract all possible fun out of life. There are so many funny things in life, and I don't want to miss any of them."

WMA Books

The following books are available for order; this price does not include sales tax.

Title	Author	In-Stock	Price	Sale
Love Reaching	Mary Smith	1,507	\$5.75	\$4.00
Is Love Enough?	Glenda Haynes	320	\$8.99	\$4.00
All That We Need	Karen Mitchell	350	\$5.95	
Through the Storm	Nettie Bowman	421	\$5.99	\$4.00
Lift His Standard	Cherita Geraldson	389	\$10.99	\$4.00
In His Presents	Judy Wallace	1,199	\$8.99	
How Shall They Hear	Maeva Thompson	937	\$7.99	\$4.00
Pray! Work! Win!	Patsy Campbell	1,017	\$7.99	\$4.00
A Work in Progress	Lisa Gothard	1,090	\$7.99	
After God's Heart	Lynn Silvey	1,133	\$12.95	
On the Tightrope but Not in the Spotlight	Taffy Johnson	440	\$9.95	
Get Real	Valarie Fish	1,250	\$9.99	

I would like to publish book reports on each of the above books so that interested readers will know what they are about. If you have read any of the above and would like to submit a book report, please make it around 200 words and send to Brenda Hornaday, National WMA 3rd Vice President, P.O. Box 626, Magnolia, AR 71754 or email me at jackhornaday@att.net. Thanks for your help!

Southeastern Baptist College

Serving Christ *With A*
Biblical Worldview *In A*
Christian Atmosphere



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