

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

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JESUS CHRIST AND HIM CRUCIFIED

I Corinthians 2:2
2020 President's Message
by Greg Medenwald

There is no greater privilege or fulfillment in life than to preach "Jesus Christ and Him Crucified"!

We clearly have the responsibility to declare "all the counsel of God" as the Apostle Paul did in Ephesus as recorded in Acts 20:27, and to teach "the word of God" as Paul did in the very city of Corinth for

eighteen months during the first of his three visits there: "He continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them." (Acts 18:11)

Again, there is no greater privilege or fulfillment in life than to preach Jesus, and there is also no greater responsibility as Paul frankly and forcefully proclaimed in I Corinthians 2:2: "For I determined (with great resolve) not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."

My father, who fought in the South Pacific during WWII as a U.S. Marine, taught me to "rely on the basics during critical times". That was their foxhole philosophy while under enemy fire and in the face of potential death. Therefore, while encircled by the Covid-19 pandemic, and during our nationwide period of political unrest and pandemonium, I want to share today a simple message about "Jesus Christ and Him Crucified".

Here are three statements based on the theme verse I Corinthians 2:2.

I. The Preaching of Jesus Christ and Him Crucified Ultimately Reveals the Ugliness of Sin

That is, there is no better way to help people to see the dark, destructive, and deadly nature of sin than to preach Jesus of Nazareth.

In the first place, the ugliness of sin and its consequences is starkly uncovered when we preach the Jesus of Romans 6:23:

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

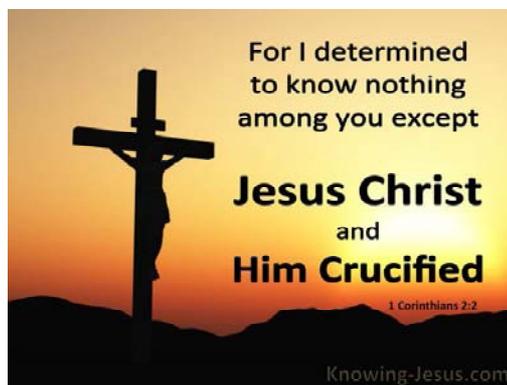
Sin – especially my sin – is so ugly that Jesus, though He was absolutely guiltless, had to sacrificially give His sinless life to pay "the wages of (my) sin". That's substantial! There is no way other than eternal death that I could have paid such a price. Sin – especially my sin – is so ugly that the only way I or we could be saved is by receiving a grace "gift" of redemption from God – freeing us from the consequences and control of sin. That proves that God's grace is perfectly amazing, and it also uncovers the vile and wicked nature of the human sin for which Jesus died upon Calvary's cross.

In the second place, the ugliness of sin and its Satanic character is best revealed by preaching about Jesus and His pure character.

The Apostle Paul recognized the ugliness of sin in general, and also the repulsiveness of his own personal sin, as he beheld the beautiful character and purity of Jesus and that's one reason why he exclaimed to Timothy "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." (I Timothy

1:15).

I believe that Paul was thinking both past and present tense



when he admitted that he was a "chief" among sinners. "Chief" does not mean that Paul was secretly worshiping pagan gods in the various temples of Corinth, or that he had a girlfriend and a favorite bar or party place in every port of call. Instead, "chief" means that Paul had seen Jesus and knows that he is utterly undone without Him. It was an "Oh woe is me!" experience as he saw his sin compared to the purity of Christ. That is, the closer Paul came to Jesus, the more he recognized just how exceedingly bad his sin

See Sermon on page 6

World Missions Day 2021

Grateful for Your Giving

by Missions Executive Director John David Smith

I cannot recall a year like 2020. We have been thrust into uncharted waters, but sustained by the simple truth that our God is in control. I have never been more thankful for your faithful partnership with BMA Missions.

The turbulence of 2020 has been a global experience, yet what an encouragement to hear how God has blessed in the midst of global chaos. Isn't that just like God? Here is a glimpse of what we have seen around the world:

- Technology has allowed churches to share online, leading more people than ever to follow Christ.
- People have come to better understand that the church is truly a community of people not building or location.
- Local congregations and communities have united to support one another, share in each other's financial burdens, and take on personal responsibility in discipleship and small groups.
- Though travel has been stalled, virtual meeting capabilities are enabling us to connect with each other and with missionaries, church planters, and pastors.
- I am personally excited to share that I have had more conversations with missionary candidates this year than any I can remember.

Certainly the challenges are great yet we are seeing firsthand what we clearly see in Scripture: The Gospel always advances in the midst of difficulty. For this reason I am asking your church to join in celebrating World Missions Day on February 28, 2021, our annual world missions giving campaign.

This year we are excited to announce the annual World Missions Day offering is being renamed The Jerry Kidd Offering, honoring

see World Missions Day on page 6



Church of the Covered Dish

BY THOMAS TAPP



Mississippi Baptist

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi



Don Brown
Editor

Grateful Hearts

The last two months of each year present us with opportunities to reflect on our lives, our blessings, and our relationship with our God. The two holidays we celebrate, Thanksgiving and Christmas, should give us pause. They should cause us to reflect on the One who really is the center of each.

In spite of all the turmoil that 2020 has brought to our world, nation, our churches, and many families, we must continue to realize that our Lord has blessed us beyond measure. The Christmas season each year is a vivid reminder of His abundant mercy on mankind.

God has richly blessed us as a nation, as individuals, and as His children. Regardless of our health, wealth, or circumstances, we can all agree that He has blessed us beyond our expectations, our needs, and beyond that which we deserve. A popular radio host's response when asked how he is doing is, "Better than I deserve". That certainly applies to the rest of us also.

As we stop and reflect on His blessings, may we tell Him that we are deeply "thankful" for His care.

Christmas gives us opportunity to reflect on the greatest gift ever bestowed upon humanity. He gave His Only Son. He has showered His love upon all mankind by providing a Savior, a Deliverer, an Advocate for the lost souls of mankind. What a love God has for us!

We are truly thankful for all the blessings of life that God gives. Let us be mindful of the greatest gift as stated by the physician Luke as he wrote the following words, "And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." Luke 1:30-33

Bonnie and I wish you all a very blessed Christmas and a prosperous 2021. May the God of all mercy bless our nation and deliver us from our neglect, sinfulness, and this devastating pandemic.



The Browns

MINISTERING TO YOUNG PEOPLE

by Anders Lee

I NEED CHRISTMAS IDEAS!!!

Leading a youth group is always fun! We know we have to do some creative things to keep it that way! Christmastime is no different. Sometimes we get stuck in a rut doing the same things year after year. So I'm devoting this article to help you have some fresh ideas of some great things to do with your youth group when you have your Christmas party this month.

Disclaimer!!! They are not all my ideas... some are. I have stolen some of these through the years from different sources. The first three things are events I actually planned and did... and they are my favorites! Some you may find cheesy. Pick the ones you like and trash all the others. You know every good youth director is constantly brainstorming with others to get new stuff. So, here there are in random order.

The Nutcracker Play

Every year we see this Christmas classic at some theater or even on TV. Use it! Pick kids from your group to do your version of the Nutcracker. Yep! Download the music, get the costumes together (we always did Santa, Rudolph, Two Toy Soldiers, & a donkey to give it a nativity touch – one year we added the three wise guys). They will have to practice and be creative with their silly dance moves! We changed ours every year and it became a classic in my old youth group. Our parents even came in to see the epic show. Try it, if they really get into it, it just may become one of your group's favorites too.

The Missing Toe

You've heard of Mistletoe... well this game is the MISSING TOE. At the beginning of the game you explain that kissing isn't for teens (amen parents???) So you are changing this Christmas tradition to a hide and go seek game. You guessed it. Buy a "toe"! Yes... you actually can buy them. You will also need a

Santa for this game. So borrow or buy a Santa suit. You will also need a gift (maybe a gift card). The game is simple. Hide the toe really well!!! Seriously – make it hard! Santa comes in and explains to the group that he lost his toe in a bad sleigh accident (we use to wrap Santa's foot up in gauze). He tells the group he will give the teen who finds it a special gift. Then let them start looking! It's fun! Once found the teen comes back to Santa in front of the whole group. Sits on the floor in front of him. Santa thanks the teen profusely! Even cries as the toe is given back to him. (I know ... it's dumb). Then he gives the teen the gift. Game over! Our teens took pictures with Santa too afterwards.



Anders Lee

Hawaiian Christmas Night

This is a unique one to do. Go all out!!! Get red and green Hawaiian leis for all your group. Buy the cheapo grass skirts from Oriental Trading. Have the youth decorate their skirts by hanging small plastic ornaments along their waist. Get them red & green flip flops too! Ask them to wear a Hawaiian shirt or a Christmas shirt. All of this is easy to buy & costs are reasonable. Get and decorate whole pineapples with small red & green ornaments and white lights; put these in the center of all your tables. Buy or borrow a small palm tree for your stage and decorate it also! Order a Hawaiian Christmas music set, you can still get them on cd's (if you have an old boom box with a cd player) or you can purchase them on iTunes. Play those tunes during your party... I love hearing Mele Kalikimaka! Last have your team plan out Hawaiian foods for the party! Brainstorm and come up with other things too! I did this one year with my youth at Calvary in Horn Lake and it was a huge hit!



Christmas Photo Booth

This is your easiest photo booth you'll ever create. Collect Christmas hats, garland, ornaments, and anything else you might have on-hand to use in the booth. Students can take selfies or you can have a volunteer take pictures during your Christmas party. They can use them to post on their own social media and you can use them on your church Facebook page.

I hope you use one of these ideas at your teen party this year! There are many more ideas out there online... goodness we have no excuse these days for fresh ideas! So it's time to plan it all!!! Have fun!!!

On a personal note...

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Lee's! May 2021 be a fruitful ministry year for all of us... and may we overcome the dilemmas of 2020! If you watch services online routinely and can't get out during COVID, I invite you to watch our Christmas services online at <https://www.facebook.com/central.church.980>. It will air December 20, 2020 at 10 AM!

Bow Roll

Take a bunch of Christmas bows and remove the cover off the sticker on the back of the bow. Scatter the bows (sticker

Mississippi Baptist

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Serving Christ With A Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

President's Perspective

"THERE IS NO ROOM!" ... Words spoken by the innkeeper to Joseph and Mary long ago. It was a very hectic time of year. The innkeeper was caught up in the rush of crowded rooms and packed cafe.

It was late, the innkeeper was busy and tired. Joseph and Mary arrived looking like peasants. Perhaps the innkeeper spoke out of frustration -- perhaps it was a real attempt to help -- he offered them the stable.

No doubt it was crowded with the animals owned by the travelers for the tax census. I wonder . . . did the innkeeper ever discover who that baby was? I can hear him saying, "If only I had known, I would have given Him the best room in the house. If only I had known . . . I would have made room."

Here at Southeastern Baptist College, **"THERE IS NO ROOM!"** There is a place for students to learn and grow and prepare themselves for the future. Quality Christian education for our 102 students,



Dr. Scott Carson
President

Mississippi, says: "SBC feels like family here. I looked at other schools, but the classes of 100 other students felt too intimidating to me. The classes at SBC are small and I have not felt lost in the crowd. The faculty and staff know who I am and care about me. I have had the chance to get to know my classmates and most of us have several classes to together. I am in the choir too; we have had fun op-

There is a place for students to learn and grow and prepare themselves for the future.

not just to prepare them to make a living . . . but to live a life in Christ. A place to help them understand the miracle of Christmas that happened nearly 2,000 years ago. Emily S., Freshman in General Education from Calhoun, Mis-

sissippi, says: "The online classes have made continuing my edu-

cation a possibility, whereas before, I thought it was out of the question for me to return to school. The faculty and staff are invested in our academic success and it is clear they want to see me reach my goals. I believe that SBC has some of the best faculty and staff that this area has to offer."

2020 has been a year of mixed blessings and challenges for the College. The growth we have seen due to students looking for smaller class sizes, staying closer to home due to the pandemic, or affordable online class experiences has been exciting! Yet, the theme of "THERE IS NO ROOM" rings true here as our infrastructure is stretched to capacity. We know God has a plan to provide what we need to meet these demands and we are seeking him for his provision to make room for what is next. With your prayers and financial support, we can see our way through COVID-19 and continue to fulfill our vision to teach, train, disciple, and mentor our students, in person and online. At this blessed Christmas sea-

son, please consider "MAKING ROOM" for Southeastern Baptist College on your giving list. Your financial participation is needed as we move forward into the new year. The federal corona virus stimulus bill, known as the CARES Act (Corona virus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act) will give taxpayers the ability to receive a \$300 deduction for donations even if not itemizing taxes in 2020. Should you desire to designate a portion of your gift, please indicate that on the response card located close to this article. Thank you for your faithful support of Southeastern Baptist College. Being good stewards of the money God provides is never a task we take lightly. On behalf of all our family at Southeastern Baptist College we wish you a blessed Christmas season and a fruitful new year. For the students whose lives you are helping us to shape, we say thank you and God bless you.

Equipping the Saints!
Dr. Carson

Golf Cart Needed

Our on campus security volunteers need convenient transportation for making rounds about campus, especially at night. A golf cart would be ideal. If you would like to donate a golf cart, or similar transportation to the college, give us a call at 601-426-6346.

Newly Created Scholarship

We are grateful for Teresa and Diane Gavin creating the Alton Gavin Scholarship. Brother Gavin was a former Board of Trustees member whom the Lord motivated to support and promote SBC. The scholarship will be awarded to two students each semester for a total \$250 a student. If you are interested in creating a scholarship for SBC students, please contact us at 601-426-6346.

Home Basketball Games

Knowing the scheduling of our home basketball games has

been a challenge under COVID 19 conditions. Many other colleges wait until a day or two before a game to inform us whether or not they will participate in a previously scheduled game against the Chargers. We have no control over the other school's decision making. Therefore, we can only project if the next scheduled games will actually occur. Currently, under the Governor's directive, we are only allowing SBC student spectators into the gym. You can view all games live on the Facebook Southeastern Baptist College Athletics page.

Amazon Smile

Anyone shopping on Amazon can select Southeastern Baptist College as your charity. When you do this, a portion of your purchase price will go directly to SBC as a donation from Amazon Smile! Thank you for those who are already using this unique method to benefit SBC.



Dr. Carson fills pulpits all over Mississippi and beyond. He recently provided an update on SBC and preached the Thanksgiving service for Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Union MS.

Be sure to choose Southeastern Baptist College and NOT the Southeastern Baptist College Foundation. Also, be careful which you choose because numerous organizations have "Southeastern" in their name.

Around the Campus with our Students



End of the Fall Semester Bonfire Student Fellowship



Happy sophomore chapel attenders. Pictured left to right: Daebreon Wallace and Kobie Wesley both of Heidelberg, and Averii Cotton of Philadelphia.



McKenzie Pruitt signs a commitment to attend and be an SBC Charger softball player. McKenzie is coming to SBC from Ocean Springs High School. Also pictured is Women's Softball Coach, Coach Ulmer.



The first player to commit to attending SBC as a Charger softball teammate is Emma Harrell. Emma is coming to us from Faith Academy near Mobile, Alabama.

Yes, we will "MAKE ROOM" on our giving list for Southeastern Baptist College this year. Enclosed is our gift of:

- \$500 
- \$250 
- \$100 
- Other \$ _____ 



Name _____
Address _____
Zip _____

As always, your gift to Southeastern Baptist College is tax deductible.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI Missions Department & Revolving Loan Fund



Larry Geraldson
Director



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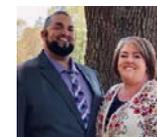
Daniel & Sherri
Allen



Wesley & Holley
Martin



Jason and Kylie
Howard



Josh and Mary Helen
Daniels



Estuardo &
Yasmine Marroquin

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!" Is 52:7

It always gives me great joy to share, with you, the reports or our State Missionaries and the missions activity across the great state of Mississippi. The news that we publish is the good news of a loving Savior who came to us and brought deliverance and provided us with hope. Oh, my friend, we have so much to be thankful for! Praise the Lord that we are able to again celebrate our Savior's birth. May we all be motivated to do as the old song says, "Go tell it on the mountain; Over the hills and everywhere; Go tell it on the mountain; Our Jesus Christ is born".

It does seem as if this past year has been a mountain. For some it has been a mountain of struggle and for others a mountain of opportunity. For all of us, it has provided new perspective and hopefully new inspiration, to be strong in our journey of faith, "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." Titus 2:13

Cherita and I want to wish all of you a wonderful Christmas and New Year. We pray for you and trust that "...the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." 1 Pet 5:10

Missionary Coaches Reports compiled by Bro. Sidney Farmer

"The missionary coaches have been able to move forward with training opportunities, with several missionaries currently taking advantage of the training being offered to them. In addition to coordinating the training process and working with our other coaches to maximize our time, I am personally meeting with Bro. Scott Brocious and his wife Susan for weekly discipleship training. Please continue to pray for all our guys and their families as they are still attempting to navigate through this challenging time." - Bro. Sidney Farmer

"I am thankful and blessed to have the opportunity to serve the BMA churches of Mississippi as Missionary coach. I have recently began meeting with Bro. Josh Daniels to share with him my area of training which is Church Doctrine. We have currently met four times and things are progressing well. I am looking forward to meeting and working with our other state missionaries as the opportunity arises." - Bro. Jason Howard

"I am working with Bro. Daniel Allen, helping him to develop and prepare for church

planting in the future. We are broadly covering several areas, but specifically focusing on Church Polity, currently. Bro. Daniel is helping with the preparation of our Church Constitution and By-laws. I have also been working with Johnny Williams and plan to begin Polity training soon. Everything is great! I look forward to working with the other missionaries in the future." - Bro. Wesley Martin

Redemption Baptist Mission Diamondhead, Mississippi

From Daniel Allen, "God has continued to bless at Redemption Baptist Mission. I have witnessed amazing things during this difficult year. As we have dealt with new challenges God continues to grow Redemption. Our membership and attendance have been setting records. During this growth I personally have been working right along beside Brother Wesley. He put me to doing a study on Wednesday nights. We also started our G.R.O.W. outreach program. This allows us to reach out to the visitors and our members. We send cards, make phone calls and house visits. We are also in the process of writing our Constitution, Statement of Faith and our By-laws. Brother Wesley, two other men (Brother Andrew and Brother Abdias) and I, selected by our mission congregation, are meeting to get this done. We are hoping to finish this up and get organized in the first part of 2021.



The Daniel Allen Family

We are excited about the season. Celebrating the birth of Christ is always a great way to meet new people and remind us that we have a Savior, given to us as a gift from the Father. (John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.) We are praying God will continue to bless during this season. We are amazed at what all God has done around us at Redemption. There are lots of things happening and there is excitement among the people. To Him be all the Glory!" - Daniel Allen

From Wesley Martin, "Greetings from Diamondhead. I hope this finds you all well. The Lord has continued to bless our work and I am so grateful. We have continued to

see the church grow while meeting new people. We have faced many challenges this year with COVID-19 just as many of you have. In November, we had to shut the church down for two weeks. I tested positive along with several others in the church. I want to thank everyone again for their prayers and support of us during that time. Everyone has recovered well and there is still great excitement about the church.

We look forward to continuing our work towards organization even though we have had some minor roadblocks. We are continuing to develop our Constitution, By-laws, and Statement of Faith. As we do this, we are teaching through each doctrine. This allows us to make sure all our people understand what we believe, why we believe it, and why it has been included in our Statement of Faith. I am really enjoying the process and it has been beneficial for our church. We are seeing great spiritual growth from our people. As a pastor, it is very exciting. On the other hand, we are also seeing families join our local body. It is great every time we can add a new family. We continue to make preliminary plans for a building expansion. We are averaging in the 60's with some mornings up to 80. We only have 96 chairs in the sanctuary. Lord willing, we will be able to come up with expanded sanctuary space as well as more areas for ministry throughout the week. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve the churches of the BMA of Mississippi in Diamondhead and recently, as a Missionary Coach. I thank you all for your prayers and support despite the challenges we have faced this year. May God bless each of you richly and peace be with you!" - Wesley Martin

Salt Light Baptist Mission Waveland, Mississippi

Salt Light Baptist has been busy this fall as we planned a couple of outreach ministries. We had a Fall Festival in October and invited our surrounding community. We had a great time, and we were able to meet their new families! I want to give a big thank you to Campground Baptist Church for all their help, as well! In November, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we had a special day (luncheon) after worship where we grilled hamburgers for our Waveland Police and Fire Department. It was a special honor to serve these guys who serve our city. They know that they have friends at Salt Light Baptist!

The last hurricane did some damage to both of our buildings. We are going to have to replace the roofs on both of our buildings. After securing two bids, it looks like it is going to cost us approximately \$12,000.00 to replace the roofs on both buildings. Bro. Geraldson has committed to pay half of this amount from the State Disaster relief fund, but we will need to raise the other half. The



Salt Light Mission Roof Damage

work is going forward with the Missions Department loaning us the remaining amount for the time being. But we need help raising this remaining \$6,000.00. If your church can help us, please send your donation to the Missions Office marked "Disaster Relief - Salt Light". Unfortunately, our insurance will not write for wind damage. If your Church or Local Association has disaster relief money and you need a project to support this Christmas, prayerfully consider Salt Light Baptist Mission. We could not do this without the prayers and support of the BMA of Mississippi churches. In His Love, Power and Grace." - Johnny Williams

Bible Study at Bayou La Batre, Alabama

"Merry Christmas!! I want to begin my report by expressing my sincere appreciation for the prayers and financial support this year! I am continuing to help and support Bro Brocious at the church plant in Buckatunna. The Lord has blessed there.



Bible study at Bayou La Batre, Alabama

We should have the building complete by the first of the year. In addition to the work at Buckatunna, I have begun a Bible study in Bayou La Batre, Alabama. We are meeting

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Missions Report

from page 4

on Tuesday nights and have consistently had 10-13 people to attend. There are two young ladies who approached me following our last meeting concerned about their salvation. In fact, they said they have never been saved! Pray for them as I try to lead them to the Lord! There is a lot going on. Pray with us for souls to be saved and churches to be planted." - Jason Howard

Living Hope Baptist Mission Meridian, Mississippi

"I am praying that this report finds you fulfilled from a wonderful Thanksgiving, as well as anticipating a joyous Christmas and New Year. The Lord has truly given Living Hope Baptist Mission so much to be thankful for. First, I am so thankful for the opportunity to serve the Lord with such a wonderful group of churches who are sold out for the cause of missions and church planting. Secondly, I am so thankful for the amazing hand of God upon the startup of this new mission. Living Hope held our first service on October 4th with 25 people in attendance. We are in our second month having a high day of 33, and only one Sunday without visitors; praise the Lord! God has been truly good to us! It has been a joy, even in this short time, to watch the Lord knit together the hearts of those faithfully attending the mission; it is truly taking on the characteristics of a local church. We have spent much of these past two months building relationships with the 10 families that are faithfully attending Living Hope.

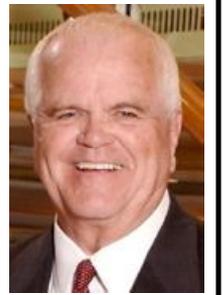


Above - Worship at Living Hope Mission
Below - Fellowship Time



Now that our family is settled in our new house in Meridian, we are excited to be able to put our full attention into the plant. We are even more excited that our first full month of outreach will be in conjunction with the Christmas season. We are praying that this month affords us many open doors to share the gospel in Meridian. Though our first Christmas celebration together at Living Hope may not have the flair of future Christmas programs, I am anticipating the Lord impacting many lives through this special occasion. I am eagerly planning for this special Sunday!

Mississippi Baptist



Don Brown
Editor

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January of each year is designated as the "**Special Emphasis Month**" for your **Publications Department**. Our churches & people are asked to receive a special offering during January to raise funds for the continued operation of this ministry.

Your gift is used throughout the year to help fund this work. Your gift is special to us and very much appreciated.

SPECIAL EMPHASIS NEEDS

\$10,000 JANUARY 2021

They help us continue to keep you informed about the work God is doing through the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi and America.

75 YEARS of MINISTRY

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI
DON BROWN, EDITOR

Please pray for us! We are starting our Wednesday night discipleship training on December 2nd. Pray that we will be able to see these first families grounded in the faith and the doctrines of the Bible. Pray that souls will be saved this Christmas season. Pray that Living Hope will continue to come together in a sweet spirit of unity. Pray that more families will be added to the mission. Pray that we will be able to get all of our foundational administrative work accomplished, so that the church can run smoothly. Most of all, please pray that Christ will be exalted in all that we do!

We are so honored to serve Christ with you! Thank you again for your sacrificial giving and your faithful prayers to see a church planted here in Meridian. Merry Christmas and remember: Wise Men still seek Him!" - Chris Yager

Refuge Baptist Mission Kiln, Mississippi

Greetings to our churches and associations of the BMA of Mississippi. We desire to "bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people" as the angel said in Luke 2. As we close on our first year of

ministry in Kiln, Mississippi, we celebrate our Lord Jesus and all that He has done for and through this mission. This year we have seen His physical provision through healing in sickness, giving us a place to meet, a van to pick up those in need of a ride, people to minister to, visitors attending regularly with some returning, and good giving among the people attending. This year so far there have been around 15 professions of faith with 11 of those being baptized in September. We praise God for drawing people and families unto

continued on page 7



Mississippi Baptist Children's Home



Lindsey

118 Lowe Road, Laurel, Mississippi 39443 - (601) 426-3928
Dwight Lindsey - Director

Assured by God's Blessing

God is good...all the time. The popular saying echos, "All the time...God is good." We have hit the time of year especially set aside for giving thanks. Thank you Lord and thank you to His people, my brothers and sisters in Christ.

I am thankful for so many things. I am thankful for the wife the Lord gave me. She is always with me. She is always trying to encourage

me, even when I need correcting. I could not ask for a better blessing. But, there's more. I have extended family and my family in faith that support me physically and biblically. That's not all. God has given me the blessing of being a part of the live's of some awesome kids. They make me laugh, they make

me cry, and they give me a small glimpse of the heavenly Father. It hurts sometimes, but it's



worth it. At times it's hilarious, heartwarming, and beyond anything I deserve. To parent your children is a gift from God. Parenting children in need is a reminder of the love of God. I had to pause while writing this article to work out the details of receiving another child this week. I am thankful we con-

tinue to be a blessing to kids in need.

I am blessed by the churches, individuals, and businesses that act as the hands of God in our lives daily. We have had churches give towards Christmas. Individuals shipped some gifts directly from amazon. A business blessed us with some food this Thanksgiving. Thank you for acting as the Spirit of God guides your heart.

As we prepare for the most wonderful time of the year we are reminded of God's greatest blessing given to His creation. Luke 2:11-14 says, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, Good will toward men."

I am not assured in the goodness of God only when these daily blessings come my way. I am assured by the blessing of God, His Son Jesus Christ. God is not good just because he gives good gifts, but because He provided us with the one eternal need we could not get anywhere else. Thank you God for Jesus, grace, and redemption.

Sermon

from Front Page

was, and the consequent need to personally let Christ be the Lord of his life, and to urgently preach Christ and Him crucified.

If I can illustrate it is this way. My personal sins are altogether black, with black representing vileness. Compared to your sins and the sins of others, however, my sins don't look all that bad since "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" (Romans 3:23). That is, my dark sins up against your black background don't seem all that terrible, but up against the white background of Jesus, signifying His purity, my sins look undeniably heinous and terrible, they stand out in a repulsive way, and I immediately realize that I need the spiritual help that only Jesus can give. That's one major reason why Paul saw himself as a sinner-in-chief, why he resolved to preach Christ, and why we should to the same. It's our responsibility!

If we only preach about and against contemporary sin, and there is in fact a great deal of it in today's world, then we get what we can do. And, if we are not extremely careful, we will do little more than push people away from Christian ministry and make the world that so desperately needs to hear the Good News of Jesus and to be saved madder than they are now, and could possibly cause them to see us only as being self-righteous and cold-hearted religionists. However, if we preach against sin, and strictly so, in the loving setting of "Jesus Christ and Him Crucified", then we get what God can do! In other words, our mission is not to win people to our lifestyles which are typically and characteristically less cluttered by sin, but to win them to Jesus who died for them and can dramatically change their lives today and forever.

Preach against sin and do so without compromise, but remember to preach as Paul did in Corinth and with the determination God gave you at your calling as a servant of Christ. God did not call me to be a politician and to hold political ral-

lies, but as a preacher of the Gospel. God did not call me as a policeman to watch over every detail of the lives of other people, but as a preacher of the Gospel. And God did not call me to be a judge and to constantly and officially stand in judgment of other people, but to be a preacher of the Gospel. We certainly need an abundance of godly politicians, policemen and policewomen, and judges, and they are all to be admired and respected, but that's not my calling. When God called me on June 25 of 1976 He specifically called me to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. May God help me and you to fulfill that responsibility come what may.

As a quick added note, except to check on a score or two, I've signed off on the NFL this season. It hurts to do so for I love football, but I have become perplexed with football players turning football games into political rallies. And yet I wonder, what if I become too political in one of Magnolia's services, preach Christ too little and current political events too much,

see Sermon on page 8

Pastor MacArthur: America's morally

This is a nation so far down in the sewer of immorality and wickedness that nothing surprises me..

OneNewsNow.com - As California continues to clamp down on church meetings, a state judge recently ruled that adult entertainment clubs have a First Amendment right to be open during the ongoing pandemic.

The club owners had argued that adult entertainment is protected free speech – a view first sanctioned by a Supreme Court order in 1973. California Superior Court Judge Joel R. Wohlfeil agreed and ruled the clubs have to be allowed to open while the case winds its way through the courts.

Meanwhile, Governor Gavin Newsom (D) has put burdensome restrictions on churches and family Thanksgiving gatherings. Pastor John MacArthur of Grace Community Church, which is in an ongoing legal battle with Los Angeles County, says the nation is upside down.

"This is a nation so far down in the sewer of immorality and wickedness that nothing surprises me," he responds. "In fact, I would be shocked if a judge said, 'Open all the churches, and close all the strip clubs.'"

MacArthur has been disregarding California's restrictions on churches in defiance of the governor and local officials. As he told "The Ingraham Angle" on Fox News, he sees the regulations as nothing but a power grab.

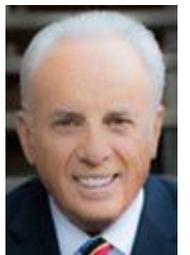
"Power-hungry people are using this emergency to gain

greater power," he observes. "This is historic. This is nothing new, and if people don't fight back, they're going to fall victim to the intention of whatever this revolution is."

The pastor says history shows that every revolution from Julius Caesar to Hitler took place at a time when the powers of the people in authority were enlarged because of a supposed emergency. The real emergency, he says, is the moral decline of the country.

"You murder the babies in the womb; you try to seduce them into transgender sexual deviation when they're young," he continues. "If they survive that, you corrupt them with a Godless education. If they survive that, you have divorce in the family. And if they grow to be adults, you drown them in a sea of pornography."

MacArthur concludes that America is in a "moral freefall."



MacArthur

Unity Church, Guntown Seeking Pastor

Unity Baptist Church of Guntown, Mississippi, is seeking a pastor. Inquiries concerning this position should be directed to the Search Committee. The contact person is Tony Holcomb and he may be reached at 662-891-1325.

tries we partner with key leaders or ministries through stipends to meet specific needs and goals related to training or church planting.

In all cases, needed funds are opportunities to expand the gospel, make disciples, and plant churches. We partner (do things WITH people not FOR people) to create self-sustaining church planting movements. The need for the gospel has never been greater, and that is why our goal is to double the number of missionaries in the next ten years.

Whether on February 28 or another Sunday, we ask that you lead your church to take up an offering. Last year on World Missions Day, our churches gave \$400,000. I am praying we will beat that number this year. With your help we can do it.

World Missions Day

from page 1

the indelible legacy of this pioneering BMA missionary. When you give to The Jerry Kidd Offering on World Missions Day, your funds go to:

- North America church planting - providing stipends to multi-ethnic church planters in Canada and the U.S.
- U.S. missionaries - While most U.S. missionaries now raise their funds, others still receive stipends, and all U.S. missionaries benefit from support and training.
- ChangeMakers - Many countries have formed church associations, and we work with them as they send missionaries and plant churches. In other coun-

Missions Report

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Himself.

There have been new classes and discipleship opportunities that have started this year. Some have been a trial run, and some have been a short 6-7-week study. Our ladies just recently finished a few weeks study and we have also finished a 5 week trial run of youth and children's ministry classes on Sunday nights. We will organize that better and start back in January. Also beginning in January, we plan to start 2-3 home group adult Bible studies.

We have just recently held our second annual turkey giveaway on Saturday November 21st. We were able to give away 100 turkeys and 100 bags of side items to go with the turkeys. We were able to meet over 150 people and we had 8 of those come back to attend worship services with us on Sunday.

We do ask for each one of our churches and associations to please pray that God will open a door to the physical location that He has for us. We have viewed a few places this year and we have not felt that it would be the right place, yet. Some of the better locations have little land for a large price and some of the other places have good prices, but the land is not usable without lots of work. We know God has a purpose in this work being here and He will open the door at the right time. We have purposed in our hearts to trust Him and to use this time to grow as a unified body and to continue to build a great reputation in our county.

We thank God for each of the churches and associations that give and help support the Refuge Baptist Mission efforts in Kiln, Mississippi. God has blessed us to have some amazing people in our lives and we count each one of you when we count our blessings. May God bless you through this holiday season of Christmas and the New Year. Decreasing for HIS Increase!" – Josh Daniels

Midway Baptist Mission Batesville, Mississippi

"...lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:20b. This promise from our Lord brings so much comfort as we seek to carry out His commission to proclaim the Gospel and make disciples. The uncertainty and fear concerning COVID19 has affected all our churches, but it has been very devastating to the work at Midway. As I stated in the last report, average attendance has dropped to the level we had the first several months after establishing the mission. We have eleven members and eight more who consider themselves a part of our congregation but only eight or nine are showing up for Sunday School and morning worship. Every family associated with Midway has dealt with family members infected with the virus. We are still having Sunday morning services, but several of the area churches have suspended all services. Our plan is to continue with morn-



Midway Baptist prepares Christmas boxes

ing services for all who desire in-person meetings for as long as possible.

Even though few, our fellowship is sweet. I have seen no evidence of depression. The people are reaching out to family members and neighbors with encouragement and invitations to join with us for worship. Everyone is committed to the call for establishing the Lord's church in our location. We will not cease the work until He declares the task completed.

The Sunday before Thanksgiving Day we had a special prayer time to dedicate the 55 gift boxes our members had prepared for Operation Christmas Child. The youngest of the Midway congregation, three-year-old Stella Shroads, was super excited to be sending gifts to the children and telling them about Jesus.

As we are in the holiday season, we pray for all of you a happy and blessed Christmas and a great New Year. Thank you churches and individuals for your prayers and financial support. God is good and we are expecting great works to be done to His honor and glory." – Dr. Kenneth Pollock

Canaan Land Baptist Mission Buckatunna, Mississippi

"May the Lord continue to bless each of you through the holiday season. Canaan Land Baptist Mission is continuing to see the blessings of the Lord. As always, we are very thankful for each one of you that support this work, prayerfully and monetarily.



Canaan Land Mission building gets a face lift.

Continue to remember us in your prayers. We have been seeing the Lord move in each of our services. We have had multiple first-time visitors, as well as some that have been very faithful to continue to return. One of these is a very good pianist. Sometimes the



Children signing a special at Canaan Land Baptist Mission

Lord sends exactly what we need. We also are continuing to try to reach people in the community with the gospel of Christ. Pray that the Lord will bless in these efforts. If there has been one thing that I have learned in the journey of this mission work, it is that God is faithful and He can see things that we do not!

I would like to take time to thank our home church, Canaan Missionary Baptist Church. They have truly been a blessing to this mission work and have given without end. We would not be near where we are today without them. Their heart for mission work and furthering the cause of Christ

amazes me. They have helped tremendously with physical labor, as well as, monetarily with the renovations of the building that God has provided us. The renovations of the building are coming along. The outside of the building has been completed and it is beautiful, if I can say so myself. While the inside is about 85 percent complete, we are setting an ambitious goal of having all the renovations completed by the first of the year. After these renovations, we will be able to focus more of our time on outreach efforts. I am very excited about these opportunities and have several functions planned for after the renovations are completed. We are also planning to start a mid-week discipleship class as soon as lights have been restored. I will be taking the Disciple Way class that Brother Sidney Farmer is offering and bringing that right back to our people in Wayne county. We must equip the saints! If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about Canaan Land please feel free to contact me. Thank you all once again and pray for us!" - Bro. Scott Brocious

Hispanic Missions Report by Bro. Estuardo Marroquin

Over the past few months, we have been able to see God's hand on all of us. Each missionary field has undergone changes, but the message remains the same: Jesus is the Savior. Even during trials, missionary work continues to advance, and I thank God for the brethren who passionately continue to serve our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hispanic Missions in Hattiesburg

Leo Adan and his family continue to give all their hearts to God's work in this city. Worship services have continued, and the congregation remains firm in carrying out the plan they initiated in January of this year. Each week, the congregation remains faithful to its small group meetings, prayer services, and leader training. In November, I had the opportunity to visit them and preach the word of God. I enjoyed seeing the faithfulness and dedication of the entire congregation. The congregation is made up of several families, young people, and many children. Bro. Leo is training seven men who lead small groups each week and he continues to train them for the work of the ministry. All the congregation is lively, and they continue to support missionary work with their prayers and offerings at the local Big Creek Association, the New Hope Hispanic Association, and the Missions Department of the BMA of Mississippi. We thank God for the Hispanic work in the city of Hattiesburg and the life of Brother Leo and his family.



Bro. Leo Adan

Hispanic Missions in Canton

Lucas Gomez and his family are excited about what God is doing in this city and in the Hispanic community. In recent months, they have gathered in the house of Brother Lucas each week and faithfully gather 12 to 15 people every Sunday. Worship service begins at 11 a.m. with songs, biblical preaching, and prayer time. The congregation has two families and young people, most of them from the country of Guatemala. Last November, I have been able to visit them several times with the purpose of supporting them

and to start looking for a place to move the Hispanic mission to a building. Some buildings have been found that are in good locations and the congregation is praying to God to follow His will so that they can move to one of these places. Please pray for this project by 2021. The congregation meets only on Sunday mornings and during the week Bro.



Bro. Lucas Gomez and his family...
hispanic missionary to Canton, Mississippi

Lucas teaches the Bible to several people. The brethren of this congregation have been faithful in supporting missionary work with their prayers and offerings in the New Hope Hispanic Association and the Missions Department of BMA of Mississippi. God bless Bro. Lucas and his family on the missionary field.

El Camino Church, Laurel

The church in Laurel continues to spread the great commission of our Lord Jesus Christ. Each week they contact people and share the gospel of salvation. The congregation moves forward, although some members have not wished to return to meetings because of the pandemic and others have moved to other cities. God has been faithful and opens doors to meet more people and testify to them of the Lord Jesus. The church continues to train leaders through the Bible Institute. About 20 students attend every Sunday. The church is praying for the call of more brothers to the missionary field and following God's direction to send another brother in 2021. I thank God for the El Camino Church. I have seen this congregation's dedication and passion for missionary work supporting with prayers and offerings at the Big Creek Local Association, New Hope Hispanic Association, BMA of Mississippi Missions Department and BMA of America Missions Department. God continues to use El Camino Church to enlarge the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hispanic Missions in North Mississippi

The Way, Truth, and Life Church in Ripley, Mississippi, is moving forward in developing its work plan. The congregation is lively, conducting its small group meetings, prayer service, and worship on Sundays. In November they were celebrating 17 years of life and celebrated two special meetings, joining with the missionary fields of Tupelo and Oxford that are under their support, having a good number of attendees with the purpose of thanking God for his faithfulness in these years of service to the Lord Jesus. The church in Ripley supports with its prayers and offerings the New Hope Hispanic Association and the Local Association. We thank God for Pastor Byron Morales and his family who have been faithful in the direction of the church in Ripley. We also thank God for Pastor Humberto Regalado and his family in the Hispanic mission in Tupelo and Brother Luis Huichin and family in the Hispanic mission at Oxford. God

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Sermon

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and miss an opportunity to tell someone in the congregation or worshiping with us online about Jesus and His ability to save sinners. God help me! God help me to strike the right balance of preaching against current events and conditions, but always in the setting of “Jesus Christ and Him Crucified”!

II. The Preaching of Jesus Christ and Him Crucified Reigns Absolutely above All Other Proclamations

To lead a pro-abortion person to become a pro-life person would no doubt be an exceedingly great victory, but to lead a person to Christ in spiritual regeneration has to be the greatest victory. For a person to change his or her mind about abortions would bring about at least a temporary celebration, but the surest change is the change that only Jesus can make: *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”* (II Corinthians 5:17).

To lead an addicted person to become sober and independent of his or her addictions would also be a great victory, but to lead a person to take on the “image” of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit would forever be life changing: *“And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him:”* (Colossians 3:10). That’s the ultimate new “image”!

To lead a non-traditional marriage person to become a traditional marriage person would be another great victory, but to lead that same person to a spiritual and eternal union with Christ would be a greater victory, one more glorious and dramatic: *“like as Christ was raised*

up (gloriously and dramatically) from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” (Romans 6:4b).

Missionary David Brainerd said about his ministry to Native Americans: “I never got away from Jesus and Him crucified. I found that when my people were gripped by this great evangelical doctrine...I had no need to give them instructions about morality...One followed as sure and inevitable fruit of the other.”

Proclaim all those things aforementioned and more while preaching the whole “counsel” (Acts 20:27) of God’s Word, but save your most passionate preaching energies for Jesus: *“save Jesus Christ, and him crucified”* (I Corinthians 2:2). The proclamation that reigns supreme for us is not just to get people to see themselves as utterly disgusting sinners, but to see themselves as lost people desperately and eternally in need of Christ.

Paul was not that successful in Athens, the city he visited just before Corinth. Paul in Athens was a touch philosophical in his preaching, but in Corinth it was *“save Jesus Christ, and him crucified”* for 18 months. Thus, we don’t have First and Second Athenians before us today, but First and Second Corinthians. We never go wrong preaching Jesus. Jesus is the greatest of our proclamations! Only Jesus can change a person’s eternal course from hell to heaven, from sinner to saint!

III. The Preaching of Jesus Christ and Him Crucified Clearly Continues to Be Our Primary Mission Today

Nation-wide pandemonium and a worldwide pandemic have not change our marching orders from heaven.

I dare say that our divisive political conditions today in the United States is not any worse than the godless political

conditions in the Roman Empire in the land of the Bible during the days of Jesus and Paul. Jesus, however, never used the word “Rome” or “Romans” in His teachings, or if He did, the Holy Spirit did not deem it worthy to be recorded in Matthew, Mark, Luke or John. (The only time the word “Romans” appears in the four gospels is in John 11:48, and then it was used by a Pharisee who was concerned about the health and standing of his religion.) Jesus and Paul did not seize every opportunity to fight with the Roman Empire; instead Jesus and Paul spent their time and energy making every attempt to save the people of the empire by resolutely and proactively sharing the Good News of salvation. Their concerns were not overly political, but abundantly spiritual.

Furthermore, our long list of current hardships, all of which are very real, is not worthy to even be considered along side of the hardships Jesus experienced in the Gospels, or Paul’s list of difficulties in II Corinthians 11:23-33. Their deprivations were far greater than ours, and we are, therefore, without excuse for not being on target with our Christ-given mission.

The Great Commission of Matthew 28:18-20 is still in effect today. So, be “determined” (I Corinthians 2:2) to preach Christ even if you are a lone voice in the wilderness, or if no one is listening, or if the world hates you, or if people with itching ears insist that you preach something else or someone other than Christ. The fact of the matter is that today you may very well be the lone voice, and possibly that no one at a given time is listening, and that people dislike you for your commitment to Christ, and that people want to hear a message other than a Christian message. But with resolve, brothers and sisters, continue to preach Christ and to do so under the authority of the Great Commission.

The Great Commandment of Matthew 22:37-40 is still in effect today. The “love” for God and people taught and modeled by Christ in the clearly stated commandment is to be as sweet, selfless, and sacrificial as ever before, and never has it been needed more than it is today. So again, be “determined” to go forward with the Gospel of Christ under the direction of the Great Commission and in the loving spirit of the Great Commandment.

The Great Sermon of Matthew 5-7 is also still in effect today. The Beatitudes of Matthew 5:1-12, such as “meek” in verse 5, “merciful” in verse 7, and “peacemakers” in verse 9, are literally to be our attitudes as regenerated Christian messengers. While the people of the world rush forward in arrogance, without mercy, and with no intent of making peace in their power mongering ways, we can continue to obediently hear Christ preach the Sermon on the Mount, take heed to His teachings, and be a different people with a different message of saving hope. In this way people who desperately need to be saved will see the disciples of Christ as “the salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13) and “the light of the world” (Matthew 5:14), and then they will be more apt to hear the preaching of “Jesus Christ, and him crucified.”

All of this, from our attitudes to our actions, that advance the proclaiming of Jesus Christ, is done for His glory as the sinless One who was actually crucified. As Paul stated two verses before the text of I Corinthians 2:2, *“That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.”* (I Corinthians 1:31).

May God help us, come what may, to preach “Jesus Christ and Him Crucified” until He comes again, and always and absolutely for His glory! *“But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,”* (Galatians 6:14a).

Missions Report

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continues to use the lives of these brethren to magnify the kingdom of our Lord Jesus.

The Bible says in Isaiah 9:6 “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called, wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace”. Glory to God for the fulfillment of His word by having sent Jesus who is our Savior. At this time of year, we want The Prince of Peace to reign in your lives and fill your hearts with peace. This is the desire of my heart and of my family. Thank you for your prayers and all your support. It is an honor to serve God and be part of this great association.”

Restoration – A Ministry to the Jailed by Dr. Paul Spurlin

“Restoration continues to work in the Jones County Adult Detention Center (JCADC), as we typically visit this facility twice a month, each time holding a one-hour worship service with approximately 10 prisoners able to attend each service. God is bless-



Dr. Paul Spurlin and his wife Julie are distributing, courtesy of Bro. Donald Brown and Prisoners Bible Crusade, are being used by the men who have received them. In the November 6 service, a prisoner to whom we had given a Bible in the October 16 service, asked where in the Bible he could find the letters of Paul because he had heard that reading those letters would strengthen his prayer life. I was happy to show him in the Bible’s index where Paul’s letters can be found. His new Bible had many notes written in the margins, so it appears he had been spending time reading it in the three weeks since it had been given to him.

God has blessed Restoration with a group of men, including Gil Odom (who preached at our November 6 service), Darryl Thornton, Chris Myers, Bobby Hinton, John Smith, and Bobby Cole who have worked with me in the JCADC. Also, Bro. Estuardo Marroquin, Hispanic Missions Manager with our Missions Department and co-pastor of El Camino Baptist Church in Laurel, visited JCADC with Restoration to minister to Spanish-speaking prisoners. On October 9, during Bro. Estuardo’s first trip to the jail, he was able to minister one-on-one with a prisoner, sharing the Gospel by allowing the prisoner to read several key passages for himself from the Bible. As he would read, Bro. Estuardo would explain the Gospel to him and the

We also see evidence that the Bibles we

man prayed for God to save him through Jesus Christ. Please pray for this new brother as he begins his walk with Christ in a difficult environment and as he faces some difficult challenges in the upcoming months.

God has recently answered our prayers to be granted access to the Jones County Juvenile Detention Center. We plan to make our first trip there in the next month or so. Please pray specifically for these visits so that we will effectively share the Gospel with these children.

We are thankful to God for His blessings on our work in the Jones County system, and we are looking for churches willing to begin a ministry to the local jail in their counties. If your church has any interest to pursue such a ministry or to work with us in Jones County, please contact me at paul.restoration.ministry@gmail.com.

You should receive this update following Thanksgiving and before Christmas. We, at Restoration, are certainly thankful for the prayer and financial support you have provided to us, and we hope that you had a great and safe Thanksgiving and that you have a wonderful Christmas season. As you celebrate the birth of our Savior, please remember to pray for prisoners and their loved ones who will be separated during the holidays.”