

The Baptist

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The Only Hope for America

from a message by
the late Dr. Adrian Rogers

“Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people” (Proverbs 14:34).

America’s only hope is found in this verse. Our nation has a godly founding and a glorious past, but if the Lord tarries, what kind of nation will our children inherit?

Evidently Americans believe the economy is the top issue. But I’d rather leave my children the legacy of a godly nation than great wealth squandered in a godless society.

Righteousness is our greatest need. Alexander Hamilton said, “People get the government they deserve.” Something has happened in America. If we want to know what’s wrong, we need to look in the mirror.

Righteousness Exalts A Nation

America was born in a revival. The Great Awakening swept the land in a flame of righteousness. Out of that, schools were built, principles taught, and character became strong. A new-born nation declared her independence from England and upon almighty God.

Our Founding Fathers knew the best government was the least government. The more character you have, the more responsibility you’ll assume, and the less government you’ll need.

You cannot have true liberty without true righteousness. They are inextricably interwoven. For example, if a man becomes a criminal, he’s put in jail. Failing his responsibilities, his liberties are taken away. A baby has no responsibilities. But he also has no liberties: he can’t choose when he’s going to sleep or what he’ll wear. As he grows and assumes responsibilities, he’s given more liberties.

We will have more or less liberty in direct proportion to our character. When we lose character - righteousness - we lose liberty, for people who

cannot live responsibly from within must be controlled from without.

James Madison said, “We have staked the whole future of American civilization not upon the power of government - far from it - . . . [but] upon the capacity govern and sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments.” But today the Ten Commandments are called “unconstitutional” and removed from classrooms and many public buildings.

Sin - A Reproach To Any People

The great American dream is dissolving because of sin: sexual perversion, killing unborn children, break-up of the family, obsession with material things, craving for pleasure. America is self-indulgent, out of control.

With the erosion of character, we relinquish more responsibility to government, and whatever it subsidizes, government says it must control. When we depend on government to feed us, it will control us. Government is here to protect from tyranny and punish evildoers, not meet our needs. Sure as night follows day, when government provides, it begins to regulate. Then it’s free to oppress.

Look at our education system. It has outlawed God. The Bible is out, humanism is in. The Ten Commandments were swapped out for values clarification, one-world government, glories of the welfare state, and a new world order.

We’re now living in the shadows of

an age. Our liberties are fast receding. You say, “But we still have lots of blessings in America.” Yes, we do. But they are residual blessings our forefathers left us.

Revival - The Restoration of a Nation

“When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice. But then the wicked bear rule, the people mourn” (Proverbs 29:2).

We must take America back. We don’t have to be a majority, we’re salt and light. Salt penetrates, purifies, heals, and preserves. To say “don’t mix politics and religion” is like saying put the fish in one barrel and the salt in another. But “if salt loses its savor,”

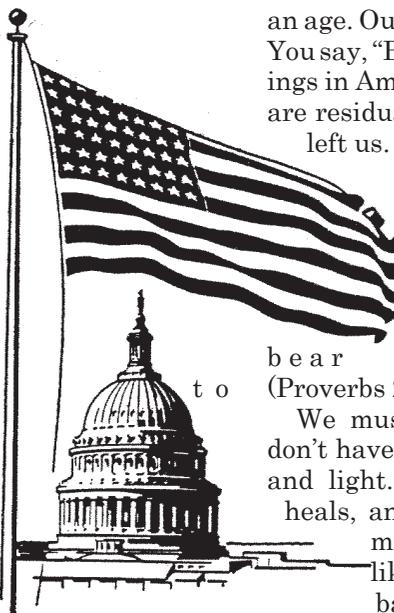
Jesus said, “it’s good for nothing but to be cast out and trodden under the feet of men.”

The church of Jesus Christ is being “trodden underfoot” because we’ve become salt without savor.

Our Constitution was written for people of character. Godly character must permeate our society. We must set the standard in caring for our own and the widows and orphans. We must train up our children, godly offspring who will take leadership positions and return us to living by godly principles.

I want to leave my children and grandchildren a godly nation. Don’t you? God is our only hope, and revival will be the restoration to our nation.

From July-August 2013 issue of “Ministry Moments”. A publication of Love Worth Finding Ministries.



“OUR CRUMBLING SOCIETY”

Editor’s Note: The following article is not published as a sign of support, but as a sign of how far some religious individuals and old line denominations have fallen. We urge our readers to let the following information stir their hearts toward evangelizing the lost and praying for the misguided.

National Cathedral Celebrates Ruling on Gay Marriage

The National Cathedral joined other Christian churches in the nation’s capital Wednesday in ringing bells to celebrate the Supreme Court’s decision overturning the federal ban on gay marriage.

Cathedral spokesman Richard Weinberg told television station WUSA the bells were rung for about 45 minutes to an hour, beginning at noon. Bells also could be heard ringing at Methodist, Presbyterian, Unitarian, and other Christian churches across the District of Columbia to mark the ruling.

The cathedral, the seat of the Episcopal Church, also marked the day with

an evening prayer service for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender families, the Washington Post reported.

Speaking at the service, the Rev. Gary Hall, the cathedral dean, said, “I do believe we have turned a corner in American life. I do believe we have turned a corner in the faith community’s life.”

Hall, a vocal supporter of same-sex marriage, also observed, “We are now at a place where we are beginning to see together that the sacrament of marriage is a divine gift, a divine gift offered to everyone regardless of sexual

continued on page 2

Commission on Senior Adults

4226 Highway 15 North
Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Kenneth Flynt
Director

Greetings in the Master's Name

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to announce that the place of meeting for the 2014 Senior Adult Conferences have been established. We look forward with great anticipation to meeting once again with Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso, for the South Mississippi Conference on March 25, 2014, and with East Fulton Baptist Church, Fulton, and Pastor Gary Smith during the month of May. Date will be determined

later.

As I look back and think of the Heaven's Jubilee conferences, both the South Conference and the North Conference were a great success as God's people lifted their voices and the great songs filled the air. As we progressed through the day at each conference there was an increasing sense of the presence of the Lord. It was electrifying. At the noon hour at Big Creek and Mt. Pleasant the gymnasiums became huge dining rooms where wonderful

meals were enjoyed by all in attendance.

I'm thankful for the support of our churches and local associations that make all this possible for our seniors. It was a joy indeed to be able to minister to 475 seniors. With the jubilee such a success, all headed home all excited about future conferences.

These special days are strictly for our seniors and it is the only day just for them during the entire year with no business to take time away from the events planned with seniors in mind. It is always a blessed day in the Lord.

I want to encourage pastors all across the state to make your calendars now and come and bring your senior adults to the conference in your area. You will be pleased when your church seniors return home.

Ruling on Gay Marriage

from page 1

orientation."

According to the Post, the cathedral started performing same-sex marriages in January, not long after Hall became dean.

The cathedral's recognition of the court's ruling through its prayer service brought out many gay and lesbian couples who told the Post they had turned away from religion.

Two of them, Aaron Elliott and Frank Piotrkowski, are engaged to be married. They said many of their friends celebrated the ruling by going out for drinks, but they chose instead to attend the church service.

"I gave up on religion for a

long time," Elliott told the Post. But he said the welcoming congregation at the cathedral makes him feel like he "can be part of a religious community again, not be ostracized because of someone else's ideas."

Earlier in the day, the cathedral issued a statement from Hall noting that the bells of the church, which sits at a high point in the city, overlooking nearly all of Washington, were rung "to celebrate the extension of federal marriage equality to all the same-sex couples modeling God's love in lifelong covenants."

Hall said the ruling should be viewed as a call for all Christians to embrace religious marriage equality, according to WUSA.

Missions and DiscipleGuide join in two new projects

DiscipleGuide Church Resources is excited about two upcoming projects in conjunction with BMA Missions.

"Project ESL" is being developed as a Bible Study in simplified English for the purpose of giving an overview of the Bible and the Gospel to people learning English. This will be valuable to almost every mission field, as people from all nations want to learn English for business and education. Several BMA missionaries have used teaching English as a platform to develop relationships, but have not had Bible Study curriculum that would bridge the gap between simplified English and the Gospel.

Project ESL is attempting to fill the need. Project ESL could also be valuable to churches

in the United States desiring to reach out to international students on local college campuses and Spanish-speaking residents in their local community. Project ESL will be made available to all BMA missionaries for free.

In addition, a new six-lesson Bible study called, "XPLORE" is being developed to help churches teach their members about God's heart for the nations in missions.

The six lessons exploring God's Word, God's World, and God's Work will be great for Sunday school classes, small groups, mission team preparation, and individual study.

The XPLORE study will be ready for purchase soon from the DiscipleGuide web store at discipleguide.org.



Free Courses

Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary will offer two **free** (non-credit) Distance Education (online) courses this fall. They will be eight-week courses, complete with assignments and forum interactions with other students. Those who finish the course will receive a certificate of completion.

Classes Offered

(TH421cf) Overview of Baptist Doctrinal Statements
Instructor, Dr. Charley Holmes
This course thoroughly orients students to historic Baptist confessions of faith, particularly as those confessions of faith relate to soteriology, most especially the *New Hampshire Declaration of Faith*.

(NT123cf) New Testament Survey
Instructor, Dr. Tony Cleaver
This course is a survey of the entire New Testament. The general background, authorship, and content of the various books of the New Testament are covered. The life and work of Jesus, the organization of churches and early missionary enterprises are especially stressed.

If you are interested in signing up for one of these courses, please contact the seminary for registration information at **bmats.edu** or **(800) 259-5673**.
Registration is now open and will end August 16.
Classes begin August 26.



Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

A Grand Ole Lady

(Given the yellowed condition of the paper when this was found, it has been around for a long while, but is still applicable to a lot of us today.)

There's nothing whatsoever the matter with me;
I'm just as healthy as I can be.
I have arthritis in my back and knees,
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze.
My pulse is weak, my blood is thin -
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

My teeth eventually had to come out;
And my diet I hate to think about.
I'm overweight and can't get thin,
My appetite is sure to win.
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

The moral to this as the tale unfolds:
For all of those who are growing old,
It's better to say, "I'm fine." with a grin,
Than to let folks know the shape you're in!

CONSIDER THIS

Faith is the *response* of the heart to the *character* of God

DiscipleGuide

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Scott Attebery

Why multiplication exists

Revelation 7:9-10 reveals a future scene in heaven. "After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!'"

Did you catch that? Heaven will be inhabited by people from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages.

Question: How will people from every nation, tribe, people and language get there?

It's not by accident. God has been planning worldwide worship from the beginning. In the very first book of the Bible, God instructed Adam and Eve to be fruitful and multiply (Genesis 1:28). Why? "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the

sea (Habakkuk 2:14)."

After the flood, God repeated the command to Noah: "Be fruitful and multiply" (Genesis 9:7). Later, God told Abraham that all nations would be blessed through him (Genesis 12:2). God repeated that promise to Abraham's son, Isaac, and grandson, Jacob (Genesis 26:4, 28:14).

Multiplication holds incredible potential for growth. Think about how a person's descendants multiply as each generation passes. For example, Tim and Pam have two children who have two children each. After three generations, Tim and Pam's descendants have increased from two to 14! They have been fruitful and multiplied their physical legacy.

Spiritually speaking, the concept is the same. God has chosen to make worshipers of all nations by multiplying worshippers through their spiritual legacies.

It is called discipleship. Examples fill the pages of scripture: Moses disciplined Joshua.

Elijah disciplined Elisha; Eli disciplined Samuel. John the Baptist disciplined many, and Paul disciplined Timothy.

Jesus compared the power of multiplication to the growth of a mustard seed (the smallest of all seeds) into a strong tree full of branches and leaves (Luke 13:18-19). Maybe you feel as spiritually significant as a mustard seed right now. But that is the beauty of God's design. He chooses the small, seemingly insignificant people in this world and does mighty things through them.

Consider the power of multiplication in the book of Acts. Chapter six tells us, "the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem exceedingly" (6:7). The momentum of multiplication powered a mighty mission movement in the Church. And the mission movement empowered multiplication. Even in the midst of great persecution, "the word of God grew and multiplied" (12:24). After just three decades, the early church had experienced 400 percent growth! Do you feel the power of multiplication?

The task of discipleship is not busy-work; it is the work. Jesus issued only one plan to achieve worldwide worship — making disciples. He banked his entire ministry on it. And He will not return until people from all nations respond to the gospel (Matthew 24:14).

Texas; and John Smith, Jr. of Atlanta, Texas.

Dr. John David Smith, Executive Director of Missions for the Baptist Missionary Association of America, delivered the commencement address. Smith holds a B.S. in Bible from Southeastern Baptist College, Laurel, Mississippi; an M. Div. from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, Lynchburg, Virginia; and a D. Min. in Missiology from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Cordova, Tennessee. His doctoral project was entitled, "De-

Treat of Conway, Arkansas.

Recipients of the Master of Arts in Church Ministries degree included: Debra Anderson of Greenbrier, Arkansas; Randall Anderson of Greenbrier, Arkansas; and Joycelyne Fadojutimi of Lonview, Texas.

The Master of Divinity degree was awarded to: Pate Bauldree of El Dorado, Arkansas; Clint Covington of Troup,

BMA Seminary Holds Fifty-Sixth Commencement

by Dr. Philip Attebery, Dean

Fifteen individuals received a degree from the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary of Jacksonville, Texas during commencement exercises conducted Saturday, May 18, 2013. The seminary hosted the event in its Dorman Memorial Chapel on the main campus in Jacksonville, Texas.

Vasquez Granberry of Tyler, Texas received the Associate of Divinity degree. Donald Fenton of Gilmer, Texas; Robert Lee of Nacogdoches, Texas; Brittney Lingle of Henderson, Texas; and Wesley McMillan of Bullard, Texas received the Bachelor of Arts in Religion degree.

The Master of Arts (Religion) degree was awarded to: S. M. Butler of Henderson, Texas; Brandon Lingle of Henderson, Texas; Michael Puckett of Hope, Arkansas; and Michael



2013 BMA Seminary Graduates

Southeastern Baptist College

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

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

by Matt Hudson
SBC Trustee Chairman

"We are open for business." These are the words spoken with the start of a new business. Southeastern Baptist College is open for business and waiting for you to come and enroll for your college education.

Even with the departure of our interim President and some faculty members, we are still enrolling for the fall semester. Many changes have been made at the college over the past year, but these changes were necessary to continue the progressive outreach that is needed. With all the changes being made, our purpose and mission is still the same. We want to provide students with a well rounded education and encour-

veloping a Model for Prefield Preparation and Orientation of International Missionaries for the BMA of America."

Following time as a missionary in the Cape Verde Islands, off the coast of West Africa, Smith became an international assistant for BMAA missions in 2007. That same year he took on the responsibility of heading up the missions degree program at Central Baptist College, Conway, Arkansas where he currently serves as an associate professor of missions. In 2010, the BMAA elected him to serve as the executive director of BMAA missions.

BMA Seminary provides accredited theological education to qualified individuals by seeking to equip them for Christian service and leadership roles. The seminary supports the educational needs of the Baptist Missionary Association of America and other groups who share a like commitment to the authority of Scripture by offering certificates, associate, bachelor, and masters degrees.

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agement to continued education. Many students attend college for four years and never go further. We want to encourage laymen, ministers, and business students to continue their learning. We want to provide that process for our students. We also want to reach out to students who have no affiliation with church or religion to present them with the gospel and encourage them in their life. What better way of reaching the lost than through this educational institution. College campuses are the largest mission field in the U.S.

I attended Southeastern in the early 80's and enjoyed my time there. I was on the basketball team with Bro. Don Brown as the coach that won the Championship in our Christian athletic conference. I sang in the college choir under the direction of Bro. Dale Holifield and enjoyed every minute of it. I took classes under the likes of Mrs. Mary Lou Kellar, Dr. Gerald Kellar, Dr. Jentry Bond, and Bro. Norris Mills, among others. I received my bachelor's degree from SBC in 1992. I would not trade my years at the college for anything. Oh, and I met my wife there, that is the most important thing.

The college is in need of your help. The answer to the problems we are having is students. Pastors, encourage your students to come for at least one year for general courses. They will get that basic foundation of general education that is needed and a foundation in biblical studies that are desperately needed.

I also want to take this opportunity thank Bro. Harris for his tenure of service to Southeastern Baptist College. He has touched many lives through the ministry of SBC. Also thanks to the staff and workers for their continued work for this ministry.

In future articles, we will feature former students with their testimonies of SBC days. Pastors, thanks for your support to this college. It is my prayer that God will bless you in your service to almighty God.

**Baptist Missionary Association
of Mississippi**

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Mississippi Baptist | **Opinion Page**

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

**Letters From
Our Readers**

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

Facts and Impressions

In the June 30th issue of this paper I stated that it was reported at our midyear meeting in Fulton that the "college was ending the year in the black." After reviewing a recording of Bro. Joseph Harris' report, I must correct my statement. Harris stated that the college should come in 'under budget or possibly under budget'. The difference in the two outcomes is income.



Don Brown
Editor

I do not know if SBC's income will allow it to end the year in the black. I am sorry to mislead our readers. Every ministry of our Association depends on the supporting churches giving at a level to maintain operation. I urge our churches to see the need at the college, and during this transition period, make a special effort to ensure that sufficient financial support is given.

Slouching Towards Gomorrah

Former Supreme Court Nominee Robert H. Bork, one of our country's most distinguished conservative scholars, offered a prophetic view of a culture in decline and a nation in such serious moral trouble that its very foundation is crumbling. His 2003 book entitled "Slouching Towards Gomorrah" has proven to be very prophetic. If we look at the decline of our American culture in all areas, but especially in the area of morals and decency, we see our nation being "fundamentally changed" from the one that our founding fathers established.

Liberal philosophies and efforts have taken us down the fast track to paganism and immorality. In the name of 'freedom and rights', our nation is being stripped of the very foundational freedoms and rights of our founding.

The recent Supreme Court rulings on marriage relationships and DOMA (The Defense of Marriage Act) should shock us back into reality, but it seems the nation as a whole has taken a "so what" attitude. When traditionalists and those who hold to Biblical standards speak out against such sinful acts and the immoral direction of our society, they are ridiculed and discounted. The short message on page one of this issue by the late Dr. Adrian Rogers speaks volumes. "The Only Hope for America" is indeed God and His righteousness. "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34)

As our nation pauses to observe her founding and her independence, may God's people stand strong and tall and reclaim the culture of our great country.

CHURCH NEWS

Bethel, Seminary to hold revival

Bethel Baptist Church, Seminary, will begin revival services July 21-24. Weeknight services will be at 7:00 p.m. Bro. Dewitt Bain will be our visiting evangelist. For more information you may call Pastor Kevin Sanford at 601-408-1519.

Evergreen Baptist Church to Celebrate 80th Anniversary
by Emily Humphrey

Evergreen Baptist Church in Seminary will host a homecoming celebration on July 14 in honor of its eightieth anniversary. The service will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will include congregational music led by Mr. Robert Thames

and a message by Rev. Glenn Shoemake. Lunch will be provided in the fellowship hall after the service. All former and current members of Evergreen, as well as all community members, are encouraged to attend. For more information or directions, contact Pastor Chad Cummins at 601-722-3796.

**News From the
Hobolochitto Baptist Association**

The Hobolochitto Baptist Association met on Monday, June 10, at Benville Baptist Church in Picayune. Bro. Ray Lee brought the message from II Timothy 4:3-5 with the title, "The Time Has Come." Bro. Kenneth Flynt reported on the Commission on Senior Adults and the recent Senior Adult Conferences. Bro. Lavell Lee presented a report from the BMA of

**Writer Searching
for Pastor and Church**

I would like to find a pastor and church that is solid local church period, and who is not hung up on this KJV only thing. I prefer using the better NKJV translation as my primary Bible, but have no problem with those who through familiarity prefer to use the KJV. My cell phone number is 601-283-9589 & my email is mbmpng@yahoo.com.

Bro. Charles Bobo

**AVAILABLE
FOR SERVICE**

Scott Kirkland

Bro. Scott Kirkland is available for service as the Lord leads. He has been in the ministry for 10 years. Scott recently served two and one-half years as interim pastor of Temple Baptist Church, Columbia, Mississippi. He may be reached at 601-723-0532.



Scott Kirkland

Mississippi Missions Department as well as the Revolving Loan Fund. The meeting ended with a time of refreshments and fellowship.

We just finished the Hobolochitto Association's Youth Camp on Friday, June 28. The camp was held at Campground Baptist Church north of Gulfport. Three students accepted the Lord during the week and many people were on their knees in the altar during each invitation time.

The July meeting of the Hobolochitto Association has been postponed until August 12. The August meeting will be at Wolf Creek Baptist Church

Wayne Rice, reporting



Three young people saved at camp

Mississippi Baptist

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Serving Christ
With A
Biblical Worldview
In A
Christian Atmosphere



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Mississippi State WMA Report by Jessica Haden

Mississippi WMA President

The state WMA met on May 20, 2013, at East Fulton Baptist Church. We had 35 ladies present, and took up an offering of \$133.30. 2nd Vice-president Mrs. Marilyn Welborn introduced the theme "The Amazing Race" using Hebrews 12:1 as the theme verse.



Jessica Haden

Our speakers for the evening were Mrs. Patricia Duvall and

Mrs. Jean Knight. Mrs. Patricia talked with us about how the mission in Cleveland got its start, the obstacles they have overcome, and the things they hope to accomplish there. Mrs. Jean Knight spoke with us about the upcoming mission trip to the Ukraine that she will be going on along with 3 GMA girls and one other adult sponsor.

It was encouraging to hear from these mission projects! These are the 2012-13 State WMA projects. Please be in prayer for them as they 'Run the Race' that is set before them. Please pray for your state WMA that we will lay aside every weight and run with patience the race that is set before us. Thank you!

Camp

The very word, "camp", brings nostalgia to mind. It reminds me of a pop-up camper, a Coleman stove, mosquito spray, and poison ivy. In other words, the good ole days. Growing up, my parents took us camping every year, whether we wanted to go or not. It was a time of getting outdoors, being one with nature, and having family time. By the end of the week, mom and dad needed a vacation and us kids were left wondering why we didn't just live like this all our life.

We blazed trails, roasted marshmallows, bathed in community showers (when they were available), and were often sent off to meet "new" friends. I think this is when mom and pops got a nap, but I wasn't sure. We spent countless hours out on a river or lake swimming and fishing and spent our nights crammed into overhead bunks and pulled out camper beds.

My kids have never experienced this kind of "rough" life. We bring them camping, but they stay in furnished cabins and have no idea what fish dropped in the sand tastes like.

Sardines and Vienna sausage are a novelty to them, where we thought it was a four-course meal. Air-conditioning and video games have replaced sleeping with the windows down and keeping your eyes open all night because dad thought it would be fun to tell about Big Foot roaming these parts of the woods. The sound of frogs and alligators and mosquitoes buzzing in your ear have been replaced with the hum of a fan and perhaps the radio playing real low.

Even now the mists of time unfold and reveal sweet memories when I see a family pulling a camper behind their vehicle. I know that is a family that is painting a picture in the minds of their children they will cherish forever. I hope they remember bug spray.

Though times are different, I must say that it has been a joy spending time with my family on our outings as well. Maybe one day they will look back on grilled chicken, amusement parks, the fishing trips, and the times spent together and say as I say to my parents...Thanks mom and dad. You did good.

From The Mind of



Chuck Lee

IAW - A National WMA Project

by Valarie Fish

The women take a coffee break after classes and talk about kids, cooking, clothes, work, relationships, and all the other important things women talk about. Eventually, the conversation comes to spiritual matters and Christian women are able to introduce Muslim women to the Creator who loves them.

This is the ministry of IAW - I Am a Woman Ministries - Changing the Arab world, one woman at a time. You can find out details at www.arabworldwoman.org. IAW works in Lebanon through our missionary.

IAW is the selected project for the National WMA for 2013-2014. Stay tuned for updates and more information throughout the year. If you would like someone to come to your church to speak about this project or any of the ministries of the national WMA please contact project promotion committee member Valarie Fish at 870-299-2890.

The National WMA plans to give upwards of \$40,000 for the IAW project. If your church would like to be a part of this you can send your offerings to National WMA Project 2013, Pat Duncan, P.O. Box 30, Hardy, AR 72542.

Throw Away Kids

These are the best of times. These are the worst of times. How can it be both? I am talking about my summer schedule and the ministry I do. I am now fully involved in doing camps all summer long, until I start my "Back-to-School Empowerment Weekends" for students in August. During these camps, I am both encouraged and saddened. Let me explain.

Every summer these camps are so encouraging to watch all the salvations, spiritual growth, deliverances, bondages broken, healing and much more. Many people in our churches have never experienced what I see at camp. Have you ever seen the Holy Spirit grab hold of an entire congregation and there is such an outpouring of the spirit that no one even notices that the service has lasted 5 hours? I just witnessed 21 saved in one service. I saw 12 deliverances and Jesus healed countless numbers.

It is invigorating to see the power of God manifested in people who are wholly given over to Him, and not their selfish desires to be let out at a certain time. I see teen guys form a group huddle and fall before God crying with tears streaming down their faces. They pray for repentance and a closer walk with Jesus. I see young ladies praying for one of their friends who is going through a rough time. Teens praying to be delivered from drugs, alcohol, immorality, dishonoring their parents and a host of other sins. I witness young people surrendering to the ministry or mission field. I see countless numbers fall before God and become heirs apparent to the kingdom by believing in Jesus as their Savior. It is so encouraging to watch teenagers pray for 3 and 4 hours in the altar after services. They are diligently seeking God. I wouldn't miss it for

the world. These are the best of times.

Yet, they are the worst of times. I am always saddened at the last day of camp. Not because camp is over. It is because of the number of teens and pre-teens that line up outside my vehicle and cry because they don't want to go home. They beg to go with me to



Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee

my next camp. Pastors and youth ministers hear the same thing. "Please don't make me go home. No one cares about me. Ya'll are the only ones who do." Or statements like, "My dad will beat me when he finds out I got saved." "My mom is a drug addict and has several men living with us. As a teen girl I lay awake at night scared of all these strange men in our home doing drugs. I don't want to go home."

One young man was saved at camp. He turned his whole life around. He even surrendered to the ministry. He said when I go home my dad will kick me out because I have surrendered to the ministry. My dad told me he would do this. I hoped that the young man was wrong. But he was not. His father found out he wanted to preach the gospel and threw his son out. The young man started walking down the road. Thank God for a loving church and youth minister who helped him. Today he is attending a Christian college and studying to be a minister. Can you imagine being that hostile to your son wanting to tell others about Jesus? It blows my mind at the depravity and evil of some parents.

Week after week, I see what I have now come to know as

"throw away kids". Their parents don't want them. They send them to camps and Vacation Bible Schools just to get rid of them for a week. All they care about is having their own time to do what they want and their kids gone. They fight their kids when the kids start to grow in the Lord. I know

this is because the parents are convicted about their own sinful lifestyle. These kids do not know what unconditional love is. They have never seen or received forgiveness. A home of

harmony and peace is a fairy tale to them. These young people are not flourishing. They are surviving. And then we wonder why they join gangs or do drugs!

Please help do everything you can to help these "throw away kids". Their parents may not want them, but Jesus does. It is hard enough being a teenager even in a supportive Christian home. But these kids are fought every step of the way and Satan is always in their homes.

Get programs going to give them opportunities to escape home and come to the church. Even if you don't directly get involved in a ministry to them, you can still show them unconditional love by speaking to them at church, hugging them, or inviting them out for Sunday dinner. They need to see some adults who reflect the love of Jesus. They don't see that. Don't look down on them because they look grungy. Love them to a better life with Christ. Matthew 18:6 "But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea."

Show some street kid or some bus ministry kid unconditional love and acceptance. A child is a terrible thing to throw away!

CHILDREN'S HOME

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

America Is Blessed

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance." Psalm 33:12.

No one has to wonder why America is so richly blessed with the greatness which she has been bestowed. Many will say that her military force and might has brought forth this greatness. Others might say it is because of the leaders we have had to lead us to this greatness. Or even perhaps one might think it is because of all of the natural resources of this great land.

One only has to look back to the beginning of this great republic to understand why America is so blessed. It is because they were a people who sought God. If our nation is to remain a blessed nation, it must seek God. Pray that our nation will turn to the Lord.

Good Academic Year for Students

We are indeed thankful for the academic year that our students had this year in their

school studies. Awards that were achieved by our students include the President's Award, Honor Roll, Beta Club, Art Award, Perfect Attendance, and Hall of Fame.

Hall of Fame

It is with much delight to report to you that our sixth grade student at North Jones Elementary was selected to the Hall of Fame of her class for the school year 2013. Desi graduated from North Jones Elementary as an Honor Roll student and will be attending West Jones Middle School next year. Congratulations Desi on your achievements at North Jones and God bless you on your future years in school.

Remember In Prayer

Continue to remember the ministry of the Home in your prayers.



SIDNEY DAVIS
DIRECTOR

Missions Report

from page 8

of thy life:..."

In his book, "Spiritual Disciplines of the Christians Life, Donald S. Whitney, Associate Professor of Biblical Spirituality shared this analogy:

"Two brothers were walking on their father's extensive, wooded acreage when they came upon a young tree heavy with fruit. Both enjoyed as much of the delicious fruit as they wanted. When they started back, one man gathered all the remaining fruit and took it home with him. His brother, however, took the tree itself and planted it on his own property. The tree flourished and regularly produced a bountiful crop so that the second brother often had fruit when the first had none.

The Bible is like the fruit-bearing tree in this story. Merely hearing the Word of God is to be like the first brother. ... Through the Disciplines of reading and studying, we make the tree our own and enjoy its fruit."

Our Deepest Sympathies

Brother Jack Mitchell's wife Lois went to be with the Lord recently. My time in this position has not afforded me the opportunity to know the Mitchell's as many of you do. However, it didn't take me long upon arriving to discover their fingerprint, or should I say, hammerprint all over the BMA of Mississippi. This couples' sacrificial service, not the least of which was, working with the Mississippi Classic Builders, has been extremely significant

to the establishment of mission churches in Mississippi. Our prayers go out to Bro. Mitchell and to all their immediate and extended family.

New Missionary Applicants

I have one new application in my hand and another that is being filled out as I write this article. Two others have contacted me to discuss the possibilities of church planting and three others that are preparing to be church planters in the future. I/we have prayed for these opportunities and I believe God is answering our prayers. Please pray with me as we begin to process these applications. Should the missionary committee arrive at a decision to approve these men, they could both begin as soon as August-September.

God Is With Us

I call on every church and local association to re-evaluate what you are presently doing to financially support State Missions. It is my hope that, Lord willing, you will find a way to do more. We are already at a place where we will need additional income if we are going to add new missionaries. We prayed and God has answered and we literally have men standing at the door waiting to go. Now we must ask ourselves if we are ready to make the commitment of financial support commensurate with the opportunities God has placed before us. I can think of no greater investment of resources that a church or local

association can make than that of missions. In most cases, those churches who have increased their giving over the past year, have reported God's blessing on their church. Many of our local associations already partner with us but I believe we can do more. Please prayerfully consider this request.

Revolving Loan Fund

(as of June 28th and since August 1, 2012)

Gross assets are now at \$17,462,329.00, an increase of \$2,032,928.00. Net assets are now at \$2,992,743.00, an increase of \$272,246.00. We have opened 38 new investment accounts totaling \$1,497,996. We have 12 new loans totaling \$3,055,948. As our fund activity continues to grow, we will have need for additional money.

I would like to encourage our churches that have static accounts, such as accounts that are on deposit with a bank but have low to no activity, for example; cemetery funds, long term building funds, foundation funds, etc., to consider placing that money on deposit with the Revolving Loan Fund. This will enable us to continue to service loans and be a blessing to our churches. Our fund continues to pay 2.67% (2.7% APY) to investor's accounts. Investment accounts can be opened by churches or individuals. If you have questions, you can contact us at rlf@bmams.org or call 601-428-8616.

Visit Our Website and Facebook Page

Our website is www.bmams.org. Like our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/bmamsmissions>.

In Recognition of the Life and Ministry of

Brother Don Collins



Dr. and Mrs. Gene Medley have established a new scholarship at Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary and invite everyone who was touched by the life of Brother Collins to make a donation to the Don Collins Scholarship Fund.

Dr. Charley Holmes, Mrs. Linda Collins, Dr. and Mrs. Gene Medley

Donations can be mailed to:

Don Collins Scholarship Fund
BMA Theological Seminary
Post Office Box 670
Jacksonville, TX 75766-0670

Gifts may also be made using debit/credit cards by calling (800) 259-5673.



Don Collins

DiscipleGuide Feasibility Study moving forward

by Scott Attebery
Executive Director DiscipleGuide Church Resources

Since obtaining permission from the association at the national meeting, DiscipleGuide's board of directors has elected a committee to oversee the feasibility study into moving its offices from Texarkana to Conway. TAG Consulting, a firm that specializes in church organization, will assist in the study.

Aaron Middleton, chairman of the board and a member of the feasibility study committee, said the first job will be to meet with consultants from TAG regarding precisely what questions should be asked.

"Sometimes getting fresh ideas is the best help," he said. "They're totally objective, and they can help us fine-tune our vision. We're

going to rely on them to tell us how to conduct a feasibility study."

Middleton added the study will include interviews with all DiscipleGuide staff and other key leaders.

"We're going to make sure we talk to everyone we can and listen to everyone we can and get a firm grip on exactly what kind of change it would bring," he said.

The feasibility study will help the board determine whether to recommend the move at next year's annual meeting. If the board decides to make such a recommendation, the final outcome will hinge upon approval by messengers at the 2014 meeting.



Larry Geraldson
Director

Church Planters

Bob & Edie Burch Bobby & Lesa Elliott Justin & Christie Rhodes Sidney & Becky Farmer Ray & JoAnn Boone Kelly & Jessie Johnson

Missions Coordinators

Estuardo & Yasmit Marroquin Elvis & Wendy Garcia Ed & Patricia DuVall

www.bmans.org

Living Right In An Ungodly World

Dr. Russell D. Moore, President of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission recently said, in response to the decisions handed down by the US Supreme Court, "Same-sex marriage is headed for your community. This is no time for fear or outrage or politicizing. It's a time for forgiven sinners, like us, to do what the people of Christ have always done. It's time for us to point beyond our family values and our culture wars to the cross of Christ as we say: 'Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.' And that's good news." He would go on to say, "Same-sex marriage is on the march, even apart from these decisions, and is headed to your community, regardless of whether you are sitting where I am right now, on Capitol Hill, or in a rural hamlet in southwest Georgia or eastern Idaho. This is an opportunity for

gospel witness." Oh how true this is!

Understanding how to live in a fallen world has always been the challenge of God's people. Israel experienced this dichotomy in Egypt and when they entered into the land of Canaan the dichotomy remained. In both cases they struggled with the tensions of false religions, false prophets and wicked culture pulling against the fabric of their faith. Often they would grow frail and fall helplessly into disbelief, not trusting that God could and would protect them and provide for them. In frantic disobedience they would sell their souls, time and time again, in a futile attempt to secure material protection, only to suffered spiritual loss.

In Deuteronomy 6, as Moses prepared Israel to pass over into the promised land and go on the offensive against the Canaanites, he gave them

some simple instructions which God had commanded him to share. He told them to secure their homes, serve their God and share the gospel. In this and the next two articles, I hope to share with you these very practical activities in an effort to equip you for "Living Right In An Ungodly World."

He told the people to secure their homes.

"Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the Lord your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it: That thou mightest fear the Lord thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged." Vs 1-2 To secure their homes they would need to exercise daily spiritual disciplines. Vance Havner once said, "The alternative to discipline is disaster."

a. Take in Truth

"Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the Lord your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it:..." Truth must get in your head. Daily Bible intake is necessary to spiritually secure the home and yet, it is so often missing in the Christian home. For many, the only Bible they read is the blurb that a friend posted on Facebook.

With approximately 80% of Christians acknowledging, in recent surveys, that they do not read any part of the Bible on a daily basis, this issue becomes no laughing matter. It is easy to see why public polls suggest that 51% of evangelicals approve of homo-

sexuality. They don't know the truth. This is important!

When Jesus stood before Pilate, he said, "To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth." John 18:37. When He prayed to the Father in John 17, Jesus said, "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." We read the Word of God because it is the Truth and we need to know the truth. No home is secure from a wicked and perverted world that is not guarded by the sentries of truth.

b. To Turn (their hearts back to God)

"That thou mightest fear the Lord thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments,..." Turning to God is a matter of the heart and involves an attitude of humility and repentance. When Israel drifted away from God they were admonished to turn back to God. Most Christians have heard 2 Chronicles 7:14 so many times until they can recite it from memory. "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." We say it but we don't do it.

What changes have been made in your home that go backwards to a more spiritually vibrant time? Truth is that generations of Christians now exist that have never established family devotion and worship in the home. They have no concept of the value of meditation on God's Word or the power of fasting or prayer. They may earnestly long to turn but have no knowledge of where to turn to...they just hopelessly wander in the desert of sin.

What should they do? Cry out to God! Ask Him to help them discover the book. "And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up: And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground." Nehemiah 8:5-6

c. To Teach

"...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." Securing one's home requires that you teach the word of God to your children.

i. These are things done at home... "And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates." Vs 8-9

ii. Look back to Vs 2 "...thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days

continued on page 7

Need a project for VBS?

How about allowing your students to take an active role in world evangelism?



With EIM's Shepherds Bag™, you can create a bag to be placed in the hands of children in need of hearing the Gospel of Jesus Christ around the globe.

For more information on how your church can get involved, contact Fonda Norris at 870.226.3626 or fnorris@eimworldwide.org. Also visit our website at www.eimworldwide.org