

# Baptist and Reflector

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News journal of Tennessee Baptist Convention



**PASSING (OUT) THE HATS** — On Monday at the Franklin campus of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Jerry Clower (right) chats and eats ice cream with the residents after presenting each one with a hat.

## Clower conveys caps to kids

Jerry Clower took his "hats off" — in fact, 80 of them — to residents of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home in Franklin on Monday, and then gave a hat to each of the young people.

The Baptist layman brought ice cream along with the hats, and made sure each of the children got both. Clower chatted with the admiring residents, frequently giving autographs and bear hugs.

The giving away of caps is a story in itself, just what one might expect from the popular storyteller. It seems Clower was speaking at a farmers' meeting recently, and just happened to remark that he wished he had a cap like those farmers wear. Before he left the meeting, he had been given about 100.

The idea had spread, Clower said, until he realized that he had over 800 of these, so "I needed to give some to folks." Tandy Rice, Clower's agent, replied, "I know just the place."

Rice, who is president of Top Billing International, worked out the details with John Ashley, superintendent of the TBCH Franklin campus, and everybody was gathered in the activities building when Clower arrived at noon July 19.

"One of the reasons I know I'm a Christian is because I love you," Clower told the assembled residents. "God makes it possible for us to love, and I want you to know that Jerry Clower loves you."

Clower who is the father of four — and the grandfather of a six-year-old named Jayree, admits gladly to having a soft spot in his heart for children. Owen Cooper, former SBC president and a fellow church member at First Baptist Church of Yazoo City, Miss., asked Clower to be president of Agricultural Missions, an organization to help bring relief to famine-plagued areas. "I thought I did not have time," Clower said, "but when I saw those hungry children I had to help."

The country comedian receives many invitations and maintains a busy schedule, but carefully guards his time in his local church and the opportunities to witness of his faith to Christian groups. "I believe in tithing my time just like I tithe my money."

Clower describes himself as a "storehouse" tither in his church. "The first place of service for a Christian is his local church — and the older I get the more I know this is true." Clower notes his church shares 30 percent of its offerings to missions through the Cooperative Program, "so I want to give through my church, because with what others give, I can do so much more with my gift."

As the children crowded around, Clower talked and laughed with them, and really got excited when a young girl named "Stacy" found a cap with "Stacy Motors" embroidered on it.

Clower plans similar "hat-sharings" with other children's homes, and already has another one set up in Mississippi within the next few weeks.

As he left, Clower told the children who followed him to the door, "Remember Jerry Clower loves you, and God loves you more than I ever could."

## Issues in SBC affect missions, says Parks

By Bob Stanley

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — President R. Keith Parks told the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in July he feels compelled to speak out against polarizing issues within the convention that "are not our first priority."

Quoting from articles he has written for missionaries and for the board's magazine, *The Commission*, Parks said his statements are being made "out of a deep and growing concern about us as a people, a people called Southern Baptists."

"Missions is the spiritual magnet that has held iron-willed Southern Baptists together," he emphasized. Yet, he added, "I came away from this convention (in New Orleans) with a feeling there had been an unconscious shifting of our focus."

Parks said he believes that both he and elected members of the board, as well as its staff, have an obligation to speak out against "anything that would hinder the foreign missions expression" of the denomination.

He read a column he has written for the September issue of *The Commission* entitled "Caesar and Missions." The column points to Baptists' historic commitment to the separation of church and

state, based on Jesus' distinction between "that which is Caesar's" and "that which is God's."

"We have struggled throughout our history to prevent government from encroaching on our freedom," he said. "Yet the majority voting at a session in New Orleans voluntarily endorsed what could lead to government encroachment. This trend has serious implications for foreign missions."

Although Parks did not refer to it specifically, observers interpreted his remarks as being addressed to a convention resolution, adopted by a 3-1 margin, which endorsed a Constitutional amendment supporting prayer in the public schools. It was the first such convention stand since the U.S. Supreme Court struck down compulsory religious exercises in public schools 20 years ago.

An attempt also was made to pass a resolution in support of Israel, but this resolution was tabled after Parks said it would adversely affect the board's work in other parts of the Middle East.

"Certainly we as individuals must be involved in our country in the political processes as Christian citizens," he said. "Our diversity will guarantee that participation will be across the political

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## Johnson City satellite home slates open house July 25

Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes will open its first satellite home in

Johnson City with an open house Sunday, July 25. The new home will be a satellite of the East Tennessee Children's Homes in Chattanooga.

The open house will be from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the new facility which is located at 209½ University Parkway (next to Holston Baptist Association office).

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Allen have been named as supervisors and houseparents for the satellite home. Allen recently retired as pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, Murfreesboro. Active in Tennessee Baptist life, Allen has served on the TBC Executive Board and as a director of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, as well as a director of the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

E. B. Bowen, TBCH executive director, said, "This is a new concept in child care, to seek to care for the homeless and neglected children in close proximity to their relatives and friends, to work with families, and to seek to minister to their problems. It is much better for children to be near enough to be accessible for relatives to visit them and for the children to visit in their own homes."

The Johnson City satellite home is the first facility of a Tennessee Baptist institution to be built in the upper eastern part of the state.

## Record appointment service includes two board members

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — In its largest appointment service ever, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board named 88 missionaries July 13, including two veteran members of the board.

The group surpassed the 84, named in July 1981, and pushed the total of new career and associate missionaries assigned this year to 151, a new mid-year high.

The 88 included eight former missionary journeymen, four children of missionaries, an Argentine, a Spaniard, and the two board members, Lonnie Quillen of Virginia and Texan Fern Dannelley.

"Had someone come to me when I was a young boy and told me the story of Jesus, I'm sure I would have accepted Him as my Saviour," Quillen, told listeners at the missionary service, held at Grove Avenue Baptist Church in Richmond. "But no one did."

The towering ex-football and basketball player did not become a Christian until age 20. That, he said, is one of the reasons he wants to tell the people of Botswana about Christ. A longtime Virginia pastor and nine-year veteran of service on the Foreign Mission Board, Quillen will work as an English-language pastor in Botswana with his wife, the former Patricia White of Oklahoma.

Fern Dannelley, for the last six years, a board member representing Southern Baptists in Michigan, also will go to Botswana, where she will be a Bible correspondence course coordinator and women's worker. She is a psychiatric social worker in Michigan, where she has held several offices and committee posts with the Baptist State Convention of Michigan. The former Fern Heath of Texas, she is a widow of Jay Dannelley, a Southern Baptist pastor.



# Beirut calls Raglands back as peacemakers

By Bill Webb

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)— Southern Baptist Missionary Jim Ragland firmly believes the futility of the war raging in Lebanon makes it more important than ever for him and his wife, Leola, to return to resume their roles as peacemakers.

Speaking at Foreign Mission Board offices in Richmond, Va., on July 13, just two days after he left the Middle East, Ragland said some of his Lebanese friends feel the war between Israeli and Palestinian soldiers will rid Lebanon of its estimated 700,000 Palestinians and most of the nation's problems.

However Ragland, who has lived nearly 28 years in West Beirut, believes "most of the Palestinians are there to stay. My Lebanese friends are going to have to learn to live with that," he said, smiling.

Because the conflict has intensified the bitterness and anger between the Lebanese and Palestinians, the roles of missionaries as mediators, peacemakers, and reconcilers will not be easy since, "You get shot at from both sides. We believe that in the Lebanon of tomorrow there will be more bigotry and more suspicion of Americans," he suggested.

Missionary presence for Ragland was anything but easy from the time Israeli troops invaded Lebanon June 4 until July 7 when he left West Beirut, the focal point of Israeli shelling and rocket fire. He opened Beirut Baptist School, where he is principal, to refugee families streaming into the city from the south and established a Red Cross clinic on the compound. Some 300 refugees live there.

His days were clearly days of fear, he said.

Holding up a piece of shrapnel he found behind his house, he said, "We have feared these." The razor-sharp shell

fragments spin in all directions with the capability to "tear your head off," he explained.

Israeli air raids, often beginning in early afternoon and continuing past midnight, always sent Ragland, families in the area, and refugees scurrying for safety in the school basement.

Leaflets dropped from Israeli aircraft into West Beirut warned civilians in ominous terms to flee the city or be destroyed with the enemy. Many families loaded up their belongings and fled in panic for the mountains to the east or to safer areas in the south, creating "ghost towns" and totally emptying apartment buildings, he said.

The war has brought sorrow, Ragland said. Two girls who attended the 800-student Beirut Baptist School have been killed by rocket fire. The first, a shy, blue-eyed first-grader named Lina, one of Leola's favorite students, died along with her grandmother, two uncles, and two cousins, Ragland said.

Yet despite the fear and suffering, a spirit of revival characterizes the little band of Baptists who remain in West Beirut, he emphasized.

One young member of nearby Mousseitbeh Baptist Church left for East Beirut but returned after a couple of days.

"On the east side there is peace. People play tennis and basketball and swim and visit and have parties," the young

## Hollaway resigns Fayette position

Raymond Hollaway, director of missions for Fayette Baptist Association for over 10 years, retired from that post July 1.

Hollaway, who previously led Fayette association from 1955-56, is a former pastor of Kirk Baptist Church, Collierville; First Baptist Church, Gallaway; Rialto Baptist Church, Covington; Mary's Chapel Baptist Church, Ripley; First Baptist Church, Mason; Middleburg Baptist Church, Bolivar; and Liberty Baptist Church, Somerville.

A native of Booneville, Miss., Hollaway has attended Union University, Jackson. While with the Fayette association, he served as president of the chaplains' organization at Fayette County General Hospital in Somerville, and has been active with the Fayette County jail ministry and area senior citizens centers.

Hollaway and his wife have moved to Mount Leonard, Mo., where he has accepted the pastorate of First Baptist Church.



Hollaway

## Roy Miller begins Sevier Co. post

Roy L. Miller, until recently associate pastor and minister of education at Knoxville's Broadway Baptist Church, began duties July 12 as director of missions for the Sevier County Baptist Association.

Miller is a former pastor of the Mount Carmel and Fort Sanders Baptist churches, both of Knoxville; Bethel Baptist Church, Clinton; Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Madison, Ind.; and Pekin Baptist Church, Pekin, Ind. He is also a former assistant pastor of City View Baptist Church, Knoxville.

Miller has served on the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board, as a member, chairman, and vice-chairman of its administrative committee and of the directors of the Baptist and Reflector and as a member of the public affairs and Christian life committee. He is currently a member of the TBC Hunger Committee. Miller has also been Sunday School director and an adult Sunday School consultant for the Knox County Baptist Association, and has held various offices in the Clinton Baptist Association and Knox County association pastors' conferences.

A native of Knoxville, Miller is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.



Miller



**TOGETHER AGAIN** — Missionaries Jim and Leola Ragland enjoy each other's company upon arriving in Richmond, Va., to report to the Foreign Mission Board on the status of mission work in battered West Beirut. They had been separated for three weeks during the fighting.

man reported. "But here in West Beirut we have revival. Here we pray together. Here we feel the presence of God. I had to come back and be a part."

The women and children and many of the men of the church have fled but the half dozen men who remain continue to meet each evening for prayer and all the Baptist pastors of West Beirut continue to stay and serve, Ragland said with obvious pride.

The fear, panic, and confusion that permeate West Beirut have provided Ragland with new opportunities to share his faith and to comfort the heartbroken.

One member of the unofficial troops sent to his neighborhood to ensure law and order observed how Ragland treated employees of the school and asked to know more about his God, Ragland

talked with him and gave him a Bible.

As the soldier took the book the missionary thought, "This man is a Moslem and he'll have to read this Bible secretly." Instead, the young soldier carried his Bible under his arm wherever he went. He later went to the pastor and said, "I want to know how to become a believer," Ragland reported.

Ragland, his wife (who returned to the states two weeks ahead of her husband), and their missionary colleagues have felt support from Southern Baptists praying on their behalf, from phone calls of encouragement, and from encouragement within the missionary family.

Mrs. Ragland believes leaving her missionary husband in West Beirut was probably harder than it would have been to stay there with him during the shelling and confusion.

After a night of Israeli shelling just a half mile from their home, Ragland took his wife to the hillside village of Mansouriye to stay with other Southern Baptist missionaries, then returned to the school.

At Mansouriye, Mrs. Ragland often stood on the steps of the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary and watched the shells fall on the city below. "I would think for sure they had hit our school," she recalled.

"It was a time I got closer to the Lord than I had ever been before because I had someone very precious at Beirut Baptist School," she said.

She later returned to the United States to prepare for their son's wedding July 24.

In Duncan, Okla., she watched news reports from Lebanon but the "news was terrible." A son called from college and asked what she was going to do about her husband. "I tried to be calm as I answered I was going to turn him over to the Lord," she said.

When another son dropped by for a visit, he told her he thought his father would stay in West Beirut until the end of the conflict. "Do you want your daddy to come home?" she asked.

"No," he answered, "My dad's right where he's supposed to be."

For Mrs. Ragland, the weeks leading up to Jim's reunion with her in Chicago July 11 were a difficult time, though she had a "feeling of knowing he was where the Lord wanted him to be."

It is not likely that either of them will stay very long away from the place they feel they belong.

## FMB names Beckett to assist Marshall

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)— Charles Beckett has been named assistant to the vice-president of human resources at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Beginning Aug. 1, Beckett will assist Vice-president Bill Marshall with administrative responsibilities. Beckett has been manager of the student section in the ministries and deputation department under the office of human resources since 1977.

Beckett and his wife, the former Jeanne Plunkett, are former missionaries. They were appointed in 1961 to East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) where he was a general evangelist. They resigned in 1974.

## SBC CP continues to increase

NASHVILLE (BP)— June mission gifts from the 34 Baptist state conventions to the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention reflected a 7.6 percent increase from June, 1981.

With the fiscal year three-fourths completed, total contributions to the national programs are \$144,900,599 compared to \$127,489,831 a year ago, leaving SBC income almost \$17.5-million ahead of last fiscal year.

June's undesignated total of \$7,121,691 surpassed June, 1981, by \$628,085 — an increase of 9.7 percent. Designated giving, the vast majority of it to the Foreign Mission Board and the Home Mission Board, was up \$367,420 over the 1981 figures, a 5.6 percent increase.

Despite the extended slump in the nation's economy, 30 of the 34 state conventions have given more money to the Cooperative Program the first nine months of the 1981-82 fiscal year than they did the first nine months of 1980-81.

Overall the SBC is 13.7 percent ahead of last year in total receipts.

## SBC issues . . .

(Continued from page 1)

spectrum. But our convention will change its nature if it begins to support any specific political position."

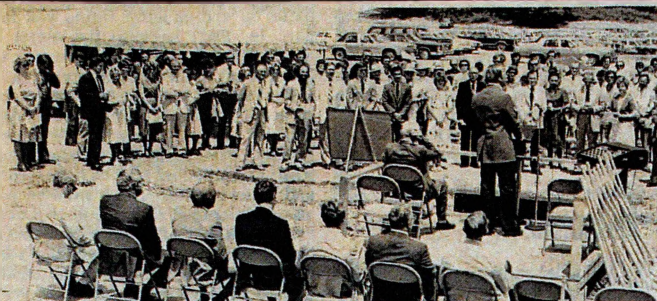
Such convention actions, Parks said, can jeopardize the work of Southern Baptist foreign missionaries. He said missionaries serve as guests under foreign governments. They do not intervene in the political processes overseas, nor do they represent the political position of the United States.

"Any implication of political connections compromises our singular ministry to a lost world," he explained.

Despite his warnings, Parks said he is optimistic and has "great confidence in the people called Southern Baptists."

"As they understand and are given the full range of possibilities and options, the common good sense of Southern Baptists will prevail," he predicted. "But I am convinced that we must lay out before them the interpretation of what could happen unless we do consider all the options."





**HOSPITAL SITE** — Mike Allmand of the Lauderdale County Chamber of Commerce, addresses the crowd at the ground-breaking ceremonies for Baptist Memorial Hospital-Lauderdale.

## Baptist Memorial health system breaks ground for new hospital

**RIPLEY** — Residents of Lauderdale County and several Memphians gathered on a hilltop overlooking U.S. Highway 51 and Asbury Road here to celebrate ground breaking for Baptist Memorial Hospital-Lauderdale.

The crowd of 200 refused to let 90-degree weather mar festivities as James Ramer, hospital administrator, invited a dozen officials to "dig in" with their silver shovels at the site of one of the nursing units in the future 70-bed general hospital.

The new hospital, which will be owned by Baptist Memorial Health Care System Inc., of Memphis, will replace the existing 64-bed Lauderdale Hospital Inc., currently being leased by the health care system.

Baptist Memorial-Lauderdale will be opened in December 1983. "a Christmas present to Lauderdale County," one observer noted.

"It's a great day in Lauderdale County," said Chamber of Commerce official Mike Allmand. "Families will no longer have to go to surrounding counties for the health care we could not provide. We commend the commitment Baptist Memorial has made."

William H. Tucker, chief of staff of Lauderdale Hospital, reminded the audience that two years ago, members of the medical community thought that by 1983 or 1984 there would be no hospital in Lauderdale County.

With the explosion in medical technology, it appeared small county

hospitals would not make it, Tucker said. But through associations such as the one between Baptist Memorial Health Care System and Lauderdale County, these hospitals are surviving, he said.

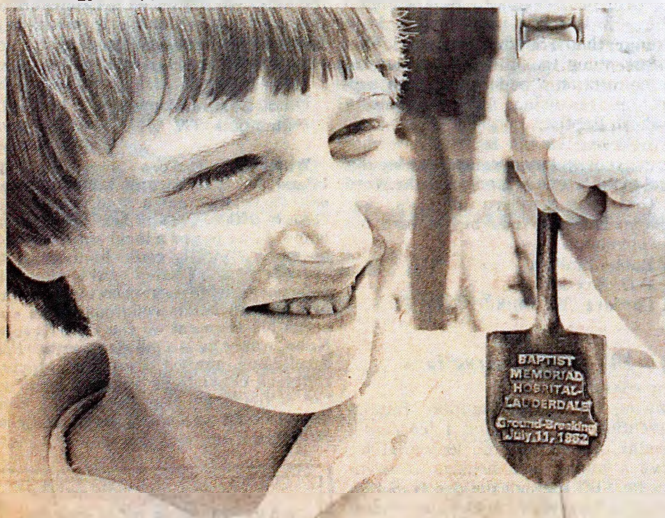
Tucker's verbal tour of the future hospital sparked the crowd's imagination. There will be 46 private rooms with baths in the 70-bed facility. The radiology department with half-a-million dollars in equipment will include ultrasound and nuclear medicine capabilities. There will be a four-room emergency room, where parents who have brought in their children with red throats will not witness a full cardiac resuscitation right next to them.

There will be two general purpose operating rooms, physical therapy, respiratory therapy, modern pharmacy and laboratory, and many other health care services.

Joseph H. Powell, president of Baptist Memorial Health Care System, told the crowd that free enterprise, philanthropy, and volunteerism made a great hospital system in the United States, but that those principles in recent years have been threatened.

"Progress and bold action were required" in Lauderdale County to solve its health care crisis, Powell said.

The Lauderdale County hospital is one of 10 institutions in Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas that comprise the 2,600-bed Baptist Memorial Health Care System, which is owned by Southern Baptists in the three states.



**SOUVENIR** — Paul Fodiman shows off his souvenir shovel from ground breaking for a new Baptist Memorial Hospital-Lauderdale. He is the son of Martin Fodiman, a surgeon at the Lauderdale Hospital, Ripley.

## FMB reports dramatic rise in '82 relief allocations

**RICHMOND, Va. (BP)** — Southern Baptist giving to worldwide human needs climbed to \$2,124,719 in the first six months of 1982 while the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board allocated \$3,262,263 for world relief in the same period.

The figures show a 34 percent increase in giving over the first half of 1981 and a 129 percent increase in allocations. Allocations so far almost equal the year's total for 1981 and reflect Foreign Mission Board efforts to speed use of relief gifts, which have risen dramatically in recent years and built an accumulation of unspent funds.

From more than \$1.3-million designated for particular projects in May and June, \$902,113 went to eastern and southern Africa, an area brought to international attention in recent years because of refugee and drought problems.

In Zimbabwe, a \$620,000 sum will finance a pure water supply for the Sanyati Baptist Hospital, schools, and surrounding community, and \$58,000 will pay for digging boreholes and building a water system near Gweru. The Sanyati Hospital and schools have resumed operations curtailed during the nation's seven-year guerrilla war. Funds will pay for a pipeline tying the community to a system already built by a company for its own staff in the area.

A \$154,000 allocation will finance the second phase of a hunger relief program in the Gokwe area of Zimbabwe, where drought killed crops and reduced the

people of 10 villages to eating grass seeds and weeds.

The first phase provided transportation to bring food into the area. The second calls for rebuilding clinics for nutrition-related diseases, building storage centers for food, an agriculture demonstration program, small animal projects, and a study of the water situation. When feasible, projects will be carried out on a food-for-work basis.

Another \$56,100 was set aside for improvements on a demonstration farm in Engabolt, Kenya. Heavy equipment is needed to till the area and build access roads, and water lines are needed to bring pure water from mountain springs to points in the village.

The Foreign Mission Board allocated another \$75,780 for the third phase of the Sanwabo Project in the Diabo Circle region of Upper Volta. Tennessee Baptists are working with missionaries there in carrying out a total impact development project which has already resulted in the construction of a dam and volunteer camp, in literacy classes, and some clinics.

Bangladesh received \$130,000 to finance well-drilling, carpentry training for young men, and establishment of a goat development and fish farming project.

Other major allocations in May and June went for well-drilling and establishment of a tree farm and nursery in Hatti, for hunger relief in Nicaragua, and for flood relief in Honduras.

## Missionaries leave Nicaragua; local Baptists continue work

**RICHMOND, Va. (BP)** — Under present conditions, Southern Baptist work in Nicaragua will not be carried out by resident missionaries but will be done through the local Baptist convention with whatever short-term assistance it needs, Don Kammerdiener told the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board July 13.

Kammerdiener, director of work in middle America and the Caribbean, stressed that good relations with the Baptist convention of Nicaragua "augur well for the future." The convention's executive secretary, Tomas Tellez, has advised the board not to send in resident missionaries now but will invite short-term consultants as the needs arise, he said. The report on Nicaragua came in

connection with the transfer of veteran missionaries Stanley and Glenna Stamps from Nicaragua to Honduras, effective Aug. 1.

Ed and Kathy Steele, the other missionary couple assigned to Nicaragua, returned to the United States April 9, shortly ahead of their scheduled furlough, after consultation with Baptist convention leaders.

The present Nicaraguan government, established by the Sandinistas after overthrow of the Anastasio Somoza government in 1979, did not ask Southern Baptist missionaries to leave. But strong anti-American feelings flared earlier this year after the Nicaraguans accused the Reagan administration of planning an invasion from neighboring Honduras. The Reagan administration, in turn, has accused Nicaragua of supplying arms to Salvadoran rebels.

Kammerdiener said Southern Baptists will give financial aid to the literature ministry, which has been their primary work there. Also, fellowship will continue with Nicaraguan Baptist leaders, who will be invited to regional meetings, Kammerdiener said.

## Gene Carroll accepts Alpha church pulpit

Gene H. Carroll accepted a recent call from Alpha Baptist Church, Morristown, to come as its pastor.

Carroll came to the church from the pastorate of Log Cabin Baptist Church, Macon, Ga. His former pastorates include churches in North and South Carolina.

Carroll is a graduate of Illinois Christian College, Chicago, and has attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

## Desbien fills post at mission board

**RICHMOND, Va. (BP)** — Robert Desbien has been named project coordinator for the product development department of the office of communications at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Desbien, assistant to the president and director of public relations at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., will assume his new duties Aug. 23.

As project coordinator Desbien will coordinate content and production schedules for pamphlets, books, filmstrips, motion pictures, and video related to foreign missions, with particular responsibility for print products.

A native of Kansas, Desbien attended Washburn University, Topeka, Kan. He went to Midwestern seminary in 1976 as a consultant in public relations and became director in 1978.



## Letters to the Editor...

Letters on any religion-related subject are welcomed. Letters of over 300 words will not be used. Other letters may be shortened at the discretion of the editor. No unsigned letters will be printed, but writer's name will be withheld for sufficient reason. Letters must contain complete address.

### Political intrusion

Dear editor:

I was shocked and dismayed to read in the July 7 issue (page 3) of the direct political intrusion into our convention. Our convention has slipped from its purpose in Christ, when its resolution process is made a sounding board for a U.S. president's policies or any political group of whatever persuasion.

It appears now that the rending of our ranks has another source besides issues of theology and/or control: the political nest-feathering by a group of New right power brokers.

Since when do our convention officers/committee chairmen need to be advised on their every move based on political motives? Christ-centered, Bible-believing, freedom-loving Baptists ought to rise up and reject this sort of behavior.

People of the Southern Baptist Convention are being asked to sell their birthright for a mess of pottage. Political terms are brief and issues fleeting, but Christ is eternal. Christ's kingdom is our business, and that cannot be legislated by anyone's politics or any Constitutional amendment. We are of all people most foolish if we believe otherwise.

Those who would divest us from our fellowship in Christ's purpose to any political cause, however noble or sincere their aim, are the ones who need "a new chance" and to "repent."

A. D. Adamson  
7707 Lebanon Rd.  
Hermitage, TN 37076

Ed McAteer told me that he was asked by Norris Sydnor Jr., Resolutions Committee chairman, to serve as his advisor, since Sydnor had never attended a Southern Baptist Convention. (editor)

### Grateful for disaster aid

Dear editor:

A few weeks ago a tornado hit my home community in Marion, Ill. Soon after receiving word of this from my father, I went there to assist my parents in the cleanup. I was amazed at the damage. Many people I had known all my life lost their homes, while others experienced damage to their homes and

property.

When I arrived at my parents' home on Sunday afternoon (May 29), I learned that the disaster relief unit of the Tennessee Baptist Convention was stationed at the Ray Fosse Park. For two days I observed the work, witness, and ministry of these dedicated men.

On Monday morning I observed crews working with chain saws, mobile units came by our home offering hot food, and the men repeatedly offered to assist in any possible way.

My appreciation of this facet of our work deepened as I observed the spirit of these men.

I am grateful to the Tennessee Baptist Convention, to a leadership who expressed vision and foresight in leading us in this witness, and to committed Christian lay people who stand ready to respond to the needs of people in disaster-stricken areas. I am thankful for the leadership of Archie King, for the good stewardship of Cooperative Program and Golden State Mission Offering funds, and the lasting witness we continue to offer for our Lord in the time of critical need.

Dennis L. Pulley  
260 East Broad St.  
Buckton, TN 38317

### Suppose Sherman is right

Dear editor:

Let us suppose for a moment that Bill Sherman was right in his opinion (July 14 issue) that Paul Pressler is motivated only by a desire to gain "control" of the Southern Baptist Convention. Let us just suppose that Pressler and Patterson cynically chose the inerrancy issue as merely a tool to gain that control.

Isn't it interesting then that "denominational loyalists" do not just come out and vigorously affirm their stand for an inerrant Scripture, thus defusing the issue and destroying what Sherman called the Pressler-Patterson "game plan"?

All I read in Adrian Rogers' article is a steady pressing of the issue.

All I read in Sherman's article is character assassination and unsupported innuendoes. Of course, this is all that is left to the "loyalist" group since several leaders including Cecil Sher-

man, Bill's brother, have publicly admitted they do not believe in an inerrant word.

The past four presidential elections were not just Paul Pressler's victories. They were my victories. They were victories for all Bible-believing Southern Baptists. They were victories for God's glory.

Shafer Parker Jr.  
Rt. 1  
Elizabethton, TN

The financial statistics used by Bill Sherman are not innuendoes, but are taken from state convention annuals.

I asked Cecil Sherman to comment on his view of Biblical inspiration, and he states, "I do not hold to the theory of inerrancy as concluded by Warfield and Hodge at Princeton during the last century. I do have a very high view of inspiration of the Bible which is more nearly akin to the view of the Apostle Paul, worked out some years earlier." (editor)

### Placing loyalty

Dear editor:

In Bill Sherman's recent article in the Baptist and Reflector (July 7), he asks the question, "What makes a Southern Baptist?" His answer: "loyalty, cooperation, love, and support of his convention."

My answer to his question is "loyalty, cooperation, love, and support of Jesus Christ, and then my convention, as long as the work of the convention does not contradict the Word of God." I am a Southern Baptist because I believe our doctrines are as true to the Bible as any other denomination.

Sherman asks, "Is it cooperation to say you love our seminaries but start one in competition with our six seminaries?" Yes, when that seminary stands more for what we believe as Southern Baptists than four of our present seminaries.

He criticizes some large churches and their giving to the Cooperative Program, but he leaves out the most important record of those churches, and any church, how many are saved and baptized each year. These churches mentioned are leaders in our convention in baptisms. They are doing more for what the Cooperative Program is designed, spreading the gospel of Christ, than most areas supported by the Cooperative Program.

At a non-denominational Christian school where I used to teach, a fellow teacher who was a member of a large independent church made the statement, "I would be a Southern Baptist, but I believe it is more important to be a Christian than a Southern Baptist." That remark stung me. But the positions of our convention "moderates" sure support his reasoning for not being a Southern Baptist.

I believe Romans 16:17-18 describes our convention "moderates." My loyalty is not to the words of men but to the Word of God. As Southern Baptists, our supreme authority must be the Word, not the convention.

Bobby Mullins  
P.O. Box 301  
Cordova, TN 38018

### SBC hotel reservations

Dear editor:

During the recent Southern Baptist Convention, my wife and I learned a valuable, though painful, lesson. It is: "always make your housing reservations for SBC through the denomination housing bureau with a motel/hotel whose reputation is well-known."

The extra price is worth all the difference when you find yourself stranded in New Orleans with a six-month paid-in-advance confirmed reservation from a

motel by written letter (mine was dated Jan. 14, 1982) because the motel has overbooked its facility and cannot find you a room in the area at any price.

Not that I was alone in this experience: others left stranded were Robert Agee, director of missions in Tennessee; Robert Wiley, Home Mission Board staff; two preacher friends from Georgia and their families; one from New Mexico; and about 25 other couples facing a drive of 100-200 miles out of New Orleans to find a room. Every one of the people mentioned here had the same written, paid-in-advance confirmation as we did — but these were not worth the paper they were printed on.

We did not enjoy the 90-minute trip (each way) via Interstate 10 from Gulfport, Miss., to the Superdome each day. We made the trip because there was nothing else we could do — thanks to Days Inn Motel at Kenner, La.

Having used Days Inn almost exclusively since they first opened years ago, I was always satisfied with the service of this chain. But at the most crucial moment, they let us and a lot of other people down, and for me, I will never stay at a Days Inn Motel again.

Winburn C. Davis  
133 Virginia Ave.  
Livingston, TN 38570

### Moyers' religious views

Dear editor:

Stan Hastey used three-quarters of a page of the Baptist and Reflector (April 14) to picture Bill Moyers as a man of spiritual depth because of his Baptist roots.

The whole article was unconvincing and a waste of paper as indicated in the third paragraph where Hastey writes that Moyers is "understandably reluctant to talk in depth about his religious views."

Moyers talks about the influence on his life by attendance at a Baptist church, education at a Baptist seminary, and Baptist student pastorates. The article also states that he had a normal religious experience, but apparently did not understand it.

As we read on, we find that all these Baptist influences apparently were not enough to keep him in the faith, for he is now a member of a United Church of Christ.

Moyers is an interesting journalist, but I was always taught in Baptist churches that you could not be neutral to Jesus in proclaiming our witness at any time, on the job or off. This is a Christian publication and I don't think it would taint Moyers' professional integrity to proclaim Christ as his Saviour in this paper.

Joe Dunn  
4550 East Mallory  
Memphis, TN 38117

When Bill Moyers moved to Long Island, N.Y., to become editor of *Newsday*, there was not a Southern Baptist church within a 45-minute drive of his home. So he joined a local church so that he and his family could be actively involved. Stan Hastey says that the reference to Moyers' reluctance to talk in depth about his religious views concerns his segment on the CBS Evening News, where he is a political, rather than a religious, analyst. Certainly, Moyers' religious convictions strongly influence the subjects he chooses and the comments he makes about these subjects. (editor)

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## Personal perspective

By TOM MADDEN  
TBC executive secretary

In reading 1 John recently, I was impressed in an unusual fashion with the last verse of the last chapter. "Little children, keep yourselves from idols" (1 John 5:21).

John was writing to the Christians in Ephesus and was warning them about the subtleties of idolatry. He might have been talking about worshipping the goddess Diana, the Roman emperor, or some other god.

I found myself focusing upon the word, keep. It is used often in the Word of God. I want to emphasize two or three of these times.

In the coming of God's Son to this earth, we read in the Scriptures, "Shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night" (Luke 2:8). Here we have the shepherds keeping watch over their sheep with vigilance. They were watching for a thief, an asp, a wild animal, or some other terrible danger. They were willing to risk their lives for their sheep. I believe that John is saying that we ought to keep ourselves from idolatry with the vigilance of a shepherd.

Another time the word is used in 1 Timothy 6:14, "That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ." The background of this statement is when a trust is given to a servant, he is to guard it with all his strength. We are to keep ourselves from idolatry with the same kind of diligence that a servant exercises over a charge or a responsibility given to him by his master.

The word keep is also used when Simon Peter was given to the prison soldiers. "He put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him" (Acts 12:4). Those who gave him to the Roman soldiers had confidence in the ability of the soldiers to keep him. If a soldier should lose his prisoner, his own life was forfeited. It is another way of saying that keeping ourselves from idolatry is a most serious assignment.

We live in a day of substitutes in many areas of life. Our religion is not excluded from the subtlety of idolatry. The word of John to the first century Christians is applicable in a unique way to us today. "Little children keep yourselves from idols."

I join my prayers with yours, "Help us dear God, to keep ourselves from idols."



Madden



Mr. and Mrs. Cooke



Mr. and Mrs. Johnson



Mr. and Mrs. Sharp



Mr. and Mrs. Smith



Mr. and Mrs. Stillman



Mr. and Mrs. Wilson

## FMB names Tennesseans to serve as missionaries in overseas posts

RICHMOND — Six couples and one single person with connections in Tennessee were among the record 88 missionaries appointed by the Foreign Mission Board July 13 at Grove Avenue Baptist Church, Richmond.

The board also employed a native Tennessean as a special project medical worker.

Barbara Brown, a native of Morristown, will work as a librarian in Zimbabwe. She is currently a librarian with the Morristown City Schools. The former Barbara Hicks, Mrs. Brown was married to the late Charles E. Brown, formerly of Johnson City. She considers First Baptist Church, Morristown, her home church.

A graduate of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and Indiana University, Bloomington, Mrs. Brown has also attended Maryville College, Maryville; East Tennessee State University, Johnson City; and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

She has worked as a teacher in Madisonville and Pueblo, Colo., and as a librarian in Greenback. She has also served as a volunteer summer missionary in Texas and Colombia. Mrs. Brown has two grown children.

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Cooke, both graduates of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, will work in Chile, where he will be a radio/TV programmer and she will be a church and home worker.

Born in Quincy, Ill., Cooke grew up in Tigerville, S.C. He has worked as a radio announcer and salesman in Jefferson City, and radio program director/announcer in Newport. He is currently a radio announcer and video production assistant in Louisville, Ky., where he has attended Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Born in Louisville, Ky., Mrs. Cooke, the former Mary Jo Tribble, is the daughter of Lamar and Elizabeth Tribble, Southern Baptist missionaries to

Bolivia. Currently a desk clerk in Louisville, she has worked as a desk clerk in Newport, a social service caseworker in South Carolina, a GA camp counselor in North Carolina, and a summer missionary in Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Hershel Johnson will work in Japan, where he will teach and she will be a church and home worker. Currently he is a professor at the University of Maryland, College Park, and she is a teacher at Suitland (Md.) Junior High School.

Born in Big Stone Gap, Va., Johnson considers Ridgedale Baptist Church, Chattanooga, his home church. He is a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and George Peabody College for Teachers (now part of Vanderbilt University), Nashville.

A native of North Carolina, Mrs. Johnson, the former Elizabeth Wells, is a graduate of Atlantic Christian College, Wilson, N.C.

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Sharp will work in Spain, where he will be a student worker and she will be a church and home worker.

A native of LaFollette, Sharp is currently minister of youth education at First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Miss. He is a former member of Hillcrest Baptist Church, LaFollette. He has served in church staff positions in Alabama, Kentucky, and Louisiana.

He is a graduate of Cumberland College, Williamsburg, Ky., and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

A native of Louisville, Ky., Mrs. Sharp, the former Kathy Chapman, attended Cumberland College and William Carey College, Hattiesburg. She has worked in secretarial positions in Alabama, Florida, and Kentucky, and as a television production assistant in Hattiesburg. The Sharps have a daughter, Rebekkah Danielle, born in 1979.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton Smith, both Nashvillians, will work in Spain, where he will be a general evangelist and she will be a church and home worker. Currently, Smith is pastor of Brinkley Road Baptist Church, Murfreesboro.

A graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, and Southwestern seminary, Smith has worked for an insurance company in Nashville, and as a district executive for Boy Scouts of America, also in Nashville. He considers Lakewood Baptist Church, Nashville, his home church.

Mrs. Smith, the former Jeanna Binkley, also considers Lakewood her home church. A graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, she has worked with her husband as a houseparent at a children's home in Dallas, Tex., and as a telephone representative for an insurance company in Fort Worth, Tex.

The Smiths have two children: Bethany Marie, born in 1976; and Andrew Michael, 1980.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Stillman will serve

at the Baptist Spanish Publishing House, El Paso, Tex., where he will be an art/graphic designer and she will be a church and home worker. Currently he works as a graphic artist at Southern seminary.

Born in Cherry Point, N.C., Stillman grew up in Knoxville, where he has worked as an illustrator/layout artist and commercial artist. He considers South Knoxville Baptist Church his home church. A graduate of Fleming College, Florence, Italy, and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Stillman also attended Southern seminary.

Mrs. Stillman, the former Jennie Jennings, is a native of Lebanon, where she was active in First Baptist Church. A graduate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, she has worked as a voice teacher at Johnson Bible College, Knoxville, and served as a summer missionary in Germany.

The Stillmans both served as missionary journeymen in Japan for two years. They have one daughter, Joanna Lee, born in 1981.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip L. Wilson will work in Nigeria, where he will be a student worker and she will be a church and home worker. Currently, he is minister of music and youth at Broadway Baptist Church, Oak Grove, Mo.

Born in Humboldt, Wilson also lived in Memphis and Grand Junction while growing up. A graduate of Union University, Jackson, and Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., Wilson has been a band director in Decaturville and Memphis; a youth worker at First Baptist Church, Grand Junction; a youth choir director at Poplar Heights Baptist Church, Jackson; a minister of music and youth at Ellendale Baptist Church; a Tennessee Baptist Convention summer missionary; and a Foreign Mission Board summer missionary to Dominica.

Born in Memphis, Mrs. Wilson, the former Sandra Alexander, grew up in Ellendale. She considers Ellendale Baptist Church her home church.

A graduate of Memphis State University, Mrs. Wilson has worked as a legislative intern at the state legislature in Nashville, as a patient representative and administrative aide at a Memphis hospital, and in office positions in two hospitals in Kansas City. She also served as a summer missionary in Dominica.

All of the new missionaries will go to Pine Mountain, Ga., in September for a 12-week orientation before leaving for the field.

The Foreign Mission Board also employed G. McAdoo Prevost Jr., a native of Knoxville, as a special project medical worker. He will work as a dentist in Yemen.

A graduate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and the University of Tennessee Center for the Health Sciences, Memphis, Prevost is currently a dental resident at Veterans Administration Hospital, Richmond, Va.



## World's Fair prayer requests

This week pray for...

—the hundreds of campers who will attend the National Campers on Mission Rally, July 23-25, at Neal's Landing.

—the international ministry, led by Carolyn Peach and Loretta Pruett, and for the many host families involved in establishing friendship with foreign fair employees.

—these choirs as they share Christ at the Baptist Pavilion: July 24, First Baptist Church, Cleveland, Tenn.; July 25, Central Baptist Church of Fountain City, Knoxville; July 26, Smithwood Baptist Church, Knoxville; July 27, First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Okla.; July 29, Westwood Baptist Church, Birmingham, Ala.; July 30, First Baptist Church, Indiantonic, Fla.



# Reagan, Congress seek drunk driver answers

**Editor's note:** This is the third of a series of four articles on the problem of drunk driving. These articles were written by Ron Sisk, director of program development for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

By Ronald D. Sisk

After a national outcry by civic and religious leaders, including Southern Baptists, President Ronald Reagan and the Congress are moving along separate but parallel tracks in their efforts at the federal level to deal with the problem of drunk driving.

Both approaches are designed to reflect the Reagan administration's emphasis on voluntarism which encourages voluntary action by the states toward curbing the 25,000 deaths and 750,000 injuries caused annually by drunk drivers.



**CASINO GAMBLING** — Chuck Hardwick, assistant minority whip in the New Jersey General Assembly, writes: "It is becoming tempting for government officials who are hard pressed for revenue to legalize casino gambling. . . . However, since the casinos have come, crime has nearly doubled in the Atlantic City area, inner-city housing has been disappearing, destructive and compulsive gambling is on the rise, there is greater use of drugs, the roads are more crowded and there is more dirty air, and municipal services are overburdened. The result is an overall decline in the quality of life in and around Atlantic City. . . . Local and small businesses have declined, contrary to the intent of the legislation that casino business should trickle down the avenues of the city. . . . One of the most disturbing ironies of the growth of casinos is the displacement of the elderly from their homes. . . . The state of health of Atlantic City residents, according to the Public Advocate, is among the worst in New Jersey. In 1980, two years after the first casino opened, Atlantic City had the highest rate of venereal disease in New Jersey. At present it has the third highest rate of drug abuse in the state, and deaths related to alcohol are up sharply in excess of the state rate." (NEW YORK TIMES, 6/19/82)

**REPORT ON THE ELDERLY** — "The Reagan Administration issued the final report of last year's White House Conference on Aging . . . concluding that the problems of the nation's elderly were overemphasized and that the Social Security system should be strengthened. . . . The three-volume report said that older Americans are 'the wealthiest, best fed, best housed, healthiest, most self-reliant older population in our history.' It is a misconception, the report concluded, to think of the elderly as victims of poverty, abandoned by their families in nursing homes, living in deteriorated housing, hounded by inflation, and forced to live as prisoners in their own homes. The report gives President Reagan and Congress 53 recommendations condensed from the more than 600 adopted at the conference last December." (NEW YORK TIMES, 6/3/82)

Reagan announced the creation of a Presidential Commission on Drunk Driving, April 14, under the chairmanship of John Volpe, former governor of Massachusetts and secretary of transportation in the Nixon administration.

Reagan gave the 30-member commission a one-year assignment to: "(a) heighten public awareness of the seriousness of the drunk driving problem; (b) persuade states and communities to attack the drunk driving problem in a more organized manner, including plans to eliminate bottlenecks in the arrest, trial, and sentencing process that impair the effectiveness of many drunk driving laws; (c) encourage state and local officials and organizations to accept and use the latest techniques and methods to solve the problem; and (d) generate public support for increased enforcement of state and local drunk driving laws."

The commission's assignment is in keeping with Reagan's efforts to leave major regulatory responsibilities in the hands of the states.

The members Reagan appointed to the commission include relatively few advocates of strict drunk driving controls. The president failed to appoint any religious leaders, many of whom have pushed for stricter drunk driving laws. It does, however, include several representatives of the alcohol and automobile in-

dustries.

A somewhat stronger, though still essentially state-oriented approach, is being followed in legislation currently under consideration in the Congress.

Sponsored by Senators John Danforth of Missouri and Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island, Bill S.2158 sailed through the Senate this spring. It includes two basic provisions.

First, the bill offers a one-time incentive by doubling highway safety funds to those states which pass tough new drunk driving laws.

States would qualify for the grant by enacting such provisions as 90-day license suspension for a first offense, mandatory jail terms of at least 48 hours for a second offense, and comprehensive treatment and education programs for

all those convicted.

The second part of S.2158 strengthens the National Driver's Register (NDR) which maintains centralized records of previous convictions. The information is provided to the NDR by states and localities and made available to other jurisdictions upon request. The purpose of the NDR is to prevent repeat offenders from avoiding identification.

The House version of the bill, H.6170, is still under consideration.

"Our job as federal legislators," Pell stresses, "is to help local law enforcement get drunk drivers off the road — and keep them off."

Southern Baptists and other concerned citizens are hoping that the Presidential Commission and legislation in the House and Senate will do just that.

## Arienda prays for president he once wanted to overthrow

By Bill Webb

**RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)** — The man who once sought the violent overthrow of the Philippine government of President Ferdinand Marcos urged Southern Baptists attending the Foreign Missions Conference at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center to pray for Marcos to become a born-again believer in Jesus Christ.

Roger Arienda, self-avowed communist revolutionary and a federal prisoner when he accepted Christ in 1975, described his conversion as a "cyclone that turned over the entire landscape of my old life."

The Filipino evangelist related a recent meeting with Marcos, the man responsible both for his incarceration in 1972 and his release by presidential pardon Christmas Day 1980. Both Marcos and his wife are Roman Catholics.

"Mr. President," I said, "You might be in want, you might be tired, you might be needing some rest because of all the troubles of the presidency. Now here is what our Lord is saying: Come to Him and He will give you rest, Mr. President."

"Mr. President, I would advise you to believe this and even help propagate the gospel among our countrymen," Arienda said. "Because whenever this is heard and believed it has the capacity to change men and do away with the greed of men."

"Oh, is that so?" Arienda quoted Marcos as saying thoughtfully. "I thought I was witnessing to King Agrippa, who was almost persuaded," Arienda said. "Let us pray continuously that my president will be born again. That is not too hard for God to do."

Arienda's notoriety as a flamboyant radio commentator and his influence as a political agitator before his imprisonment and conversion, have offered him inroads for sharing his faith among other government people, politicians, economists, Marxists, and others.

Today he maintains a vigorous schedule broadcasting the radical love of Jesus Christ on television and over 22 radio stations. No more an agent of revolution, he has become a minister of reconciliation.

The man who daily lambasted the Marcos government does not attack political and economic ideologies anymore though he admits there are times "when I have to make some political, economic, or social criticism, especially when it comes to the issues of



**NEW LIFESTYLE** — Roger Arienda, former political agitator, is now a minister of reconciliation.

righteousness, justice, and equality."

When sharing his faith with Marxists, "I don't attack their ideology," he explained in an interview. "My job is to preach to them Christ and let them know that Christ, in spite of who they are, loves them. He died for the criminals. He died for the capitalists. He died for the socialists. He died for the Marxists."

Arienda has resisted confining his ministry to any particular group in his country. Rather, he is burdened with reaching the cross sections of Philippine society with the gospel, he said. He demonstrated that concern dramatically after he accepted Christ in New Bilibid Prison near Manila, bringing some 1,600 of the 8,000 prisoners to Christ and establishing Simbahang Kristiyanong Southern Baptist Church within the prison walls.

Prison offered him plenty of time to study the Bible and prepare for his ministry, he said. "While churches on the outside were praying for my release, I was praying, 'Lord, hold me here. I want to learn and know You more,'" he said. "And I won. The Lord held me there for another five years but it was a beautiful time to learn and study."

As he concluded his conversation with President Marcos, he said: "Mr. President, thank you for sending me to jail. Because of that, I have found the Lord. That was my Damascus."



# 1982 Children's Bible Drill sets record



**NORTHWESTERN REGION** — From left are (row one): Beth Greer, Thompson Creek Baptist Church, Como; Docia Hall, First Baptist Church, Martin; Paula Putman, First Baptist Church, McKenzie; Tammy Lemons, Mount Tizah Baptist Church, Newbern; Lisa Gray, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Humboldt; (row two) Michael Simmons, Thompson Creek Baptist Church, Como; Lorilee Lemons, Mount Tizah Baptist Church, Newbern; Ann Gathers, First Baptist Church, Martin; Thomas Martin, First Baptist Church, McKenzie; (row three) Stacy Heath, Bethel Baptist Church, Greenfield; Clark Perkins, Bethel Baptist Church, Greenfield; Michael Moore, First Baptist Church, McKenzie; Tracie Silliman, First Baptist Church, Big Sandy; Meredith Kelley, First Baptist Church, Huntingdon; and Kim Kerley, First Baptist Church, Martin.



**EASTERN REGION** — From left are (row one) Sheri Thomas, Mount Olive Baptist Church (South), Knoxville; Rachel Child, Mount Olive Baptist Church (South), Knoxville; David Henderson, Mount Olive Baptist Church (South), Knoxville; Amy Thomas, Stock Creek Baptist Church, Knoxville; Jenny Russell, Middle Creek Baptist Church, Oliver Springs; Joel Wade, First Baptist Church, Seymour; (row two) Julie Bruster, Knoxville's Central Baptist Church of Bearden; Angie Spruiell, Sunset Heights Baptist Church, Strawberry Plains; Misty Ann Sellers, Sharon Baptist Church, Knoxville; Susan Martin, Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville; Kristi DeArmond, First Baptist Church, Seymour; Cathy Sager, First Baptist Church, Alcoa; Kristin Sullivan, Knoxville's Central Baptist Church of Bearden; (row three) Jill Neubert, Churchwell Avenue Baptist Church, Knoxville; Denise Ledden, Knoxville's Central Baptist Church of Bearden; Michael Arms, Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville; Jo Dee Truett, First Baptist Church, Friendsville; Lorri Hayes, First Baptist Church, Friendsville; and Allen Atchley, Mount Olive Baptist Church (South), Knoxville.



**SOUTHWESTERN REGION** — From left are (row one) Randy Cooke, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis; Parrish Wilson, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis; Angela Duke, First Baptist Church, Collierville; Christie Maxey, Highland Heights Baptist Church, Memphis; Bryan Alan Page, Highland Heights Baptist Church, Memphis; Amy Gates, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis; Cindi Covey, Southland Baptist Church, Memphis; Troy Lee, Froyser Baptist Church, Memphis; (row two) Brandon McNulty, Georgian Hills Baptist Church, Memphis; Tracey Cheryl Dennis, Bartlett Baptist Church, Memphis; Ann Bridgman, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis; Amy Daran, Georgian Hills Baptist Church, Memphis; LeAnn Bolding, Cross Roads Baptist Church, Bells; Shannon Gilder, Speedway Terrace Baptist Church, Memphis; Leta Frank, Turkey Creek Baptist Church, Savannah; Todd Lunsford, Froyser Baptist Church, Memphis; Keith Hale, Bartlett Baptist Church, Memphis; (row three) Belinda Elrod, Harmony Baptist Church, Whiteville; Stephanie Nails, First Baptist Church, Bolivar; Todd Payne, First Baptist Church, Bolivar; Matt Marsh, Hickory Ridge Baptist Church, Memphis; Melanie Smith, Madison Baptist Church, Jackson; Andy Clennery, Holly Grove Baptist Church, Bells; Mark Boyd, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis; and Jimmy Sams, Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown.

The 17th annual Children's Bible Drill, sponsored by the Tennessee Baptist Convention's church training department, set new records for participation during last month's competition.

The 1,033 fourth-through sixth-graders entered in the events topped last year's record of 948. The participants came from 267 churches and 59 associations, as compared to 227 churches and 55 associations last year.

The drill was directed by Mrs. Helen Kennedy of the state church training department. Winners are listed on this page under the regions in which they participated.



**NORTH CENTRAL REGION** — From left are James Allison, Shellsford Baptist Church, McMinnville; Billy Cherry, First Baptist Church, Celina; Tonya King, Washington Avenue Baptist Church, Cookeville; and Tommy Wayne, First Baptist Church, Cookeville. Not pictured: Wesley Tate, Nash Grove Baptist Church, Baxter.



**SOUTH CENTRAL REGION** — From left are (row one) Lisa Boyd, First Baptist Church, Mount Pleasant; Melanie Burden, Faith Baptist Church, Loretto; Teresa Hargrove, Meadow View Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg; Crystal Pusser, Meadow View Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg; (row two) Michael Bailey, Shelbyville Mills Baptist Church, Shelbyville; Jennifer Canter, Shelbyville Mills Baptist Church, Shelbyville; Denise Chamblee, West End Baptist Church, Fayetteville; Deborah Glass, Five Points Baptist Church, Five Points; and Marcus Peery, Friendship Baptist Church, Culleoka.



**SOUTHEASTERN REGION** — From left are (row one) Ricky Burnett, Cumberland Baptist Church, Knoxville; Pam Thornhill, First Baptist Church, Daisy; Marti Bigham, Westwood Baptist Church, Cleveland; Beth Hall, Westwood Baptist Church, Cleveland; Debbie Roberson, First Baptist Church, Whitwell; Tina Mears, First Baptist Church, Whitwell; (second row) Stephen Sneed, Westwood Baptist Church, Cleveland; Birch Jones, Westwood Baptist Church, Cleveland; Les Myers, Brainerd Baptist Church, Chattanooga; Keith Broyles, First Baptist Church, Whitwell; Clay Hudson, First Baptist Church, Whitwell; Eric Broyles, First Baptist Church, Whitwell; (row three) Christy Hunt, Cumberland Baptist Church, Knoxville; Angela Steiner, White Oak Baptist Church, Chattanooga; David King, Brainerd Baptist Church, Chattanooga; Eric Brown, Brainerd Baptist Church, Chattanooga; Chip Kincer, Mount Carmel Baptist Church, Signal Mountain; and Kelli Phillips, Central Baptist Church, Hixson.



**NORTHEASTERN REGION** — From left are (row one) Mike Leatherwood, Pigeon Valley Baptist Church, Hartford; Samantha Padgett, First Baptist Church, Greeneville; Tim Musick, First Baptist Church, Blountville; Wendy Carpenter, Montvue Baptist Church, Morristown; Alice Long, First Baptist Church, Newport; Nina Belcher, Litz Manor Baptist Church, Kingsport; Amy Bennett, Union Baptist Church, Hampton; (row two) Chris Hagan, Pigeon Valley Baptist Church, Hartford; Angela Watson, First Baptist Church, Elizabethton; Amy Wilder, Colvary Baptist Church, Morristown; Yvonne Thompson, Leadvale Baptist Church, White Pine; Janet Hodge, Central Point Baptist Church, Rutledge; Susan Lane, East Rogersville Baptist Church, Rogersville; (row three) Johnny Jarnigan, Kidwells Ridge Baptist Church, Morristown; Traci Roberts, Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Newport; Pam Beeby, Manley Baptist Church, Morristown; Amy Bowrey, First Baptist Church, Blountville; Cara Myhner, Litz Manor Baptist Church, Kingsport; Edie Cassell, First Baptist Church, Kingsport; and Kathy Heaton, Doe River Baptist Church, Elizabethton.



**CENTRAL REGION** — From left are (row one) Scott Benefield, Mount Horeb Baptist Church, Ethridge; Scott Langford, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lebanon; Jeannie Moore, Parkway Baptist Church, Goodlettsville; Medona Hobbs, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lebanon; Tommy Smith, Alta Loma Baptist Church, Nashville; Tracy Harper, Mount Carmel Baptist Church, Cross Plains; Tish Pack, Elizabeth Chapel Baptist Church, Smithville; (row two) Jeff Campbell, Mount Horeb Baptist Church, Ethridge; Randy Gilley, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lebanon; Sandra Davenport, Burt Baptist Church, Woodbury; Debbie Lawson, First Baptist Church, Woodbury; Tabby Gains, First Baptist Church, Woodbury; Rebecca Clardy, New Providence Baptist Church, Clarksville; Melissa Myers, Judson Baptist Church, Nashville; (row three) Suzy Smartt, First Baptist Church, LaVergne; Laura Van Hook, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lebanon; Angie Hayes, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lebanon; Carolyn Gay, Mount Horeb Baptist Church, Ethridge; Wendy Taylor, New Providence Baptist Church, Clarksville; Brenda Davenport, Round Lick Baptist Church, Watertown; Sheri Edgington, Fall Creek Baptist Church, Norene; and Melissa Johnson, Elizabeth Chapel Baptist Church, Smithville. Not pictured: Jana Chandler, Judson Baptist Church, Nashville.



## Bible Word Search

By Mrs. Virginia Poehlein  
Answers on page 11

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** In the place of the usual crossword puzzle, there will be printed here for several weeks a WORD SEARCH puzzle on a trial basis. Please let us know if you like this type of puzzle, and we will use WORD SEARCH puzzles from time to time.

### HOME AND FAMILY

R E T S I S N M E T F T O Y S P  
S W A L N I I C A N K A T O E E  
T E T D S N N B H U E I M J P A  
N R A U I E G A L A L P B I L C  
E A O E I S M D P I A L H A L E  
R C C D A D C L B D N S O E B Y  
A E E F N D R I C R N G N V W Y  
P B H A U E S H P O E A O I E N  
O F R T H N O C I L A H R G M O  
T G M T O R N T S E I T T G O M  
C O O P E R A T I O N N E A H R  
M M S S H L B N O I T C E F F A  
R E S P E C T D N A B S U H I H  
R P A R T N E R S H I P E D R W

Affection	Aid	Aunt	Baby	Brother
Care	Child	Chores	Cooperation	Cousin
Dad	Discipline	Family	Father	Fun
Give	Grandma	Grandpa	Harmony	Home
Honor	Husband	Inlaws	Joy	Love
Mom	Mother	Nephew	Niece	Obedience
Parents	Partnership	Peace	Relationship	Respect
Responsibility	Sibling	Sister	Son	Ties
Toys	Wife			

The unused letters tell what a wise son does (Proverbs 10:1).

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**GUTENBERG PRINT DONATED** — George Siler (left), executive vice-president of the 1982 World's Fair, and David Peach (second from left), executive director of Baptist Ministries for the fair, receive a limited edition print of the Gutenberg workshop from Bill Treadaway and Howard Henderson, representing the Printing Industry of the Carolinas Inc.

## Pavilion receives Gutenberg print

KNOXVILLE — A print depicting the Gutenberg workshop has been donated to the Baptist Pavilion at the 1982 World's Fair by the Printing Industry of the Carolinas Inc.

Print number 1982 of the 2,000-limited-edition print will be on display in the back lobby of the pavilion along with the ancient Bible collection contained in the

A. J. Holman Bible display case. The collection includes a one in 3,000 reprint of the Gutenberg Bible, the first printed Bible.

The print, from an oil painting by Ward Nichols of Welch, W. Va., illustrates the steel letter molds, the lead-melting furnace, the copper tub, and other essentials Johann Gutenberg used to print the Bible. Gutenberg's Bible was also the first printed book.

Nichols, a former printer, was commissioned to recreate the workshop, and was authorized by the Gutenberg museum in Mainz, Germany. Each handsigned and numbered print is accompanied by a Gutenberg "G," an actual piece of type cast from the foundry of the Gutenberg museum.

A framed, hand-gilded reprint from the Gutenberg Bible, printed on Egyptian papyrus, was also donated by the Printing Industry of the Carolinas and is on display in the pavilion.

## Campers on Mission to meet in Knoxville

KNOXVILLE — The annual Campers on Mission national rally will kick off in Knoxville, July 23-25.

Christian campers from all over the U.S., representing various denominations, will convene at Neal's Landing Campground for the three-day event sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in cooperation with Baptist Ministries for the 1982 World's Fair.

Speaking at the event will be David G. Peach and Gwen Blythe, executive and assistant director of Baptist Ministries, respectively; Ted Huckaby, director of missions for the Knox County Association of Baptists; Richard Dodson, a Knoxville layman; Nancy Crider of the World's Fair staff; and Claude McCravie of the Home Mission Board.

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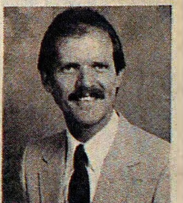
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## Walter Wilson named BSU associate at UTK

Walter F. Wilson Jr. was recently named associate Baptist Student Union director for the University of Tennessee, Knoxville campus, according to Glenn Yarbrough, director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention department of student work.

Wilson, who began the post July 11, came to Knoxville from the pastorate of Lawn Haven Baptist Church, Laurel, Miss.

A native of Mississippi, Wilson attended William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss.; and is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.



W. Wilson

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# TenneScene

## LEADERSHIP...

First Baptist Church, Pocahontas, accepted the resignation of Pastor Tim Madison, which is effective Aug. 1. Madison plans to enter Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., this fall.

Charles Starnes recently submitted his resignation as pastor of Clear Creek Baptist Church, Dyer.

Herbert Grubb resigned as pastor of Four Point Baptist Church, Cleveland, due to illness.

Center Point Baptist Church, Charleston, accepted the recent resignation of its pastor, Ken Gardner.

Immanuel Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, called Archie King as interim pastor.

Brent Page recently resigned as pastor of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Rockvale.

Allen Black resigned the pastorate of Buffalo Baptist Church, Rutledge, on June 13.

First Baptist Church, Careyville, called Dennis Brian Dockins as minister of youth and music. Dockins, a native of Greenville, S.C., is a student at Clear Creek Baptist School, Pineville, Ky. Herbert L. Jones is the pastor of the church.

Farmers Grove Baptist Church, Clinton, recently accepted the resignation of Pastor James Hammontree.

## Carothers resigns post on Austin Peay campus

Sam Carothers, Baptist Student Union director at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville since March 1975, has announced his resignation from that post effective July 31.

Carothers, who will become campus minister of Meredith College in Raleigh, N.C., is also a former graduate assistant BSU director at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. He is a graduate of Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, N.C., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

## Stanton church calls Littlefield as pastor

Stanton Baptist Church, Stanton, has called Barry Littlefield to its pastorate, his first.

Littlefield, who began the ministry June 20, is a native of Adamsville and a senior at Union University, Jackson.

## Belmont Heights to host RA meet

Belmont Heights Baptist Church, Nashville, has been chosen as the site of the 1983 State Royal Ambassador Congress, according to Kenny Rains, program assistant in the Tennessee Baptist Convention Brotherhood department.

Bill Robertson, Nashville Baptist Association RA director, will head the steering committee for the congress to be held April 1-2.

C. Richard Dendler resigned as pastor of Ridgeview Baptist Church, Chattanooga, to accept a pastorate in Owensboro, Ky. Aug. 1 is Dendler's final day with the church.

Randy Pool resigned the pastorate of Oak Grove Baptist Church, Milan, effective Aug. 8, in order to enter seminary.

Michael McGough submitted his resignation, effective Aug. 1, as pastor of First Baptist Church, Whitwell. McGough will be entering New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary to work toward a doctor of theology degree.

## PEOPLE...

Special music during the July 4 service at First Baptist Church, Elizabethton, honored Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Browning on

**Citizen's Corner**  
By Jerry M. Self  
Public affairs and Christian life consultant

Religious liberty is greatly cherished by Baptists. A means to protect our religious liberty has been our American support of separation of church and state.

What does separation of church and state mean? It does not mean the separation of God from government for we believe that all nations are answerable to God for their actions. It does not mean the separation of religious people from political activities for we believe the New Testament teaches us to pray for those who are in governmental positions of authority and we believe that we are to involve ourselves in the good stewardship of public affairs.

Separation of church and state means the separation of governmental power from spiritual decisions. It also means the separation of a spiritual stamp of approval from limited political solutions.

Upon considering the ultimate nature of spiritual truth and the limits on political agencies, some things just seem out of place.

Can a legislative body pass a law establishing the means by which God did (or did not) create the world?

Is a judge politically empowered with sufficient wisdom to determine that God's name is Jehovah, or Allah, or Howard?

Could a police officer be issued a warrant to arrest anyone who believed the Bible to be infallible?

Should a president or a governor have the option to sign or veto a bill authorizing a method for citizens to express their faith?

Is it a good idea to take tax money — public funds — and pay for the sectarian education of children in private schools?

These conditions all exist in various totalitarian nations where either the government oppresses religious belief and practice or a politicized religious movement controls the government. Any of them are possible here when Baptists lose sight of the need to be champions of freedom of religious belief and expression.

the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. The Brownings are members of the church, where William L. Swafford is the pastor.

Little Flat Creek Baptist Church, Coryton, ordained Barry Simmons into its deacon ministry June 27. Participants in the ordination service included Doyle Davis and Herman Lakin. The pastor of the church is Jim Downey.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Price celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June. The Prices are members of Sharon Baptist Church, Knoxville, where James E. Robertson is the pastor.

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Williams celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary during a July 3 reception at First Baptist Church, Humboldt. She is a member of the church, where W. Darrell Clarke is the pastor.

H. K. Sorrell was recognized for his tenure of service as pastor of Brownsville Baptist Church, Brownsville, during the Haywood Baptist

## Tennesseans join Fair Innovators

KNOXVILLE — Twelve Tennesseans are among the 18 college-age young people recently appointed by the Home Mission Board to serve as Innovators at the 1982 World's Fair.

Appointed from Tennessee were Susan Bryant of Chattanooga, Amanda Burts of Jefferson City, Micki Davis of Strawberry Plains, Melissa Drury of Nashville, Mark Elam of Chattanooga, Cathy Lehrer of Morristown, Jim Mongold of Donelson, Barry Reed of Maryville, Rickey Roberts of Maryville, Hon Chew Seetoh of Knoxville, Michelle Summar of Murfreesboro, and Diana Whaley of Sevierville.

The volunteer missionaries are working secular jobs on or near the 1982 World's Fair site and volunteer their free time to assist Baptist Ministries for the 1982 World's Fair Inc.

The youth are serving as hosts and hostesses at the Baptist Pavilion, leading Bible studies with fellow fair employees, and helping with Baptist Ministries international and off-site ministries.

## Dean to address C-N commencement

JEFFERSON City — Samuel Dean, pastor of First Baptist Church, Clinton, will deliver the summer commencement address at Carson-Newman College, July 30.

About 50 students are expected to receive their baccalaureate degree at the 8 p.m. ceremony in Gentry Auditorium.

A native of Greene County, Dean has been pastor of the Clinton church since 1977. For eight years before that, he was pastor of First Baptist Church, Jonesboro.

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Association's annual historical day. Under Sorrell's leadership, which began in 1958, the church has seen over 1,000 baptized and another 1,000 added to the membership by letter. A native of Memphis, he has led churches in Tennessee and Kentucky. He is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky..

The children of Mr. and Mrs. James "Jim" Harriman honored their parents June 27 for their 50th wedding anniversary, which was June 25. The couple are members of Westgate Baptist Church in Murfreesboro. Grady H. Hill is the pastor of the church.

First Baptist Church, Jackson, celebrated the 15th anniversary of its pastor, R. Trevis Otey, during the morning service July 4. Otey came to the church in 1967 from the pastorate of Glasgow Baptist Church, Glasgow, Ky. During his ministry in Jackson, he baptized over 1,200 and the church received over 2,100 new members by letter.

## REVIVALS...

Greenlawn Baptist Church, Greeneville, was led in a recent revival by Evangelist Charles "Toonie" Cash. Pastor Lawrence Pack reported six candidates for baptism, one new member by letter, and eight professions of faith.

Evangelist Lee Castro of Mount Juliet led Madison Creek Baptist Church, Goodlettsville, in a one-day revival. James H. Mayes, pastor of the church, reported seven professions of faith, four new members by letter, and several rededications.

## J. E. Tanksley retires from Memphis pulpit

J. E. Tanksley, pastor of Whitten Memorial Baptist Church in Memphis for over 25 years, retired from that pastorate June 30.

Tanksley is a former pastor of Bartlett Baptist Church, Bartlett, and First Baptist Church, Goodlettsville. He is a former superintendent of the Baptist Children's Home in Memphis and a former employee of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

In Memphis, Tanksley served as vice-moderator of the Shelby County Baptist Association, president of the Shelby County Pastors' Conference, and as a member of several committees and boards.

Tanksley studied at Peabody College, and Vanderbilt University, both of Nashville; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

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# BIBLE BOOK SERIES

## Lesson for July 25

# Praise to the Lord of Life

By Marshall C. Gupion Jr., pastor  
First Baptist Church, Camden

Basic Passages: Psalms 9; 36; 100

Focal Passages: Psalms 36:1-12; 100:1-5

One of the great struggles in American life today centers around our view of man.

Secular humanism has challenged Christian faith in the literature on bookstands, in the presentation of life that comes on the television, and on the floor of Congress. Always the question of "what is man like?" becomes the substance out of which answers to life are given.

The psalmist in Psalm 36 sets forth a Biblical view of man. The arrangement of thought which the psalmist develops is as plain and simple as its language. First he looks at the unbeliever and then at the believer. Does your view of man agree with that of the psalmist?

The unbeliever is confused by his own darkness

The stern description of the man who is under the sway of sin is found in verses 1-4. The poet begins his description of sinful man by reference to a quaint phrase which elsewhere in the Old Testament is used of the word which God whispers to His prophets. The voice of sin "whispers" in the heart of the unbeliever instructions which carry authority and control. The prophet heard such a whisper from God and could not refrain from speaking.

With one stroke the psalmist uses that picture to describe the persuaded that he possesses freedom. Actually, it is a freedom which is imaginary. Eventually he boasts that he can evade God's rule over his life and so there is "no fear" of God.

Verse 2 points out that sin alters the man's outlook and deludes him to such an extent that he who believed he could gain his freedom falls into guilt and hate before God. And in verses 3-4, sin misleads the unbeliever to such an extent that he expects one thing and receives something very different. Sin gives glaucoma to the soul. Sin whispers deception to the heart. Sin confuses man in his own darkness. Indeed, "all have

sinned and come short of the glory of God."

There is another choice for man. Instead of being confused, he can be conformed by the light of God. There is a real difference between "confused" and "conformed." Confused means bewildered, perplexed, puzzled, living in a daze, whirl, and bedlam. Conformed, on the other hand, means to have accord, harmony, a guided life that is well regulated to the grace of God.

The believer is conformed by the light of God.

The psalmist then describes man under the grace of God (vv. 5-9). In verse 9, he says the delight of living under God's grace is to have a fountain of life and to really see the light. What does the believer see in God's light?

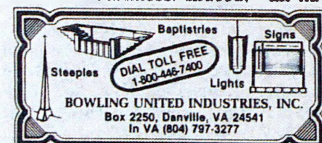
The believer sees righteousness. Verse 6 describes God's righteousness as being like the mountains. What is more established than the mountains? Before God opens man's eyes, righteousness is relative. It can be measured by what a man does or does not do (as the Jews did). It can be measured by how much power a man does or does not have (as the Romans did). These false standards are still with us. Only when we see that we are transformed in all three areas by God's grace can we have righteousness that is firm.

The believer sees judgments. When God opens our eyes, we see the things He ordained. We see the validity of the 10 commandments. We see the insight of the beatitudes. We see the wisdom of a loving God. We then begin to live our lives as an "Amen" to God's verdicts. Nobody can dispense with God's help. Everything in this world lives by His judgments and gifts.

The believer sees loving-kindness. When we are rightly related to God, we are saturated with the warm affection of a heart that rejoices in its own blessed experience of God. Our ultimate happiness rests in the grace of God which willingly stooped down to pick us up. We are now a part of the royal family of God. We know the excellent and precious loving-kindness of God in a personal way.

The believer sees satisfaction. Our world boasts that it can give people satisfaction through the material, sensual pleasures of life. This satisfaction is like a wet water spring; it goes dry just when you need it most. But God offers us a fountain that gives complete contentment. God is both the giver and the gift.

Without God, man's life is exposed to meaninglessness, darkness, and destruction. In Him and through Him, we have life abundant.



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# UNIFORM LESSON SERIES

## Lesson for July 25

# The Philippian jailer

By W. Clyde Tilley, professor of religion  
Union University, Jackson

Basic Passage: Acts 16:6-40

Focal Passage: Acts 16:19-34

The exciting drama of Acts continues to unfold. In chapter 8 there was a man — the Ethiopian eunuch — whom Judaism bypassed. In chapter 10 there was a man — Cornelius — who bypassed Judaism. In chapter 16 there is yet another man — the Philippian jailer — who had the fortune neither to bypass nor to be bypassed. At Philippi, a city without a synagogue, he came to know Christ totally apart from the machinery of the Jewish faith.



Tilley

## Menacing mob (Acts 16:19-24)

The conversion of the Philippian jailer resulted from a series of events in Philippi, the first city in Europe to which Paul and Silas had gone in their missionary travels. They went there in response to the Macedonian call (v. 9).

However, they soon found themselves in trouble in this city because they cured a girl who was "possessed with a spirit of divination" (v. 16). Because this demented girl had been a source of financial gain to some of the people, they set about to rid their city of these men who threatened their economic security.

The crowd's unhappiness began with the "masters" (v. 19), the men who had used the girl for their ungodly gain. They brought their exaggerated charges to the attention of the "magistrates" (v. 20), and the opposition grew until it included the "multitude" (v. 22). With such madness on the part of the city's populace, the magistrates unleashed upon Paul and Silas the threefold scourge of stripes (v. 23a), stronghold (v. 23b), and stocks (v. 24).

## Midnight madness (25-29)

These officers of the law no doubt felt they had saved the city from further turmoil. But they had simply underestimated the power and the persistence of the God of whom these imprisoned men were emissaries.

Paul and Silas, if distracted, certainly were not distraught. There was joy in the jailhouse as, at midnight, they raised songs of praise and seasons of prayer to their God for whom they gladly suffered. Neither did their God forget them! In quick succession there was an earthquake, a foundation shake, and the beginnings of a prison break.

The jailer, who apparently slept through the first two, awoke just in time to see the third event about to take place. Because he was responsible for his prisoners with his very life, he drew and poised his sword as if to commit suicide.

Paul, who was more concerned about the plight and salvation of the suicidal jailer than he was his own personal escape and safety, turned to assure the jailer that the cell block population was still intact.

## Marvelous mercy (30-34)

Perhaps as stunned by the assuring words of Paul as he was by the catastrophic events that were hazily happening in his stupor of semi-sleep, the man asked a surprising question, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" (v. 30).

What does this question reflect? The jailer had no significant background in the Judeo-Christian concept of salva-

tion. Did his question concern the matter of his personal deliverance (or salvation) and physical safety? Had he gathered enough from Paul's prison preaching, praising, and praying to know about salvation made available through Christ? Was his question reflective of the need and promise of salvation taught by the mystery cults that were widespread in the first century world? Whichever, Paul used it as an opportunity to address the claims of the Christian gospel to him.

This is the most direct question about salvation in the Bible. We thus have the right to expect the most direct answer. Paul does not disappoint us: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved and thy house" (v. 31).

Crucial to our interpretation of Paul's answer is a correct understanding of the word "believe." Whereas we have two separate words in English for the words "belief" and "faith" with subtle differences in meaning, in the Greek language there was only one word to do the work of both. The noun was pistis (translated "faith") and the verb was pisteuo (translated "to believe").

Our tendency is to associate believing with the notion of accepting with the mind or the intellect some statement as being true. The saving faith to which Paul refers in verse 31 is much more than this mental acceptance of some truth.

Saving faith in the New Testament involves a total surrender, commitment, or yielding of one's self (soul), life, and all to the person of Christ. This faith thus involves an obedience, however imperfect, as we commit our hitherto self-centered lives to His Lordship (or control). Therefore, being saved involves not only mentally accepting the truth that Christ is Saviour but also yielding our lives to His Lordship.

The New Testament makes this idea clear as well by citing the heart, the very center (core) of our personal existence, rather than the mind, as the organ of belief (Romans 10:9-10; Acts 8:37).

The saving character of the jailer's faith expressed itself in several ways. (1) He received baptism. (2) He showed an interest in and influence over his family. The way of salvation applied both to the jailer and to "thy house" (v. 31). Paul preached not only to the jailer but to his house (v. 32). Baptism was then administered to the jailer "and all his" (v. 33). There is no hint of infant baptism here as is sometimes suggested. Those receiving baptism had been capable of hearing the gospel and of believing (v. 34). (3) His faith was displayed in compassionate ministries. First aid (v. 33) and food (v. 34) were given to the battered prisoners. (4) There was joy (v. 34). Saving faith always expresses itself in some degree of a transformed lifestyle (James 2:17) which becomes a reliable criterion for discerning when faith is truly of the saving variety (1 John 2:3, 10).

Impending tragedy was transformed into great blessing in the life of the jailer and his family. What appeared to be his death sentence became his opportunity for salvation. God continues to use crises for opening doors of opportunity for His redemptive intentions in our lives. Furthermore, God wants to use us to minister and/or witness to others during their crisis times.



# LIFE AND WORK SERIES

## Lesson for July 25

# Jesus - our mediator

By Jerry A. Songer, pastor  
Central Baptist Church, Chattanooga

Basic Passages: Hebrews 6:13-20; 8:1 to 10:25

Focal Passages: Hebrews 6:19-20; 9:24; 10:11-14, 19-25

There is a tendency in our world today to lose perspective. We need a balance.

Our Scripture passage proportionately emphasizes what Christ has done for us and what we can do for Christ.

What has Christ done for us?

I. He has become our refuge (6:18). In the Old Testament, the Israelites had seven cities of refuge. If a person could get to one of those cities, he would be given a just trial for any crime he was accused of committing.

Christ is our safe refuge. John Brown safely escaped his enemy because of a spider web spread across the cave entrance. They felt sure he was not in the cave because the web was unmolested. Christ safely protects us when we are in Him.

II. He has become our anchor (6:19). In a storm, a ship would wreck without an anchor. The strong anchor would allow the storm to blow around a ship.

Christ is our anchor. He keeps us safe in times of storm. The hymnwriter, Priscilla Owens, wrote: "We have an anchor that keeps the soul; Steadfast and sure while the billows roll."

III. He is our priest (2:20). Christ has entered into the veil (2:19). There He has offered Himself as a sacrifice for our sins (10:12).

On Feb. 17, 1941, Maximilian Kolbe was imprisoned by the Gestapo and taken to Auschwitz, Germany. On Aug. 14, he died, taking the place of another prisoner.

Christ voluntarily took our place. He has now opened the way for us to God.

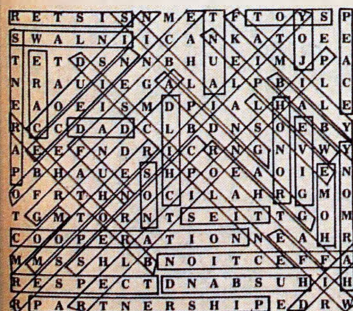
IV. He is our forerunner. Before the army would move out, a spy would make sure it was safe.

Jesus Christ has gone on before us to see that we get home safely. He is our Daniel Boone who has paved the way for us to follow. We will never be the first one to get any place in life. The most that we can hope for is to be number two.

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Answer to WORD SEARCH puzzle on page 8.



MAKETH A  
GLAD FATHER

# Stacker encourages pastors to delegate responsibilities

By Jim Lowry

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP)— The inability of pastors to delegate responsibilities wisely and clearly is one of the biggest causes of wasted time according to Joe Stacker.

"The pastor who tries to do it all will find himself burned out and washed up," explained Stacker, secretary of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church administration department, while speaking at Bible Preaching Week at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center.

"The ideal is to balance care for people and responsibility of tasks. When you are called to a church, you are also expected to manage the church," said Stacker, who pastored churches for 24 years before joining the board in 1981.

He recommended that pastors: keep a time study log (list the hours spent with family, work, and time wasters, if a task is ineffective, cut it out, if others could do it as well or better, delegate it); force yourself into a schedule (since results, not activities, are most important); and get ready before you move (plan through the church council and train people who are to work with you — training enables some church members to train others, developing a cycle which shares responsibility).

"The pastor has the responsibility to be a leader of leaders in the church," Stacker said. "If the pastor has an umbrella vision of the total church, he can help other leaders accomplish tasks in Sunday School, church training, missions, and worship."

The results of this approach will be "more people won to Christ, attending Bible study and training, and more people giving talents and time to the efforts of the church," he said. "The pastor who will share ministry in his church allows people to assume important tasks which will be achieved differently but with the same results."

"Pastors are primarily preachers, but they must also be administrators to give direction to fulfilling the Great Commission," Stacker said. "Cooperation in ministry is a shared responsibility."

Approximately 1,700 persons attended conferences sponsored by the church administration and media library departments.

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THE BROADMAN



# 'Retired' missionary begins boxing program

By Michael Tutterow

Two teens tangling in a yard caught Gladys Farmer's eye.

With one tattered boxing glove apiece, they swatted more air than each other, beating away late afternoon boredom in Springfield, a small county-seat town 30 miles northwest of Nashville.

Howling laughter, mixed with shouts of anguish when punches "connected," offered the youngsters relief from urban problems of their small town community: single-parent households, unemployment, poor housing, and little organized recreation for teens.

A retired home missionary, Miss Farmer had worked in the inner city for years. Often she had stepped between youngsters bent on punching one another. But this time, she did not try to stop them.

Instead, Miss Farmer drove straight to Springfield Baptist Church and Pastor Jerry Oakley. The church had for 11 years sponsored Covington Heights Baptist Mission on the south side of Springfield. Miss Farmer recently had joined the staff to coordinate week-day ministries. Quickly, she replayed the scene for Oakley and posed the possibility of a boxing team.

A little more than five feet tall, with only a wisp of a frame, Miss Farmer seemed an unlikely candidate to muster up a boxing troop. But after months of combing the south side with little success, she was ready for a new approach. Oakley agreed "a boxing program might have appeal."

He contacted Randy Thomas, a high school football and wrestling coach, himself a former fighter, who agreed to coach the team.

The first season they won a midstate championship and Springfield team members continue to chalk up wins.

"A lot of kids are looking for ways to express themselves," says Thomas, "and they'll pick the wrong ways if they don't have an outlet."

The Springfield church rented an empty warehouse two doors from the Covington Heights mission from a Baptist businessman at half his usual fee.

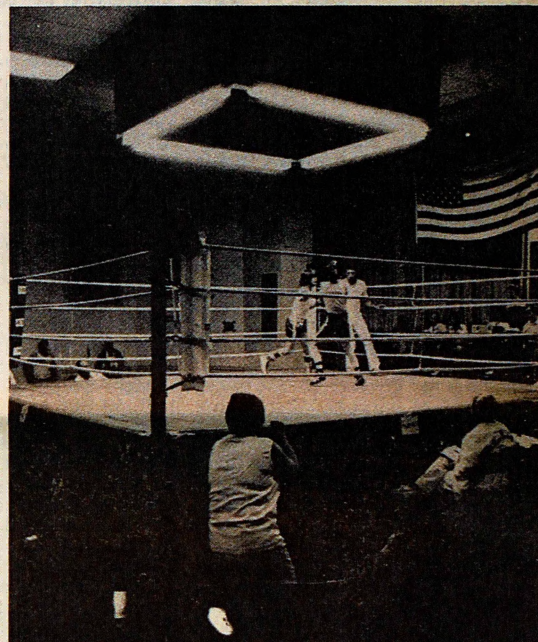
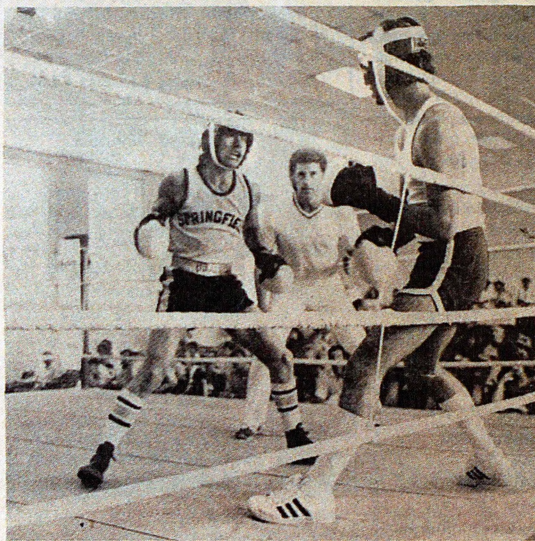
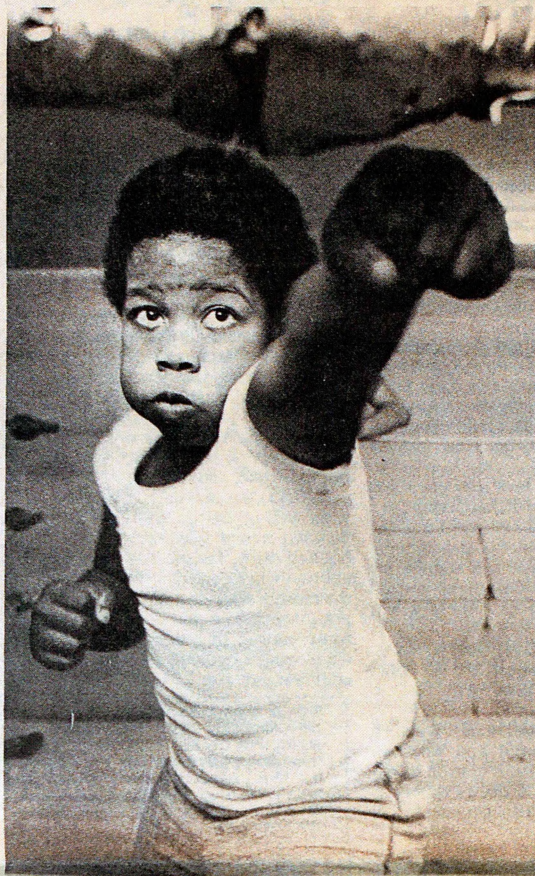
Thomas and volunteers from the Springfield church and Covington Heights mission transformed the bare concrete floors, dingy walls, and dismal lighting into a gymnasium, complete with a canvas-covered, regulation boxing ring, a trio of punching bags, and pear-shaped "speed bags." Jump ropes drape a corner of the ring. Gloves of various weights and sizes lie along the ring's edge.

The gym opens at 6 p.m. Thomas arrives early, dressed in sweats, swinging a pair of high-topped, soft-soled leather shoes. Before he has time to change shoes, a half dozen youngsters drift into the gym. Thomas quickly directs them to the ring for calisthenics and warm-up exercises.

Only a handful of the boys who participate in the boxing program are "fighters," says Thomas. The rest are welcome to work out as long as they do not "curse, bother somebody working out, or laugh at anyone."

Though the program is church-sponsored, Thomas does not push religion. "I don't go into theology with them," he says. Instead, he concentrates on bolstering self-confidence and self-worth.

To help foster spiritual development, program participants are required to attend a church at least two Sundays a month. But, says Oakley, "we don't try to change the boys' denominations."



Thuds echo as punching bags give young boxers a workout. Other youngsters in the ring punch and dance as spectators shout encouragement. The sights and sounds are hardly typical of a church gym, yet Gladys Farmer (top right photo) saw that such a boxing program was just what the Springfield situation needed. Miss Farmer regularly visits the gym to encourage the youngsters and invite them to other church activities. Photos by Paul Obregon.

Thomas believes several young boxers are "definite pro prospects." With 10 fights in the past two years, 19-year-old Troy Hand has yet to lose a fight. In March, he won the midstate feather-weight open division.

Yet, the awareness that someone cares "has had more effect on the boys than anything else," believes Oakley.

"Residents found we're concerned," explains Richard Lankford, pastor of the Covington Heights mission, "and the church is caring, not just sitting inside four walls."

Just three years earlier, Springfield Baptist Church was ready to toss in the towel on south Springfield. Though a small town, it was plagued with "city" problems: divorce, job scarcity, low in-

comes. Establishing relationships was difficult. The mission seesawed for years, gaining members, then losing them. At the Home Mission Board's suggestion, the church contacted Miss Farmer.

A "retired" 34-year veteran of Christian social ministries, Miss Farmer ached for action. "I felt I had not led enough people to the Lord," she says. "Here I saw opportunity."

About that time, Springfield Baptist Church invited Lankford to become mission pastor. A Springfield native himself, Lankford set out to "take the gospel to the streets." Together he and Miss Farmer began contacting residents and developing weekday programs to meet community needs.

As a result, Sunday morning attendance has tripled, now averaging more than 50 people. Last year Lankford baptized eight. Already this year, he has baptized six.

With innovations such as the boxing program, baptisms will likely continue to increase.

Says Oakley, "To guide these kids toward Christ, we had to gear our program to our situation."

Thomas agrees, "If we can get them to respect themselves and start thinking positively about themselves, then the religious aspects of it will follow. Once you're concerned about yourself, you're also concerned about the hereafter."

—Adapted from the May/June issue of Missions USA.